DECLARATION ON THE ADMISSION OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF TIMOR-LESTE INTO THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS

WE, the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), namely Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, together with the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste gathered on the occasion of the 47th ASEAN Summit held on 26-28 October 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia;

HAVING UNITED in the desire of the region to pursue the attainment of lasting peace, security and stability, sustained economic growth, shared prosperity and social progress, and to promote the mutual interests and interdependence among the peoples who are bound by geography, common objectives, and shared destiny;

COMMITTING to regional cooperation and integration and the ASEAN Community comprising of the ASEAN Political-Security Community, the ASEAN Economic Community, and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community;

CONSIDERING that Timor-Leste has applied to become a Member State of ASEAN since 4 March 2011;

CONSIDERING that the 41st ASEAN Summit held on 11 November 2022 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, agreed in principle on Timor-Leste's application for ASEAN membership, and the 42nd ASEAN Summit held on 10-11 May 2023, in Labuan Bajo, Indonesia, adopted the Roadmap for Timor-Leste's Full Membership in ASEAN;

CONSIDERING that Timor-Leste expressed its readiness to accede to the ASEAN Charter on 24 September 2024;

NOTING the progress in the implementation of the Roadmap;

COMMITTING to the decision of the 46th ASEAN Summit held on 26 May 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to admit Timor-Leste as the 11th Member State of ASEAN by the 47th ASEAN Summit in October 2025 and tasked our Ministers and senior officials to undertake the procedural steps for the admission of Timor-Leste by the 47th ASEAN Summit as well as to expedite negotiations on the key economic agreements;

CONSIDERING that Article 6 paragraph 4 of the ASEAN Charter provides that an applicant State shall be admitted to ASEAN upon signing an Instrument of Accession to the Charter; and

FURTHER NOTING the deposit of the Instrument of Accession to the ASEAN Charter with the Secretary-General of ASEAN by Timor-Leste;

HEREBY DECLARE:

1. Timor-Leste hereby becomes a Member State of ASEAN under Article 4 of the ASEAN Charter;

2. Timor-Leste has made progress in implementing the requirements under the Roadmap and undertakes to prioritise continued implementation of the remaining requirements under the Roadmap, including to accede to all the ASEAN treaties, conventions, agreements, and instruments under the three ASEAN Community pillars, concluded among the present Member States of ASEAN prior to the date of Timor-Leste's admission into ASEAN, based on the schedules and prioritisation criteria in its Annexes. Benefits (including rights and privileges) shall be

enjoyed only upon full compliance to all commitments and conditions, as set out in the respective agreements;

3. Timor-Leste is under the same obligations as the present Member States of ASEAN in respect of statements, declarations, recommendations, and decisions made by them prior to the date of Timor-Leste's admission as a Member State of ASEAN and further undertakes to take necessary measures to ensure their full implementation;

4. Timor-Leste is under the same obligations as the present Member States of ASEAN in respect of instruments concluded by ASEAN as an inter-governmental regional organisation with third countries or international organisations and shall take necessary measures to facilitate their implementation and application;

5. Timor-Leste undertakes to prioritise accession to all the ASEAN treaties, conventions, agreements, and instruments concluded by the present Member States of ASEAN with third countries or international organisations prior to the date of admission based on the schedules and prioritisation criteria in the Annexes of the Roadmap. Benefits (including rights and privileges) shall be enjoyed only upon full compliance to all commitments and conditions, as set out in the respective agreements; and

6. Timor-Leste agrees that, for all the ASEAN treaties, conventions, agreements, and instruments under negotiation and those undergoing upgrade processes, all prior agreed text and negotiated texts are not open to negotiation except for the grant of transition period for Timor-Leste's specific commitments.

DONE at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, this Twenty-Sixth of October in the Year Two Thousand and Twenty-Five, in a single original copy in the English language.

For Brunei Darussalam:

HAJI HASSANAL BOLKIAH
Sultan of Brunei Darussalam

For the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste:

KAY RALA XANANA GUSMÃO
Prime Minister

For the Kingdom of Cambodia:

SAMDECH THIPADEI HUN MANET
Prime Minister

For the Republic of Indonesia:

PRABOWO SUBIANTO
President

For the Lao People's Democratic Republic:

SONEXAY SIPHANDONE
Prime Minister

For Malaysia:

ANWAR IBRAHIM
Prime Minister

For the Republic of the
Philippines:

FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR.
President

For the Republic of Singapore:

LAWRENCE WONG
Prime Minister and
Minister for Finance

For the Kingdom of Thailand:

ANUTIN CHARNVIRAKUL
Prime Minister

For the Socialist Republic of
Viet Nam:

PHAM MINH CHINH
Prime Minister

For the Republic of the Union of
Myanmar:

HAU KHAN SUM
Permanent Secretary and
ASEAN-Myanmar SOM Leader