



## **JOINT STATEMENT OF THE SIXTH EAST ASIA SUMMIT EDUCATION MINISTERS MEETING**

14 October 2022  
Online and Ha Noi, Viet Nam

1. The Sixth East Asia Summit Education Ministers Meeting (6<sup>th</sup> EAS EMM) was convened hybrid in Ha Noi, Viet Nam on 14 October 2022, in conjunction with the 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers Meeting (6<sup>th</sup> APT EMM). The Meeting was preceded by the 7<sup>th</sup> East Asia Summit Senior Officials Meeting on Education (7<sup>th</sup> EAS-SOM-ED) held on 12 October 2022. The Meeting was chaired by H.E Nguyen Kim Son, Minister of Education and Training, of Viet Nam.
2. We note with appreciation the substantive progress and contribution of EAS participating countries in the implementation of the 14 priority areas of cooperation under the education component of the Manila Plan of Action to Advance the Phnom Penh Declaration on the East Asia Summit Development Initiative (2018-2022).
3. We are cognisant and concerned of the profound impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on our national education systems and regional education cooperation and express concern of the education crisis and school safety. We reiterate our commitment and promote prompt actions of EAS participating countries and partners in protecting education, ensuring safe school environment, and addressing the challenges in light of these global crises.
4. We support the centrepiece of ASEAN recovery efforts, namely the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework (ACRF) which was adopted at the 37<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in November 2020. To advance ACRF's initiatives, we reiterate to prioritise digital transformation of education systems by fostering digital skills and literacy, and 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and competencies among all children and young people, and by promoting ICT-enabled teaching and learning. In this regard, we emphasise the importance of advancing regional cooperation and sharing the best practices mutually among the EAS participating countries including contributions to ACRF.

5. We also re-emphasise the importance of continued synergy and complementarity of the activities of the *Manila Plan of Action to Advance the Phnom Penh Declaration on the East Asia Summit Development Initiative (2018-2022)* to the *ASEAN Workplan on Education (2021-2025)*.
6. We commend Australia and New Zealand's long-standing and substantial contribution on the ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework initiative. This serves as a catalyst for many significant reforms across ASEAN Member States' education and training systems including the development and implementation of national qualifications frameworks and underlying quality assurance and governance mechanisms.
7. We are pleased to note that the ASEAN-India Network of Universities Faculty Exchange Programme was launched at the ASEAN Secretariat on 29 August 2022 and look forward to its on-going implementation. We reaffirm the importance of boosting student mobility and appreciate the continued support of Australia, China, Republic of India, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation and United States in providing scholarships and promoting quality-assured student mobility programmes in the region.
8. We note that the ASEAN-Russia Plan of Action on Education 2022-2026 has, in principle, been adopted pending official approval letters from the ASEAN Member States.
9. In response to the UNESCO World Conference on Higher Education and the UN Transforming Education Summit held in May and September 2022 respectively, we recognise the need to transform education across all levels to address the global crisis in education particularly in terms of equity and inclusion, quality and relevance in the 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution, the changing world of work, and in the post-pandemic environment. Furthermore, we recognise the need for increasing partnerships in education and the potential of digital transformation of education in addressing the global learning crisis.
10. We reaffirm our commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through education, specifically SDG 4 which seeks to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. In order to achieve the SDGs, we reaffirm our commitment to Global Citizenship Education (GCED) and support the Republic of Korea's initiatives on GCED in the EAS region. We also recognize ROK's continuous and effective contribution in technical and vocational education and training (TVET) model development through the EAS TVET knowledge and experience sharing network and in reducing skills gap among ASEAN Member States through its student and teacher mobility program for vocational education institutes.
11. We note with appreciation that ASEAN Member States and China advance education cooperation through the implementation of Building an Amicable

Home Together: Vision and Action on ASEAN-China Education Cooperation and Development (2022-2030), especially strengthening the cooperation in talent cultivation, research collaboration, vocational education and digital transformation of education. We also recognise China's commitment to education cooperation among EAS participating countries, to improve the quality of human resource, enhance mutual learning, promote economic recovery and achieve common prosperity and development.

12. We reiterate the importance of collaborative efforts across sectors and highly encourage all participating EAS countries to continue to explore collaborations in implementing relevant programmes/projects/activities with emphasis on inclusive, equitable and quality early childhood, primary, secondary, technical and vocational education and training, and higher education.
13. We express our sincere appreciation to Viet Nam for the effective chairmanship and excellent arrangements made in hosting the 6<sup>th</sup> EAS EMM, as well as the ASEAN Secretariat, for their valuable support to the Meeting.
14. We further noted that the 7<sup>th</sup> EAS EMM will be hosted by Thailand in 2024.