



ASEAN Mayors Forum 2022 Phnom Penh Declaration

Following the ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) Consultative Meeting 2022 in East Java Province, Indonesia, we, Mayors and Governors of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), convened at the ASEAN Mayors Forum 2022 with the theme “ASEAN A.C.T., Addressing Challenges Together: Strengthening ASEAN Collaboration through Accelerating the Implementation of Smart, Resilient, and Sustainable Cities for Transformative and Inclusive Urban Living in the New Normal” co-organised by AMF, the United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific (UCLG ASPAC) and Phnom Penh Capital Administration, in collaboration with the UN bodies and ASEAN Secretariat, and hosted by the Phnom Penh Capital Administration, Kingdom of Cambodia, on 2nd and 3rd December 2022.

The Phnom Penh Declaration refers to and affirms the previous AMF outcome documents, including the Surabaya Communiqué 2011, Makassar Declaration 2015, Taguig Action Agenda 2017, AMF Declaration 2019, and Joint Declaration of the ASEAN-Republic of Korea Mayors on the 30th Anniversary of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations, to reinforce and focus on enhancing collaboration with ASEAN stakeholders to ensure peace, security, and prosperity for the realisation of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025. The Phnom Penh Declaration serves as the foundation for collaborative action of the cities and local governments in the ASEAN region.

Recognising the different capabilities and capacities in cities and local governments that face similar challenges, ASEAN Mayors and Governors declare to:

1. **STRENGTHEN** the efforts to build smart and sustainable cities and territories to meet the Sustainable Development Goals, especially SDGs 9 and 11, by investing in digital infrastructure and promoting inclusive digital transformation.
2. **CONTRIBUTE** to the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025, the ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Strategy (ASUS), and ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework, which support COVID-19 recovery and strengthen resilience towards achieving a connected, sustainable and inclusive ASEAN Community. We further welcome the opportunity to engage in the development of the ASEAN Community Post-2025 Vision and ASEAN Connectivity Post-2025 Agenda.
3. **UNDERTAKE** local actions founded on the complementarities of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
4. **COOPERATE** with national and subnational authorities and other stakeholders to accelerate local actions contributing to climate action and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.
5. **FACILITATE** knowledge and technology transfer considering the local context and capabilities of cities and local governments.
6. **ENGAGE** the youth and address youth unemployment through innovative programmes and projects.
7. **UPLIFT** the quality of life of the people through local initiatives that promote human development, resiliency, and sustainable development, and in line with the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER).
8. **ACKNOWLEDGE** the important role of culture in sustainable development and promote policies and programmes that will support local culture and tourism sectors.
9. **IMPROVE** enabling environment of cities and local governments, including access to finance, capacity building, and institutional framework.
10. **BUILD** the technical capacities of city officials to ensure planning and implementation of sustainable urban development initiatives.
11. **ENSURE** stability of local finance and the local economy in ASEAN cities and local governments.
12. **EMPOWER** women towards greater contribution and involvement in local governance.
13. **INITIATE** a collective action plan developed by ASEAN cities and local governments through AMF.
14. **PARTICIPATE** actively in the upcoming ASEAN regional meetings and forums, including the AMF.
15. **WELCOME** the admittance, in principle, of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste to the ASEAN, and stand ready to work closely with its Mayors and Governors for the AMF.
16. **WORK** more closely with ASEAN and regional institutions like ASEAN Secretariat and UCLG ASPAC to undertake more cooperation and collaboration as part of the ASEAN Community Building.

Adopted this 3rd of December 2022 at Sokha Phnom Penh Hotel & Residence in Phnom Penh Capital Administration, Kingdom of Cambodia during the 2022 ASEAN Mayors Forum.