

Expert Panel for the 50th Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation

February 2023

1 Objective

- ◆ Established under Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Kihara, with the aim of acquiring policy recommendations from experts of academic and business communities, to prepare for the Commemorative Summit for the 50th Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation

2 Composition

- ◆ Composed of the following 12 experts from academic and business communities
- ◆ Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan served as the secretariat, and the relevant government ministries and agencies attended as observers.

【Academia】

- **OBA Mie** (Chairperson of the Panel, Prof., Kanagawa Univ.)
- **AIZAWA Nobuhiro** (Assoc. Prof., Kyushu Univ.)
- **ENDO Tamaki** (Assoc. Prof., Saitama Univ.)
- **KAJIWARA Susumu** (Prof., Tokyo Tech)
- **KAWASHIMA Shin** (Prof., the Univ. of Tokyo)
- **KIBA Saya** (Assoc. Prof., Kobe City Univ. of Foreign Studies)
- **SAHASHI Ryo** (Assoc. Prof., the Univ. of Tokyo)
- **SHOJI Tomotaka** (Head, Asia and Africa Division, NIDS)

【Business sector】

- **TANAKA Hideyuki** (Chair, Subcommittee on ASEAN Economic Relations, Committee on Asia and Oceania, Keidanren)
- **SHIMIZU Shinichiro** (ASEAN-Japan Business Council, The Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry)
- **HIRAKO Yuji** (Chairman, Asia Project Team, KEIZAI DOYUKAI (Japan Association of Corporate Executives))
- **TANAKA Keiji** (Chairperson of Business-in-Asia Committee, Kansai Economic Federation/Kankeiren)

3 Timeline

- ◆ **The 1st Meeting (May 12, 2022)** : The Expert Panel was established. The experts exchanged views among themselves and with Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Kihara and MOFA officials from as the secretariat. The officials from relevant ministries and agencies of the Government also attended as observers.
- ◆ **The study group meetings (June through December 2022)** : The study groups among experts and guest speakers were held approx. once a month (8 in total) to discuss a wide range of topics, including politics, security, economy, culture, and society. (In addition, other discussion sessions with experts from ASEAN Member States were also conducted 4 times, with the support of the ASEAN-Japan Centre)
- ◆ **The 2nd meeting (February 3, 2023)**: The Expert Panel submitted the report to the Government. The report is open to the public.

Main points of report from the Expert Panel for the 50th Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation

February 2023

Three Pillars of a New ASEAN-Japan Partnership for Cooperation

I. Shaping a regional order which is free, open, rules-based and fair

Cooperate in establishing a fair regional order based on rules based on AOIP and FOIP. Maintain, enhance the role of ASEAN architecture and ASEAN centrality and unity. (e.g. jointly promote efforts to ease tensions in the region over the long term; strengthen the ASEAN architecture; support the strengthening of the ASEAN Secretariat's organization and functions; promote security cooperation)

II. Building a society which fulfills economic development, sustainability and fairness

Create an Indo Pacific region as an ecosystem for building a society of inclusiveness and diversity which generates aspiration for development, sustainability and fairness and interconnecting cooperation in multiple areas. (e.g. maintain and strengthen a free, open and fair economic order; development through economic revitalization and advancement; cooperate for social development and equity; building a sustainable and resilient society.)

III. Foster mutual understanding and trust as the foundation for a new ASEAN-Japan partnership

Renew our network and connect our new generations. Bring our civil societies closer together as our engine to transform ASEAN-Japan relations by create a web of networks that invites new and critical actors from our changing society, due to economic development, social maturation and diversification. (e.g. Exchange programs on various profession for the new generation among ASEAN and Japan; which includes cross sectoral high-skill transnational professional networks)

Initiatives to realize the above

Utilize the existing cooperation schemes for ASEAN or consider their successors or new mechanisms; advance cooperation schemes and projects by utilizing the public and private resources besides ODA.