

**Opening Remarks**  
**ASEAN Future Generation Business Forum**  
**KIYA Masahiko, Ambassador of Japan to ASEAN**  
**Jakarta, 2 September 2023**

His Excellency Minister Sandiaga Salahuddin Uno,  
His Excellency Deputy Minister, Adam Adli Abd Halim,  
Honourable speakers,  
Distinguished participants,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning! First and foremost, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to ASEAN-BAC for hosting this important event as the side event of ASEAN Business Investment Summit. I would also like to thank KADIN, JETRO, AMEICC, and GenYouth for their strong support.

**(Importance of ASEAN)**

It is a great honour for me to make remarks in front of you, the promising young people in the ASEAN region.

As you all know, ASEAN is attracting the world's ever-greater attention by its economic as well as geopolitical importance.

From the economic perspective, ASEAN has recorded resilient growth despite the COVID-19, and is expected to keep stable growth for coming years.

Geopolitically, ASEAN is located at the center of the Indo-Pacific region, where peace and stability is ever more important.

As the ASEAN Chair, the Government of Indonesia has made "ASEAN Matters: Epicentrum of Growth" the theme of ASEAN this year, and the ASEAN-BAC, representing the business community, has put "ASEAN Centrality: Innovating Towards Greater Inclusivity." as its main theme.

These themes demonstrate that both the public and private sectors are committed to working together to enhance ASEAN's importance in the world.

### **(ASEAN-Japan Relations)**

Japan regards ASEAN as the closest and most crucial partner for Japan and has promoted cooperation in a variety of fields.

This year marks the 50th Year of Friendship and Cooperation. Prime Minister KISHIDA expressed his commitment to elevating ASEAN-Japan relations to a new stage in this memorable year on so many occasions.

### **(Importance of Younger Generation Involvement)**

Now, we are tackling various challenges, including ASEAN-BAC's policy priorities of this year, namely Digital Transformation, Sustainable Development, Food Security, Health Resilience, and Trade & Investment Facilitation.

Such challenges cannot be addressed by simply utilising existing solutions. It is essential that the younger generation, such as yourselves, take leadership and come up with new and creative solutions.

ASEAN-Japan Yung Business Leaders Summit and Generation Z Summit will be held in December in Tokyo, where the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit is going to be conducted.

### **(Expectations to the Forum and Conclusion)**

Let me conclude my remarks by wishing all of you here today to become future leaders of ASEAN-Japan and the world, and to play an even more active role in realising a better society.

Thank you very much for your attention.

**(End)**