

Opening Remarks by Ambassador Kiya

Southeast Asia-QUAD dialogue “ASEAN and the Quad in the Indo-Pacific:
Exchanging Views, Comparing Notes, and Exploring Cooperation”

Date: 10 December, 7-9pm Venue: The Westin Jakarta

Pak Dino, all Ambassadors, excellencies, distinguished guests from ASEAN countries, Timor-Leste and QUAD countries, ladies and gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to make a brief remarks at the start of the Southeast Asia-QUAD dialogue.

On this important occasion on a long-time trusted friend of ASEAN, let me share three simple observations regarding the relationship between QUAD and ASEAN.

First, QUAD and ASEAN share a vision. QUAD’s vision is “for a region that is peaceful and prosperous, stable and secure, and respectful of sovereignty” and we have committed to upholding and strengthening a free and open international order based on the rule of law. ASEAN demonstrates a strong commitment to “maintaining an ASEAN-centred, open, inclusive, transparent, resilient and rules-based regional architecture that upholds international law”. With such commonalities, the QUAD leaders, in their joint statement in 2024, “reaffirm our consistent and unwavering support for ASEAN centrality and unity” and “are committed to ensuring the Quad’s work is aligned with ASEAN’s principles and priorities”.

Second, QUAD is a service and solution provider to ASEAN and the broader Indo-Pacific region to realize our shared vision. QUAD has been committed to finding common solutions and bringing enduring benefits to the region. This cooperation extends to a wide range of areas including health, disaster relief, infrastructure, critical and emerging technologies, climate and clean energy, cyber, space and people-to-people exchange, as you can see in the latest leaders’ declaration. Concrete initiatives such as the Quad Cancer Moonshot and fellowship programs on infrastructure and STEM education have already started. These programs will also contribute to AOIP corporation, which is ASEAN’s priority agenda.

Last but not least, the potential for QUAD-ASEAN cooperation is, therefore, immense. It is incumbent on us to realize this huge potential for the benefit of QUAD, ASEAN, the region and the world.

Let’s work together tomorrow.