ASEAN FOUNDATION MODEL ASEAN MEETING EAST ASIA SUMMIT 2025 Opening Remarks by KIYA Masahiko, Ambassador of Japan to ASEAN ASEAN Hq/Sec, Jakarta, 15 September 2025

1. Introduction

Distinguished guests and participants, <u>Welcome</u> to the Model EAS in Jakarta! <u>Congratulations</u> to all of you who have been selected for this prestigious program.

I also extend my deepest <u>appreciation</u> to all EAS partners who contribute to this program especially our co-sponsors Australia and China, the ASEAN Secretariat, and above all the ASEAN Foundation for implementing this great initiative.

2. Significance of Model EAS

Now the EAS and AOIP cooperation are raising profiles in our meetings. This Model EAS is exactly the outcome of such cooperation.

Why are EAS and AOIP cooperation important? In this complex and challenging international and regional affairs, <u>EAS is a mechanism</u> to promote dialogue as well cooperation, and the <u>AOIP is a vision</u> to guide us in promoting peace and prosperity. Cooperation creates opportunity for us to collaborate, find common interest, and <u>foster strategic trust</u>, which leads to peace and stability in the region.

The Model EAS participants, collectively and individually, <u>embody this EAS and AOIP cooperation</u>. Your experience, learning and friendship are <u>our common</u>, <u>shared, precious asset!</u>

3. Expectation for participants

To our student participants, I have <u>high expectations</u>. I hope this program will enhance your understanding of ASEAN, EAS, AOIP, the value of ASEAN Centrality and Unity. It will also strengthen your negotiation skills and foster your long-term mutual friendship.

Most importantly, I am hoping you will <u>realize and engrave in your hearts the long-lasting value of dialogue and cooperation in the Indo-pacific region under the EAS</u>. I wish you all the very best in your lifetime!