



# برونى دارالسلام Brunei Darussalam



## Brunei Darussalam newsletter

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### His Majesty attends ASEAN Summits and Related Summits

**PHNOM PENH, KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA, November 9** - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam left Bandar Seri Begawan to attend the 40<sup>th</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summits and Related Summits and a State Visit to Cambodia.

Accompanying His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

Upon arrival at Phnom Penh International Airport, His Majesty was welcomed by Okhna Datuk Dr. Othman Hassan, Senior Minister-in-Charge of Special Mission.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen being welcomed by Senior Minister-in-Charge of Special Mission upon arrival at Phnom Penh International Airport.



### 29<sup>th</sup> APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting



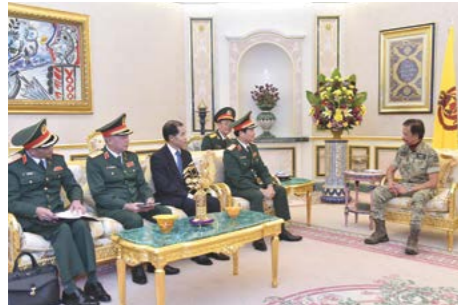
His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam being greeted on arrival at Don Mueang Air Terminal, Kingdom of Thailand.

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### Upcoming Royal Wedding Ceremony

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, November 3** - By the command of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, it is hereby announced by the Yang Di-Pertua of Adat Istiadat Negara that *insyaaAllah* by the will of Allah the Almighty, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam will hold a Royal Wedding Ceremony for His Majesty's daughter, Her Royal Highness Princess 'Azemah Ni'matul Bolkiah and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Muda Bahar ibni His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah.

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**3. His Majesty receives audiences**



**5. Credible officers with high integrity needed**



**7. Redouble efforts to advance community-building process**



**10. Increase open trade, reduce effects of climate change**



**14. Partnership for future prosperity**



**20. State Visit: Brunei-Cambodia strengthen bilateral relations**



**23. 29<sup>th</sup> APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting**



**29. Crown Prince presents BSM Chairman's Awards**



**34. Enhance ASEAN's efforts towards economic integration**



**36. Brunei – Viet Nam strengthen bilateral defence and military relations**



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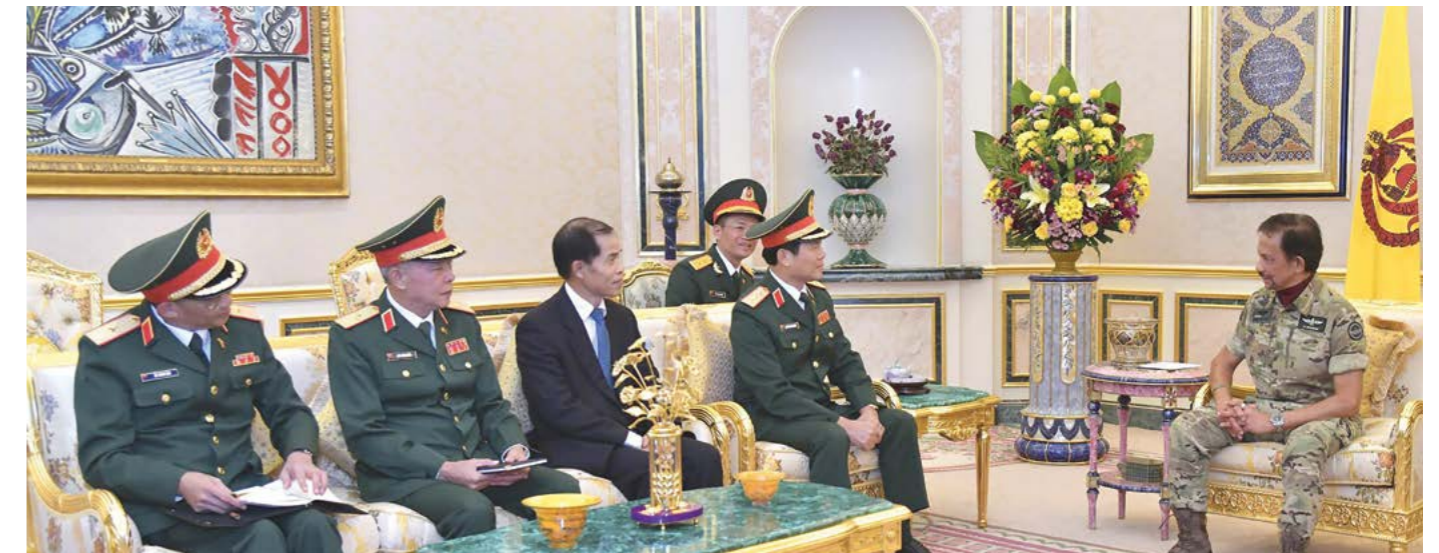
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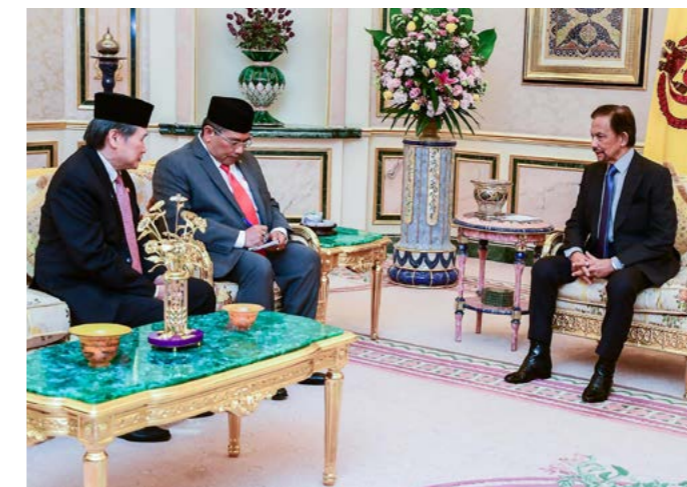
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## His Majesty receives audiences

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam received in audience at Istana Nurul Iman:



His Excellency Senior Lieutenant General Nguyen Tan Cuong, Chief of General Staff of the Viet Nam People's Army and Deputy Minister of National Defence of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on November 5.



His Excellency Dato Paduka Lim Jock Hoi, the outgoing Secretary-General of ASEAN on November 29.



Her Excellency Yu Hong, outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to Brunei Darussalam on November 29.

## Her Majesty receives audience

Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam received in audience at Istana Nurul Iman, Her Excellency Yu Hong, outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to Brunei Darussalam on November 30.



### His Majesty sends congratulatory messages

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to send congratulatory messages to:

- His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni, King of the Kingdom of Cambodia and His Excellency Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia as well as to the government and people of the Kingdom of Cambodia on the occasion of the Kingdom's 69<sup>th</sup> Independence Day on November 9.
- His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, Sultan of the Sultanate of Oman, the government and people of the Sultanate of Oman on the occasion of its National Day on November 18.
- Yang Amat Berhormat Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim on his appointment as the 10<sup>th</sup> Prime Minister of Malaysia on November 24.

### His Majesty sends message of condolences

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to send message of condolences to:

- His Excellency Dato Laila Utama Joko Widodo, President Republic of Indonesia, the government and people of the Republic of Indonesia following an earthquake that struck in Cianjur, West Java, on November 23.
- His Excellency Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China following the passing of His Excellency Jiang Zemin, Former President of the People's Republic of China on November 30.

### Credible officers with high integrity needed

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, November 5** - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam made an unscheduled visit to the Royal Customs and Excise Department (RCED) and Immigration and National Registration Department (INRD).

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam first visited to the RCED, including Customer Service Unit, Service and Corporate Relations Division; International and Policy Division; Human Resource Management and Corporate Relation Division; ICT Unit, Financial Services Unit; and Administration Unit.

During the visit, His Majesty brought attention to multiple issues in Brunei Darussalam, among them which has yet to reach a conclusion but is continuously exacerbated is the issue of contraband smuggling activities.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivering a *titah* (royal speech) during the unscheduled visit to the Royal Customs and Excise Department (RCED).

### Upcoming Royal Wedding Ceremony

إِسْتِعْجَالًا فِي تَقْرِيرِ بَدَايَةِ زَوْجِ الْوَدَّاعِ  
 يَتْرَأَمَةُ مَلِيَا فَادَكْ سَرِي قُغَيْرَانِ أَنْقِ قُتْرِي عَظِيمَةُ نِعْمَةُ الْبَلْقِيهِ  
 بِنْتُ كِبَاوَهْ دَوْلِي يَغْمَهَا مَلِيَا فَادَكْ سَرِي بَكْنَدَا  
 سَلْطَانِ حَاجِ حَسَنِ الْبَلْقِيهِ مَعَزَالِدِينِ وَالِدَوْلَةِ،  
 دِي . كِي . عِيم . بِي . قِي . إِي . بِي . إِي . س .  
 دَغْنِ  
 يَغَامَةُ مَلِيَا قُغَيْرَانِ مَوْدَا بَحْرِ  
 ابْنِ دَوْلِي يَتْرَأَمَةُ مَلِيَا فَادَكْ سَرِي قُغَيْرَانِ دَكَاوُغِ  
 صَاحِبِ الْمَالِ قُغَيْرَانِ مَوْدَا حَاجِ جَفْرِي بَلْقِيهِ

From front page

The royal wedding will commence with the Royal Bersuruh Ceremony which will be held on Sunday, January 8, 2023, followed by the Opening of the Gendang Jaga-Jaga Ceremony and the Receiving of the Gendang Jaga-Jaga Ceremony on Monday, January 9, 2023; Presentation of the Royal Token and the Royal Engagement Ceremony on Tuesday, January 10, 2023; Berbedak Ceremony for the Royal Bride and Royal Groom

on Wednesday evening, January 11, 2023; Royal Akad Nikah Ceremony on Thursday, January 12, 2023; Royal Bersanding Ceremony on Sunday, January 15, 2023; Royal Banquet Ceremony on Monday evening, January 16, 2023, and the Recital of Doa Selamat and the Closing of Gendang Jaga-Jaga Ceremony on Tuesday, January 17, 2023.

All citizens and residents of Brunei Darussalam are required to hoist the national flag starting from Monday, January 9, 2023 until Tuesday, January 17, 2023.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during the unscheduled visit to several divisions at RCED (above and below).



His Majesty in a *titah* (royal speech) stated that it is important for the country to have leaders or enforcement officers that are more focused, determined and courageous. The correct attitude is needed to take care of the welfare of the people.

The issue of breach of trust and misuses of seized good involving officers and a small number of staff on duty was also highlighted by His Majesty. The challenge to the country is to have a line-up of officers who are diligent, hardworking, honest, courageous and trustworthy.

The Monarch added that no action has been taken on most smuggled items which are still stored at control posts or the State Store in Gadong.

The RCED has been around for over 100 years. It has seen a number of officers at its helm. However, few can steer the department towards success.

His Majesty also touched on cases of corruption involving RCED officers at Muara Port.

From RCED, His Majesty proceeded to INRD, including the Smart Card Identification (KPP) Division; and Travel Document (Passport) Counter for the Senior Citizens and Special Needs Category.

In a *titah*, His Majesty brought attention to several matters especially those related

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His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during the unscheduled visit to the Immigration and National Registration Department (INRD).



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to discipline and work ethics that are not followed at the Travel Document (Passport) such as tardiness while on duty.

His Majesty noted that another significant problem yet to be

resolved is the alleged long queues to renew passports at the INRD headquarters, which is assumed to be due to limits to the issuance of queue numbers and slowness at the counters.

His Majesty also highlighted several matters that need attention, including corruption in management and administration.



## His Majesty attends Royal Audience and ASEAN Leaders' Interface



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended Royal Audience with His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni, King of Cambodia at the Royal Palace in Phnom Penh.

**PHNOM PENH, KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA, November 10** - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended a Royal Audience with His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni, King of Cambodia, at the Royal Palace.

Upon arrival, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was welcomed by His Majesty the King of Cambodia.

His Majesty was then joined by other ASEAN Heads of State and Government

for the Royal Audience with His Majesty the King of Cambodia.

During the Royal Audience, His Majesty expressed appreciation to His Majesty the King of Cambodia and the people of Cambodia for the warm welcome and hospitality accorded to His Majesty and the Brunei delegation whilst in Phnom Penh.

In the afternoon, His Majesty attended the ASEAN Leaders' Interface with Representatives of ASEAN Youth, held at the Sokha Phnom Penh Hotel.

During the session, ASEAN leaders and representatives of ASEAN Youth, among others, discussed the role of the youth

as future leaders towards enhancing sustainable development in the region.

Brunei Darussalam was represented by two youths from COVID-19 youth volunteers and Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali (UNISSA).

This session is a platform for ASEAN leaders to convey their expectation of the youth, as well as for the youth to share their efforts and contributions towards regional development.

Before leaving, His Majesty mingled with the representative from Brunei Darussalam.

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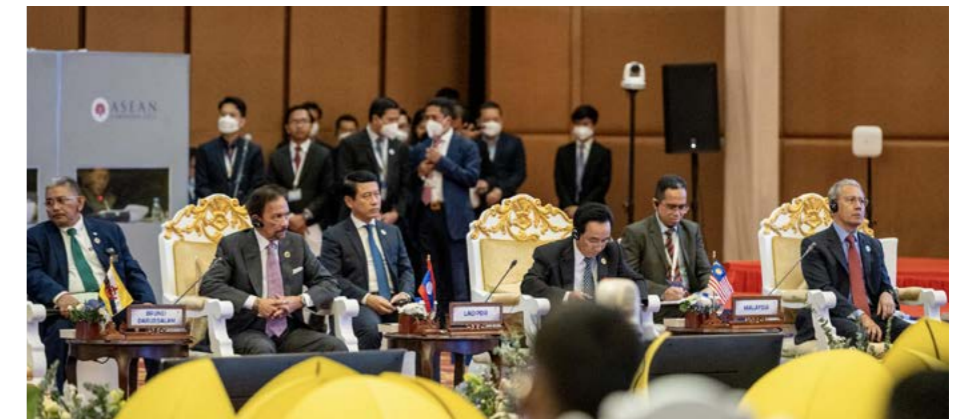
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His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and His Majesty the King of Cambodia in a group photo with other ASEAN Heads of State and Government at the Royal Audience.



His Majesty being welcomed by His Majesty the King of Cambodia.



His Majesty with other leaders from ASEAN Member States and the ASEAN Leaders' Interface with Representatives of ASEAN Youth (above and below).



His Majesty in a group photo with Brunei ASEAN Youth representatives.



## Redouble efforts to advance community-building process



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during the Plenary Session of the 40th ASEAN Summit.

**PHNOM PENH, KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA, November 11** - Over the last 55 years, ASEAN has made numerous achievements in maintaining peace and prosperity in the region. This was highlighted by His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in a *titah* (royal speech) during the Plenary Session of the 40th ASEAN Summit at the Sokha Phnom Penh Hotel.

ASEAN should redouble its efforts to advance the community-building process by taking advantage of various opportunities such as digital transformation and the ongoing work in implementing and upgrading Free Trade Agreements, as this would help ensure ASEAN's competitiveness and resilience.

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Redouble efforts to advance community-building process (continued)



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the Retreat Session of the 41st ASEAN Summit.

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His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam also welcomed the launching of the ASEAN Junior Fellowship Programme in August 2021, which would equip the young people of ASEAN with knowledge of the inner workings of ASEAN and foster good relations among them.

In striving to achieve a united and inclusive community, His Majesty expressed support for Timor-Leste's membership to ASEAN and to become an observer in the meantime, while finalising the terms of accession.

His Majesty added that ASEAN is currently engaged in one of its most critical works through the post-2025 visioning process, where Brunei prioritises an ASEAN with stronger neighbourly relations, as well as closer friendship and cooperation.

"In the process," His Majesty said, "a balance of pragmatism and aspiration is necessary to ensure ASEAN remains stable and progressive while maintaining its identity."

His Majesty affirmed, ASEAN needs to strengthen its institutional capacity and



The Prime Minister of Cambodia as Chairman of ASEAN delivering his opening speech.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of Cambodia.

effectiveness to ensure that it can take advantage of its strategic value and skilfully navigate challenges and opportunities.

In concluding the *titah*, His Majesty expressed appreciation to His Excellency Dato Paduka Lim Jock Hoi, Secretary-General of ASEAN for his valuable contributions to ASEAN over the last five years and expressed support to the next ASEAN Secretary-General, Dr. Kao Kim Hourm of Cambodia.

Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

Earlier, the Prime Minister of Cambodia in a speech highlighted the importance of ASEAN's collective endeavours to tackle existing and emerging challenges, and reiterated Cambodia's commitment in ensuring ASEAN Community-building efforts are sustained towards achieving peace, stability, security and sustainable development.

During the Plenary Session, leaders were presented with a report from Dato Paduka Lim Jock Hoi highlighting



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the Retreat Session of the 41st ASEAN Summit.

ASEAN's achievements in recovering together from the COVID-19 pandemic through significant economic growth of 5.1 per cent; the upgrading of key trade agreements with dialogue partners as well as the signing of the ASEAN-European Union (EU) Comprehensive Air Transport Agreement.

ASEAN Leaders also emphasised the importance of unity and centrality in ensuring that ASEAN is able to respond to common challenges and furthermore enhance cooperation in areas such as food and energy security as well as digital development.

At the end of the Plenary Session, the ASEAN Leaders' Vision Statement on 'ASEAN ACT: Addressing Challenges Together'; ASEAN Leaders' Statement on 55th Anniversary of ASEAN; ASEAN Leaders' Statement on ASEAN Connectivity Post-2025 Agenda; and ASEAN Leaders' Statement on the Application of Timor-Leste for ASEAN Membership were adopted.

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Following the Plenary Session, His Majesty attended the Retreat Session of the 41st ASEAN Summit.

His Majesty delivered a *titah* highlighting that ASEAN was able to work with its partners and find opportunities to enhance its cooperation, despite the challenges due to the multi-dimensional impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

His Majesty also stressed that heightened geopolitical tensions threaten to hinder the progress of ASEAN's work, including on food and energy security.

Therefore, it is important to promote stable and constructive relations among all ASEAN's partners to respond to these shared challenges.

Regarding the matter, His Majesty said that further engagement and cooperation between ASEAN and its partners is encouraged, which will demonstrate ASEAN's commitment to an open and inclusive regional architecture which upholds ASEAN centrality.

His Majesty expressed support for the ASEAN Leaders' Statement on the 55th Anniversary of ASEAN which calls for ASEAN to remain inclusive and outward-looking, with strengthened



His Majesty at the Opening Ceremony of the 40th and 41st ASEAN Summits and Related Summits, which was also attended by other ASEAN Heads of State and Government.

centrality and unity in its engagement with external partners.

Leaders also discussed on ASEAN's external relations and future direction, as well as exchanged views on regional and international issues.

His Majesty first attended the Opening Ceremony of the 40th and 41st ASEAN Summits and Related Summits, which was also attended by other ASEAN Heads of State and Government.

The arrival of His Majesty was welcomed

by Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of Cambodia.

The ceremony commenced with the ASEAN anthem, 'The ASEAN Way', followed by cultural performances and opening remarks from the Prime Minister of Cambodia as Chairman of ASEAN this year, who welcomed all leaders and delegates.

Following the Opening Ceremony, His Majesty and other ASEAN Leaders witnessed the Photo Exhibition on Cambodia's Contribution to ASEAN.

Increase open trade, reduce effects of climate change

**PHNOM PENH, KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA, November 11** - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended the 25th ASEAN-China Summit, 23rd ASEAN-Republic of Korea (ROK) Summit, and 12th ASEAN-United Nations (UN) Summit, at the Sokha Phnom Penh Hotel.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the 25th ASEAN-China Summit. Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

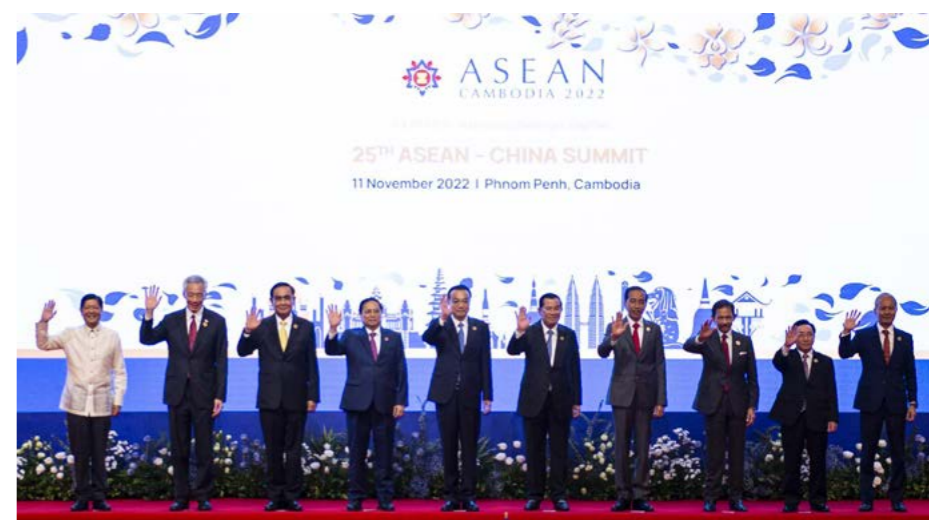
Accompanying His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

At the 25th ASEAN-China Summit, His Majesty emphasised that the People's Republic of China is an important ASEAN partner in contributing significantly to regional peace, economic growth and social progress for over three decades.

Extensive economic cooperation is one of the pillars of the ASEAN-China Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

His Majesty welcomed the consultation in upgrading the ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreement to ensure it is up-to-date, more business-friendly and resilient, to global challenges.

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His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with other leaders in a group photo.

Increase open trade, reduce effects of climate change (continued)

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Touching on the Technical Cooperation Agreement, His Majesty hopes for the early implementation of the agreement, thereby strengthening human and technical capacity. The agreement is very much in line with the Global Development initiative announced by His Excellency Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China, at the United Nations General Assembly in 2021, to ensure long-term prosperity.

His Majesty also reaffirmed Brunei Darussalam's commitment to strengthen its efforts and goodwill for the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) as this year marks its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. His Majesty also encouraged each party to accelerate negotiations towards the conclusion of a comprehensive and robust Code of Conduct, to ensure continued trust and confidence in the region.

Meanwhile, His Excellency Li Keqiang, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, in his speech, highlighted the significant achievements of the ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations, in becoming each other's largest trading partners, given the impacts of COVID-19 and complicated international track.

His Excellency Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of Cambodia as Chairman of ASEAN then delivered the ASEAN Joint Statement on ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations, which among others welcomed the implementation of the ASEAN-China Comprehensive Strategic Partnership Plan of Action for Peace and Prosperity 2021-2025, as well as appreciated People's Republic of China's contributions to the ASEAN COVID-19 Response Fund.

At the Summit, leaders discussed

increasing open trade towards regional economic stability and welcomed cooperation between ASEAN and China in the field of digital transformation and green growth.

At the end of the Summit, the ASEAN-China Joint Statement of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the DOC; ASEAN-China Joint Statement on Promoting Common and Sustainable Development; and ASEAN-China Joint Statement on Food Security Cooperation were adopted.

His Majesty then attended the 23<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN-ROK Summit, where His Majesty in a *titah* (royal speech) among others, highlighted that the ROK is an invaluable strategic partner of ASEAN, which has contributed to the region's growth, development and prosperity.

His Majesty emphasised that ROK's leadership in innovation can support the people of ASEAN to take full advantage of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, such as utilising technological developments in e-commerce, which can benefit Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) in ensuring their continued growth and competitiveness.

His Majesty further expressed his view that all parties need to work together in dealing with the impacts of climate change, and therefore, welcomed the ROK to collaborate on developing policies to deal the challenges through the ASEAN Centre for Climate Change, which will be hosted in Brunei Darussalam.

In concluding the *titah*, His Majesty also emphasised the importance of sub-regional work while asserting, that BIMP-EAGA remains a significant growth area with great development, investment and industrialisation potential.

Therefore, His Majesty expressed his appreciation for ROK's contribution to



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam shakes hands with His Excellency President of the Republic of Korea (ROK).

BIMP-EAGA-ROK Cooperation Fund which will further socio-economics progress.

Meanwhile, His Excellency Yoon Suk-yeol, President of ROK, in a speech reaffirmed the ROK's commitment to drive its Indo-Pacific strategy in line with the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific towards promoting open and inclusive cooperation.

His Excellency Pham Minh Chinh, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, as the State Coordinator of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations, then delivered the ASEAN Joint Statement, which underlined on further strengthening cooperation between ASEAN and the ROK through promotion of comprehensive cooperation and strengthened partnerships for peace, stability and security in the region.

At the summit, leaders discussed to speed up action to deal with climate change; efforts towards improving digital

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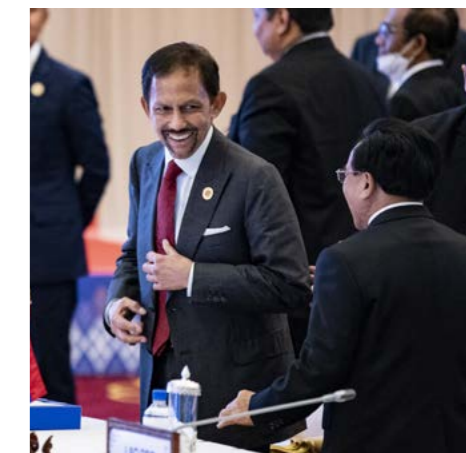
His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with other ASEAN Heads of State and Government at the 23<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN-ROK Summit.



Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China delivering his speech.



His Majesty at the 12<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-United Nations (UN) Summit.



His Majesty interacting with one of the leaders during the 12<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-UN Summit.

12<sup>th</sup> ASEAN - UN SUMMIT  
11 November 2022 | Phnom Penh, Cambodia



His Majesty in a group photo with other leaders at the 12<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-UN Summit.

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architecture; as well as further strengthen cooperation with ROK in smart cities and green economy.

Following the 23<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN-ROK Summit, His Majesty attended the 12<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-United Nations (UN) Summit.

His Majesty in a *titah* expressed his appreciation to His Excellency Antonio Guterres, UN Secretary-General, for the UN's continued support for ASEAN community building efforts.

His Majesty acknowledged that the



His Excellency the UN Secretary-General delivering his speech.

COVID-19 pandemic has slowed down the progress and has hindered efforts to realise the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

Therefore, the 2<sup>nd</sup> SDG Summit in 2023 is welcomed, where it is the right time to review the ASEAN-UN approach in implementing the 2030 Agenda.

His Majesty called on ASEAN and UN to work more closely and to continue to encourage complementarity between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the 2030 Agenda.

His Majesty further welcomed the cooperation with relevant UN agencies through the ASEAN Centre for Climate Change in Brunei Darussalam to strengthen ASEAN's capacity, in reducing the effects of climate change.

ASEAN-UN also needs to remain focussed towards achieving common goals, due to global uncertainty and growing geopolitical tensions.

In concluding the *titah*, His Majesty also commended His Excellency the UN Secretary-General for the vision of 'Common Agenda' in promoting a

more secure and prosperous future.

Meanwhile, His Excellency Antonio Guterres, UN Secretary General emphasised in his statement, that ASEAN as a region, plays an important role in dealing with the increasing risk of a fragmented global economy and other upcoming challenges, through multilateral solutions.

His Excellency Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of Cambodia, as Chairman of ASEAN then delivered the ASEAN Joint Statement on ASEAN-UN Dialogue Relations, which recognised ASEAN-UN cooperation in supporting regional efforts to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Following global uncertainties and challenges, ASEAN and UN should work more closely through constructive engagement to uphold multilateralism.

At the Summit, leaders called for stronger cooperation between ASEAN and UN, to ensure open and rules-based international cooperation, to maintain peace and prosperity of the region, as well as support from the UN, in dealing with the food, energy and security crisis.

Enhance regional connectivity, address critical issues

**PHNOM PENH, KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA, November 12** - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended the 25<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Three (APT) Summit; 19<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-India Summit to Commemorate the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ASEAN India Dialogue Relations; and 2<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN-Australia Summit at the Sokha Phnom Penh Hotel.

Accompanying His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

At the 25<sup>th</sup> APT Summit, His Majesty expressed pleasure that the APT continues to be an essential platform for cooperation including in times of crisis, as this year marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the APT mechanism.

His Majesty stated that one lesson from the COVID-19 pandemic is the society's need for preparedness and resilience.

This has led Brunei Darussalam to develop the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on the Strategic and Holistic Initiative to Link ASEAN Responses to Emergencies and Disasters (ASEAN SHIELD) during its ASEAN Chairmanship in 2021, to improve coordination of existing mechanisms in ASEAN during emergencies and disasters.

His Majesty said one of the APT mechanisms contributing to preparedness is the APT Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR), primarily to ensure rice availability during emergencies.

In this regard, His Majesty expressed the need to ensure that the mechanism



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the 19<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-India Summit.

is constantly ready and able to respond swiftly to food shortfalls in the region.

His Majesty also suggested for officials to review the APTERR preparedness strategically and holistically.

In concluding the *titah* (royal speech), His Majesty emphasised that mental health is an issue that is often overlooked and can lead to significant productivity loss and socio-economic consequences in the future if left unaddressed.

As such, His Majesty welcomed cooperation of the APT to increase awareness and address the critical issue.

His Excellency Yoon Suk-yeol, President of Republic of Korea as Country Coordinator for APT Dialogue Relations, expressed hope for the further strengthening of cooperation between ASEAN and the Plus

Three countries in facing challenges such as food and energy security caused by climate change.

This was followed a statement by His Excellency Li Keqiang, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, highlighting APT's accomplishments in the fields of food reserve and finance towards boosting its socio-economic development, as well as the stability of international and regional industrial supply chains.

Meanwhile, His Excellency Fumio Kishida, Prime Minister of Japan welcomed the steadfast progress in new areas of cooperation between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries, such as digital economy and resilient agriculture, and emphasised the strengthening of cooperation in four key areas, namely: maritime cooperation; connectivity; achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and early recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

At the Summit, leaders also encouraged greater collaboration and integration amongst the APT to strengthen the resilience of food supply chains, promote sustainable agriculture and address digital gaps.

His Majesty then attended the 19<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-India Summit to Commemorate the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations and delivered a *titah* emphasising the need to make the ASEAN-India Free Trade Agreement simpler, more business-friendly and responsive to economic challenges.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in a group photo at the 25<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Three (APT) Summit.

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His Majesty in a group photo with other leaders at the 19<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-India Summit to Commemorate the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations.

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Therefore, His Majesty welcomed all parties to review the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement expeditiously.

His Majesty stated that this year marks the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations.

His Majesty acknowledged that the partnership has seen immense growth and expressed appreciation for the Republic of India's contribution to the region's peace and prosperity.

His Majesty also highlighted the importance of investing in youth development by providing them with the necessary skill sets.

Acknowledging India's leadership in digital science, including Artificial Intelligence, His Majesty welcomed cooperation in human capacity building through further collaboration between higher education institutions.

Meanwhile, His Excellency Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar, Indian Vice President noted the multi-dimensional growth of ASEAN-India relations through engagements encompassing connectivity, climate change, security, technology and trade.

His Excellency Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore as Country Coordinator for ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations delivered the ASEAN Common Statement and stated that the strong relations between ASEAN and India enables the exploration of practical cooperation towards greater trade and investment flows as well as enhanced regional connectivity.

At the Summit, leaders welcomed the elevation of ASEAN-India relations to a

during Brunei Darussalam's ASEAN chairmanship last year.

Touching on the upgrading of the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA), His Majesty highlighted that it is the most comprehensive agreement that ASEAN has with its dialogue partner and encouraged the conclusion of negotiations to pave way for an early implementation of the AANZFTA.

His Majesty concluded his *titah* by noting that ASEAN-Australia cooperation will bring meaningful and lasting benefits to the region.

Meanwhile, the Honourable Anthony Albanese, Prime Minister of Australia reaffirmed Australia's commitment towards cooperation under the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP), provision of development assistance to ASEAN as well as efforts towards net zero energy transition.

His Excellency Phankham Viphavanh, Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic as Country Coordinator for ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Relations delivered the ASEAN Common Statement, which gave appreciation to Australia for supporting ASEAN centrality and active participation in ASEAN-led mechanisms towards economic integration and stronger people-to-people linkages.

At the Summit, leaders expressed support for a business-friendly environment to ensure free flow of goods and services, as well as the exchange of knowledge and experience in areas of mutual interest including digital technology and climate change.

At the end of the Summit, the Joint Statement of the 2<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN-Australia Summit on Cooperation on the ASEAN Outlook on Indo-Pacific was approved.

Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and encouraged the harnessing of opportunities in digital development, healthcare, food security and connectivity.

At the end of the Summit, the ASEAN-India Joint Statement on the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership was approved.

His Majesty then attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN-Australia Summit where His Majesty acknowledged Australia as ASEAN's first Dialogue Partner and expressed pleasure for ASEAN-Australia cooperation's continued growth, despite facing crisis.

His Majesty expressed appreciation for Australia's steadfast commitment to ASEAN through the Australia for ASEAN Initiatives, where several scholarships were offered to ASEAN Member States, providing a foundation for closer people-to-people ties and contributing to regional resilience.

This includes the country's support on mental health cooperation, especially



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in a group photo at the 2<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN-Australia Summit.

Partnership for future prosperity



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended the 25th ASEAN-Japan Summit. Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen (above and below).

**PHNOM PENH, KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA, November 12** - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended the 25th ASEAN-Japan Summit at the Sokha Phnom Penh Hotel.

At this Summit, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam noted that ASEAN and Japan share a deep and unique strategic and mutually beneficial relationship.

As ASEAN-JAPAN will celebrate the 50th anniversary of dialogue relations in 2023, His Majesty highlighted that ASEAN and Japan need to chart the way for future partnership to bring further prosperity to the people and region.

His Majesty called on the need to work together to address climate change by continuing to implement the initiatives under the ASEAN-Japan Climate Change Action Agenda.

In this regard, His Majesty encouraged Japan's support for the establishment of the ASEAN Centre for Climate Change in Brunei Darussalam.

His Majesty also underlined the importance of the ageing society issue and recognised the shared responsibility to provide them with the necessary support.

His Majesty believes there is much benefit to society as a whole if the elderly can lead healthy and productive lifestyles as



envisioned by the ASEAN Comprehensive Framework on Care Economy.

His Majesty added that ASEAN can learn much from Japan, particularly on policies being applied and adopting mind-sets that lead to active ageing to ensure the continued happiness and harmony of societies and peoples.

Meanwhile, His Excellency Fumio Kishida, Prime Minister of Japan stated that Japan is prepared to work with ASEAN towards peace and prosperity of the region through efforts towards post-COVID-19 economic recovery and the maintenance of a free and open international order.

Her Excellency Prayut Chan-o-cha, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand as Country Coordinator for ASEAN-Japan Dialogue Relations then delivered the

ASEAN Common Statement, which noted that ASEAN sees opportunities in strengthening public health resilience and economic partnership with Japan through the establishment of the ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (ACPHEED) and investment to fortify global supply chains.

The leaders also agreed that ASEAN-Japan collaboration should be enhanced given the similar aspirations for the Indo-Pacific region, through the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific and Japan's Free and Open Indo-Pacific.

They also called for the strengthening of cooperation in green economy, mitigating impacts of climate change and disaster risk management.

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His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during the bilateral meeting with His Excellency Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos Jr., President of the Republic of the Philippines. Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen (above and below).



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Following the Summit, His Majesty held a Bilateral Meeting with His Excellency Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos Jr., President of the Republic of Philippines.

During the meeting, His Majesty and the President of Philippines



discussed matters of mutual importance to strengthen long-standing relations between both countries.

His Majesty also congratulated the President on his appointment as the President of the Republic of Philippines on June 30.

Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

Capacity-building, food security among matters discussed in 10th ASEAN-US Summit and ASEAN-Canada Commemorative Summit

**PHNOM PENH, KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA, November 12** - At the 10th ASEAN-United States (US) Summit, His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in a *titah* (royal speech) highlighted the US' continued contribution to ASEAN's socio-economic progress and development and expressed appreciation for its continued support through leadership and educational programmes, such as Fulbright, Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) and the ASEAN-US Internship, which has helped to build understanding among the people and strengthen their capabilities.

In working towards regional recovery, His



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in a group photo at the 10th ASEAN-US Summit.

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## Capacity-building, food security among matters discussed in 10<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-US Summit and ASEAN-Canada Commemorative Summit (continued)

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Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam emphasised that ASEAN and the US should enhance collaboration on digital infrastructures and e-commerce, particularly for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. Peoples and businesses are fast becoming more dependent on the Internet, which exposes them to constant cybersecurity threats, such as data breaches and fraud.

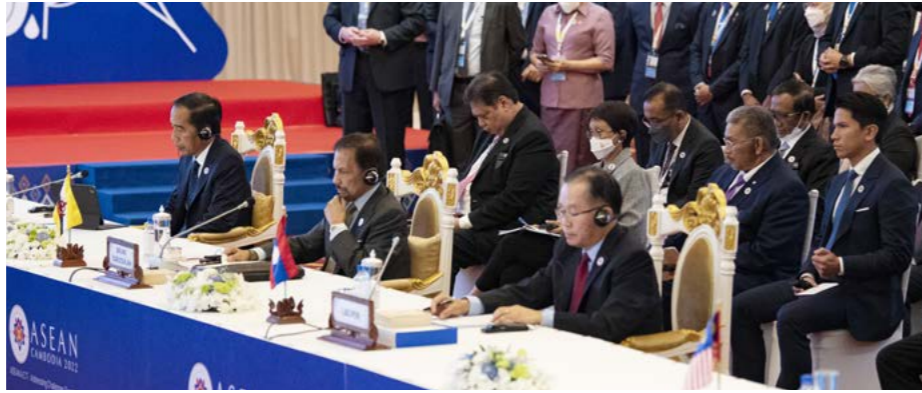
In this regard, His Majesty looked forward to more capacity-building programmes and knowledge-transfer from the US to strengthen cybersecurity capabilities.

In concluding the *titah*, His Majesty expressed confidence that the establishment of the ASEAN-US Comprehensive Strategic Partnership will be more meaningful, substantive and mutually beneficial.

Meanwhile, His Excellency Joseph R. Biden Jr., President of US of America, in his statement, emphasised that ASEAN is at the heart of the US' Indo-Pacific strategy and will continue to strengthen its commitment to tackle major issues including climate change and health security in pursuit of an Indo-Pacific region that is free, open, stable and prosperous.

At the Summit, leaders stressed on the need to ensure that the ASEAN-US Comprehensive Strategic Partnership will bolster economic recovery and regional resilience by promoting cooperation in maritime security, clean energy and digital development.

At the end of the Summit, the ASEAN-US Leaders' Statement on the Establishment of the ASEAN-US Comprehensive



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during the 10<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-US Summit. Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

Strategic Partnership was issued.

His Majesty then attended the ASEAN-Canada Commemorative Summit, where His Majesty highlighted that this year marks the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ASEAN-Canada Dialogue Relations.

In moving towards strategic partnership, Brunei Darussalam looks forward to increasing cooperation with Canada.

His Majesty also highlighted that the COVID-19 pandemic had shown the importance of enhancing cooperation in food security. In this regard, His Majesty welcomed capacity-building programmes and sharing of best practices in agricultural technology to ensure the region is better prepared.

On the launch of the ASEAN-Canada Free Trade Agreement negotiations in 2021, His Majesty highlighted that it sent a positive signal of ASEAN-Canada's shared belief in an open, rules-based trading system.

Therefore, His Majesty looked forward to the conclusion of negotiations at the earliest, which will help to build sustainable

growth and bring Canada strategically closer to ASEAN.

Meanwhile, His Excellency Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada in his statement acknowledged the growth of ASEAN and Canada relations throughout the past 45 years which has led to strengthened engagements in the region. This includes negotiations on the establishment of the ASEAN-Canada Free Trade Agreement, which will allow Canadian businesses to enter markets in Southeast Asia.

At the Summit, leaders welcomed Canada's forthcoming strategy on the Indo-Pacific, and in turn underscored the importance of mitigating multi-faceted challenges on the economy as well as promoting human resource development through investment in education.

At the end of the Summit, the 45<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Canada Anniversary Commemorative Summit Joint Statement was issued.

Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.



His Majesty in a group photo at the ASEAN-Canada Commemorative Summit.

## His Majesty attends gala dinner



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the gala dinner hosted by His Excellency Prime Minister of Cambodia as Chairman of ASEAN. Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

**PHNOM PENH, KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA, November 12** - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended a Gala Dinner hosted by His Excellency Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of Cambodia as Chairman of ASEAN, in honour of the ASEAN Heads of State and Government, Leaders of Dialogue Partners and Special

Guests attending the 40<sup>th</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summits and Related Summits. Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

Upon arrival at Chroy Changvar International Convention and Exhibition Centre, His Majesty was welcomed by the Prime Minister of Cambodia. The event also featured with several of cultural performances.

## Enhance EAS cooperation in digitalisation and sustainable energy



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in a group photo at the Leaders' Announcement of the Substantial Conclusion of the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade (AANZFTA) Upgrade Negotiations.

**PHNOM PENH, KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA, November 13** - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended Leaders' Announcement of the Substantial Conclusion of the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA) Upgrade Negotiations, which is one of Cambodia's

Priority Economic Deliverables (PEDs) for its Chairmanship of ASEAN this year.

The event held on the sidelines of the 40<sup>th</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summit was also attended by His Excellency Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of Cambodia, as Chairman of the ASEAN Summit for this year; His Excellency Anthony Albanese, Prime Minister of Australia, and His Excellency Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister of New

Zealand.

Brunei Darussalam is the Country Coordinator for the AANZFTA and its upgrade negotiation which started in 2021.

The upgrading of this agreement is expected to open up new opportunities with the application of new elements such as Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) as well as sustainable development.

With this upgrade, this agreement also maintains its identity as a high-level agreement, responsive to new challenges, applying modern trade practices and meaningful for traders in the region.

This upgraded agreement is also expected to drive inclusive and resilient economic growth and development.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam then attended the 17<sup>th</sup> East Asia Summit (EAS) at the Sokha Phnom Penh Hotel.

Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

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## Enhance EAS cooperation in digitalisation and sustainable energy (continued)

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At the Summit, His Majesty in his *titah* (royal speech) emphasised that EAS - as a premier leaders-led forum - has promoted peace, stability and prosperity in the region. Therefore, EAS must remain strategically relevant and practical for constructive dialogue and multilateral cooperation.

As mental health issues have the potential to further hinder socio-economic progress and overall wellbeing of the peoples, His Majesty stressed the need for all parties to continue working closely in sharing policy and practical expertise to help ease the burden.

As a follow-up to the EAS Leaders' Statement on Mental Health Cooperation adopted last year, the Monarch also called for the need for officials to look into developing an action plan to encourage regional and international cooperation on mental health.

ASEAN, is working on establishing a Centre for Climate Change in Brunei Darussalam to ensure the region is better



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the 17<sup>th</sup> East Asia Summit (EAS). Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

prepared by mitigating its impact on food security and transitioning to renewable energy.

In this regard, technical and scientific expertise from partners to assist the

centre in developing policies to address cross-cutting issues better are welcomed.

At the Summit, His Excellency Charles Michel, European Council President and His Excellency Zhang Ming, Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Secretary-General briefed on food and energy security.

While His Excellency Dato Paduka Lim Jock Hoi, Secretary-General of ASEAN reported on the key developments of the EAS including cooperation in addressing global health issues, advancing towards a sustainable energy future, greater collaboration on regional and global trade, as well as maritime cooperation.

EAS leaders, expressed their shared concern over global security challenges and called for the peaceful resolution of conflicts to be achieved through dialogue and commitment to multilateralism.

They also hoped for greater regional economic integration and enhanced EAS cooperation in digitalisation and sustainable energy.

Following the 17<sup>th</sup> EAS, His Majesty attended the Closing Ceremony which began with a closing statement from His Excellency Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of Cambodia, as ASEAN Chair, expressing appreciation to ASEAN Heads of State and Government who attended the 40<sup>th</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summits and Related Summits.

The Prime Minister of Cambodia, further appreciated His Excellency Dato Paduka Lim Jock Hoi for his contributions since his

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His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with leaders and representatives of countries attending the 17<sup>th</sup> EAS (above and below).



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the Closing Ceremony of the 40<sup>th</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summits as well as Related Summits and the Handover of the ASEAN Chairmanship to the Republic of Indonesia. Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

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appointment as the Secretary-General of ASEAN.

During the ceremony, Haji Muhammad Iqbal Fakhri bin Haji Damit of Brunei Darussalam was announced as the recipient of the ASEAN Prize 2022, where he was appreciated for his active leadership in youth movement and volunteering, especially providing assistance to the homeless, thereby inspiring the spirit of the people-oriented and resilient ASEAN Community.

The Prime Minister then handed over the ASEAN Chairmanship to His Excellency Joko Widodo, President of the Republic of Indonesia, by handing over the ASEAN Chair's Gavel as a symbolic handover to Indonesia, as incoming ASEAN Chair in

2023.

The President of Indonesia, in his remark emphasised the Republic of Indonesia's priorities in 2023 during its ASEAN Chairmanship under the theme "ASEAN Matters: Epicentrum of Growth"; and a video from Republic of Indonesia as ASEAN Chair 2023 was shown.

Under Cambodia's chairmanship this year, leaders, among others, agreed in principle for Timor-Leste's membership as the 11<sup>th</sup> ASEAN member and for the country to be given the status as Observer State in ASEAN, which includes participation in all ASEAN meetings and plenary sessions at the Summit.

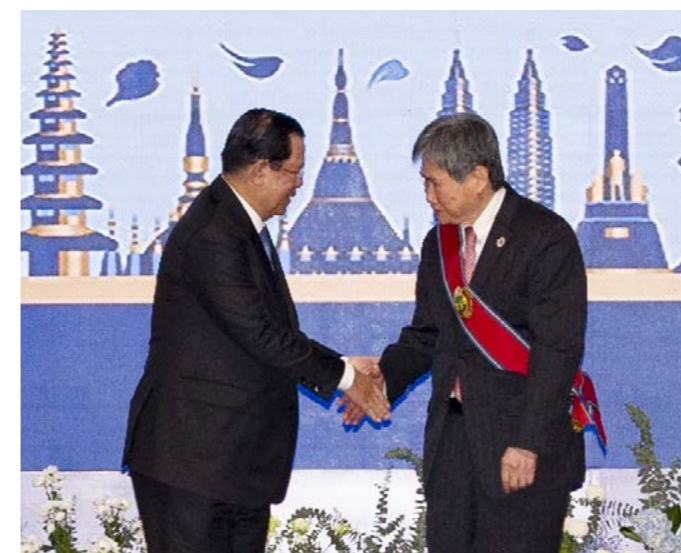
ASEAN also improved relations with the United States and the Republic of India through the establishment of a

Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between the two countries.

In addition, the announcement of the substantive finality of negotiations to upgrade the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA) is also one of the Priority Economic Deliverables (PEDs) for Cambodia, where Brunei Darussalam is Country Coordinator for AANZFTA.

The upgrade of this agreement is expected to open up new opportunities in the region, with the application of new elements into the agreement such as Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) as well as trade and sustainable development.

His Majesty left Cambodia on November 14 after completing the ASEAN Summits and State Visit.



His Excellency the Prime Minister of Cambodia with His Excellency Dato Paduka Lim Jock Hoi, Secretary-General of ASEAN (left); His Excellency the Prime Minister of Cambodia handing over the ASEAN Chairman's Gavel as a symbolic handover to the President of the Republic of Indonesia, who will be the ASEAN Chairman for the year 2023 (right).

State Visit: Brunei-Cambodia strengthen bilateral relations



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam upon arrival at the Royal Palace and welcomed by His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni, King of Cambodia (left); and Their Majesties at the special dais receiving the Salute of Honour.

**PHNOM PENH, KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA, November 14** – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam held a State Visit to the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Accompanying His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

Earlier in the morning, His Majesty received in audience His Excellency Samdech Chaufea Veang Kong Som Ol, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Royal Palace of Cambodia, who presented the State Visit Programme and invitation card as well as two baskets of flowers from His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni, King of Cambodia, and Her Majesty Queen-Mother Norodom Monineath Sihanouk.

His Majesty began the State Visit with a welcoming ceremony at the Royal Palace.

His Majesty was welcomed by His Majesty King of Cambodia, then proceeded to the special dais to receive the Salute of Honour accompanied by the national anthems of both countries and a 21-gun salute.

This was followed by an inspection of the Royal Guard of Honour mounted by members of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces.

His Majesty was then introduced to Cabinet Ministers of Cambodia, followed with the introduction of Brunei Darussalam's delegation to His Majesty the King of Cambodia. Their Majesties later proceeded to the Throne Hall for the Royal Audience Ceremony.

During the meeting, Their Majesties touched on matters that strengthen the progress of bilateral relations between the two countries, including cooperation in the areas of trade, defence and people-to-people exchanges.

Their Majesties then proceeded to Peace Palace for a Bilateral Meeting with His Excellency Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of Cambodia.

At the meeting, His Majesty in a *titah* (royal speech) congratulated Cambodia on the success of its ASEAN Chairmanship this year. His Majesty highlighted that Brunei Darussalam and Cambodia continue to share warm and friendly ties since establishing diplomatic relations 30 years ago.

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His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and His Majesty the King of Cambodia inspecting the Royal Guard of Honour mounted by members of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces.



Their Majesties at the Throne Hall for the Royal Audience.

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In this regard, His Majesty welcomed further opportunities to deepen cooperation in all areas, adding that the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Bilateral Consultations is timely as it provides a platform for both sides to work together for mutual benefit.

Amidst the current geopolitical uncertainties, His Majesty emphasised the importance of food and supply chain security, and expressed appreciation of Cambodia's continued exportation of jasmine rice to Brunei Darussalam, even during the height of the pandemic.

On cooperation in culture, youth and sports, His Majesty noted that both countries had signed MoUs in culture and fine arts, as well as youth cooperation in 2021.

At the end of the *titah*, His Majesty thanked the Prime Minister of Cambodia as ASEAN Chair for his leadership towards ensuring that ASEAN's community-building



Their Majesties during the Royal Audience Ceremony at the Throne Hall.

priorities were met, amid a challenging global environment.

At the end of the meeting, a Joint Statement was issued.

Following the meeting, His Majesty and Prime Minister of Cambodia witnessed the Signing Ceremony for an MoU between the Governments on Bilateral Consultations.

Signing on behalf of Brunei Darussalam was Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Erywan bin Pehin Datu Pekerma Jaya Haji Mohd. Yusof, Second Minister of Foreign Affairs, while signing on behalf of the Kingdom of Cambodia was His Excellency Prak Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

The MoU aims to establish a Joint Commission for Bilateral Consultations (JCBC) between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brunei Darussalam and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Cambodia to promote

consultations and bilateral cooperation.

The JCBC will facilitate consultations and cooperation in all areas of mutual interest and promote the implementation of the agreements concluded between the two countries.

The JCBC will also cooperate and exchange views on bilateral and international matters on a wide range of areas of mutual interest, including trade, investment, education, health, tourism, culture, youth, sports, human resource development and any other areas as may be mutually agreed upon by both sides.

His Majesty also attended the State Luncheon hosted by His Majesty the King of Cambodia, which was held at Preah Reach Damnak Serei Mongkol, Royal Palace Ground.

At the State Luncheon, His Majesty

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His Majesty with His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Royal Palace of Cambodia who presented the state visit programme and invitation card as well as two baskets of flowers from His Majesty King of Cambodia and Her Majesty Queen-Mother Norodom Monineath Sihanouk. Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

## State Visit: Brunei-Cambodia strengthen bilateral relations (continued)

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noted the remarkable strides Cambodia has made in its socio-economic development, which is testament to His Majesty the King of Cambodia's leadership and the steadfast commitment of the Government of Cambodia.

Following the recent 40<sup>th</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summits and Related Summits, His Majesty extended his congratulations to Cambodia on its successful Chairmanship of ASEAN and expressed confidence that Cambodia's efforts over the past year will contribute to long-term resilience.

His Majesty thanked Cambodia for its firm support throughout Brunei Darussalam's ASEAN Chairmanship in 2021.

Meanwhile, the global community has been confronted with many challenges in recent years, including the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, geopolitical uncertainty and major power rivalry.

His Majesty is confident that the shared ties between Brunei and Cambodia will continue to thrive as both sides navigate the challenges together.

In concluding the *titah*, His Majesty extended his best wishes for the excellent health and happiness of His Majesty the King of Cambodia and members of the royal family, as well as for the



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and His Excellency Prime Minister of Cambodia witnessing the signing of Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and the Government of Cambodia on Bilateral Consultations.

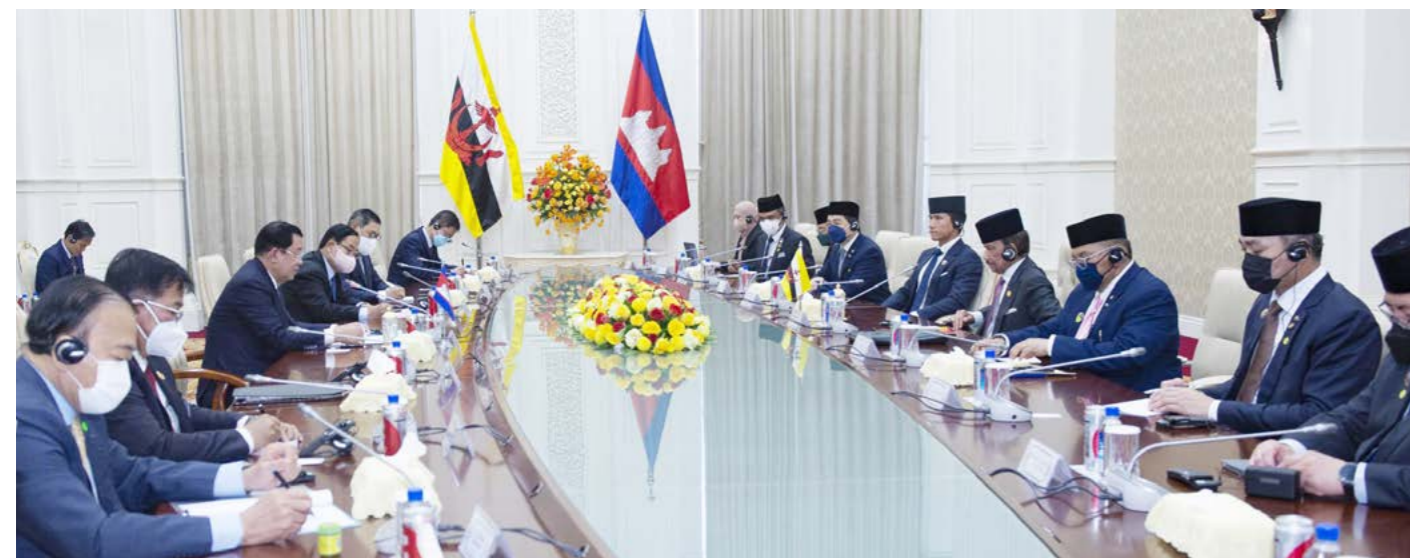
continued progress and prosperity of Cambodia and its people.

The State Luncheon – which was also enlivened with cultural performances – was held in honour of His Majesty's State Visit

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His Majesty at the State Luncheon hosted by His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni, King of Cambodia at Preah Reach Damnak Serei Mongkol, Royal Palace Ground (left); His Majesty delivering a *titah* (royal speech) at the State Luncheon (right).



His Majesty during the Bilateral Meeting with His Excellency Prime Minister of Cambodia, which was held at the Peace Palace.



His Majesty during the wreath-laying ceremonies at two different monuments in Phnom Penh.



Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

From page 22

to Cambodia.

In separate events held earlier this morning, His Majesty attended two Wreath Laying Ceremonies - at the Independence Monument and the Norodom Sihanouk Memorial.

The Independence Monument, which was built in 1958, is an Angkorian-style tower to memorialise the Kingdom of Cambodia's independence in 1953 as well as to honour those who died while defending the country.

The Norodom Sihanouk Memorial – also known as The Monument of His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, the late King-Father of Cambodia – is dedicated to King Norodom Sihanouk following his accomplishment in gaining the independence of the Kingdom of Cambodia on November 9, 1953.



## 29<sup>th</sup> APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting

From front page

**BANGKOK, KINGDOM OF THAILAND, November 17** - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam left for Bangkok to attend the 29<sup>th</sup> APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting (AELM).

Accompanying His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

Upon arrival at the Don Mueang Air Terminal, His Majesty was welcomed by His Excellency Prawit Wongsuwan,



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the Gala Dinner hosted by His Excellency Prime Minister of Thailand as the Chairman of the 2022 APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting (AELM). Accompanying His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

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## 29<sup>th</sup> APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting (continued)

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Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand.

In the evening, His Majesty attended a Gala Night hosted by His Excellency Prayut Chan-O-Cha, Prime Minister of Thailand as the Chairman of the 2022 AELM, at the Royal Navy Hall.

The gala dinner commenced with a welcoming speech from the Prime Minister of Thailand to all the leaders and delegates for their attendance at the 2022 AELM.

The gala dinner also featured a several cultural performances.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the Gala Dinner hosted by His Excellency Prime Minister of Thailand as the Chairman of the 2022 APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting (AELM). Accompanying His Majesty at the Gala Dinner was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

## Aiming for a sustainable, inclusive Asia-Pacific region



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with His Excellency Prime Minister of Thailand as the Chairman of the 2022 APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting (AELM) (above); His Majesty during the Retreat (Session 1) of the 2022 APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting (AELM) (right).

**BANGKOK, KINGDOM OF THAILAND, November 18** - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended the Retreat (Session 1) of the 2022 APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting (AELM), which was held at Queen Sirikit National Convention Center (QSNCC), and carried the theme "Balanced, Inclusive and Sustainable Growth".

The session began with welcoming remarks by His Excellency Prayut Chan-O-Cha, Prime Minister of Thailand as Chairman of the 2022 AELM.

During the Retreat, His Majesty the Sultan

and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and other APEC leaders discussed issues on cooperation and exchanged views on regional and international issues of common concern, as well as on APEC's external relations and its future direction.

During the session, His Majesty delivered a *titah* (royal speech) in which His Majesty stated that this year's APEC theme, "Open. Connect. Balance." is in line with the Putrajaya Vision 2040, where APEC Economic Leaders envisioned the Asia-Pacific region to achieve strong, balanced, secure, sustainable and inclusive growth; this shows APEC's determination to recovery after COVID-19.

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His Majesty also stated that Brunei Darussalam supports the Kingdom of Thailand's leadership on implementing of the Bangkok Goals on Bio-Circular-Green (BCG) as an economic business capital to meet APEC's sustainability objectives.

His Majesty further reiterated the importance of cooperation by providing an enabling ecosystem, appropriate market reform and technology transfer in APEC, as well as joint research in other forums, such as through the ASEAN Climate Change Centre, which will be located in Brunei Darussalam.

His Majesty then emphasised that the APEC Economic and Technical Cooperation (ECOTECH) must remain an important pillar in APEC to move forwards on meeting the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals and to achieve net zero emissions by 2050.

His Majesty then attended the APEC Leaders' Informal Dialogue with Guests which carried the theme "Promoting Sustainable Trade and Investment between APEC and its Trading Partners".

During the session, His Majesty delivered a *titah*, in which His Majesty acknowledged that 2022 is a meaningful year for ASEAN Centrality with the successful chairmanships of ASEAN by the Kingdom of Cambodia, the G20 by the Republic of Indonesia, and currently, APEC by the Kingdom of Thailand. His Majesty expressed his views that the success of these summits have demonstrated ASEAN's outlook and commitment to the principle of promoting cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region and beyond for an inclusive and open regional architecture.

His Majesty acknowledged the roles played by the Guests of the Chair as Chairman of the European Union and the Gulf Cooperation Council respectively,



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during Bilateral Meeting with His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, the Crown Prince and the Prime Minister of Saudi Arabia. Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen (above and below).



and Brunei Darussalam stresses the importance of finding complementarities for ongoing economy recovery efforts as well as in increasing preparedness against future crisis and business resilience.

In ending the *titah*, His Majesty recognised the diversity of partners outside of APEC in sharing best practices, technical cooperation and technology transfer, and in bringing government and private sectors together to deliver commercially meaningful trade reforms by making

international trade simpler, faster and cost-effective.

Following the dialogue, His Majesty held a bilateral meeting with His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, the Crown Prince and the Prime Minister of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

During the meeting, His Majesty and

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His Majesty at the APEC Leaders' Informal Dialogue with Guests.

**Aiming for a sustainable, inclusive Asia-Pacific region (continued)**



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with His Excellency President of China.



The Bilateral Meeting of His Majesty with His Excellency President of China at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in Bangkok. Accompanying His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

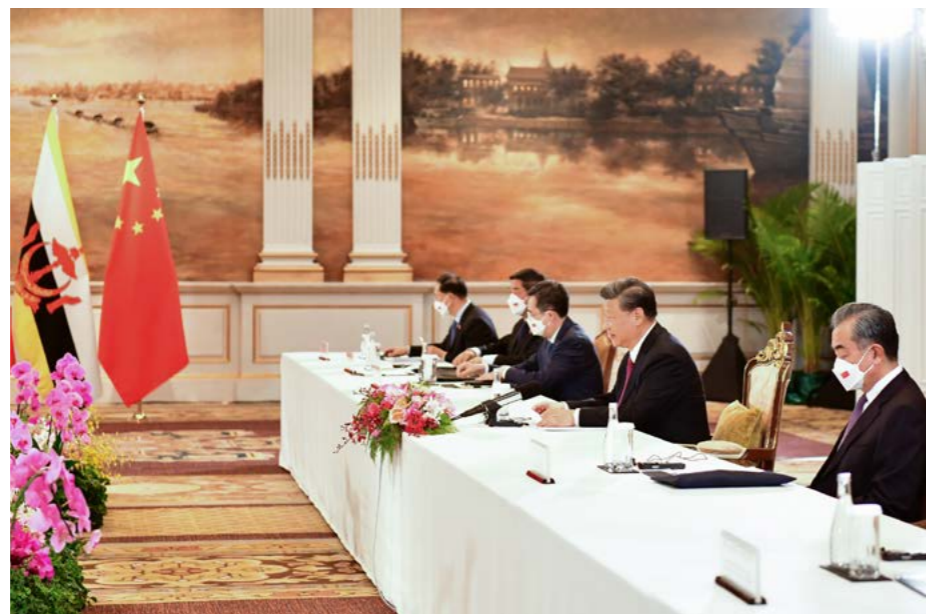
From page 25

His Royal Highness the Crown Prince discussed matters of mutual interest in strengthening the long-standing bilateral relationship between the two countries.

His Majesty conveyed his congratulations to His Royal Highness on his appointment as the Prime Minister of Saudi Arabia on September 27.

At the meeting, His Majesty extended an invitation to His Royal Highness to visit Brunei Darussalam. At the same time, His Royal Highness extended an invitation to His Majesty and the royal family to visit Saudi Arabia to perform the Umrah.

His Majesty also held a Bilateral Meeting with His Excellency Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel.



His Majesty and the President of China discussed matters of mutual interest in strengthening the long-standing bilateral relationship between the two countries.

His Majesty conveyed his congratulations to the President on his appointment as the General Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) on October 25.

During the meeting, His Majesty stated that Brunei Darussalam values the long-standing relationship with People's Republic of China.

Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

**His Majesty attends Royal Audience Ceremony**



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during the Royal Audience Ceremony with Their Majesties King Maha Vajiralongkorn Phra Vajiraklaochaoyuhua, King of Thailand and Queen Suthida Bajrasudhabimalalakshana. Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.



**BANGKOK, KINGDOM OF THAILAND, November 18** - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended a Royal Audience Ceremony with Their Majesties King Maha Vajiralongkorn Phra Vajiraklaochaoyuhua, King of Thailand and Queen Suthida Bajrasudhabimalalakshana.

Upon arrival at the Chakri Maha Prasat Throne Hall, His Majesty was welcomed by His Excellency General Surayud Chulanont, President of the Privy Council and spouse. His Majesty then joined APEC Economic Leaders for the Royal Audience Ceremony with His Majesty the King of Thailand and Her Majesty the Queen.

Accompanying His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul

Also present at the ceremony was Her Royal Highness Princess Sirivannavari Nariratana Rajakanya.

**Call on APEC to continue spirit of multilateralism**

**BANGKOK, KINGDOM OF THAILAND, November 19** - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended the Second Retreat (Session 2) of the 2022 APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting (AELM), which was held at Queen Sirikit National Convention Center (QSNCC).

Accompanying His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

His Majesty together with the Heads of Economy then attended the Second Retreat Session of the AELM 2022 which brought the theme "Sustainable Trade



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during the Second Retreat (Session 2) of the 2022 APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting (AELM), which was held at Queen Sirikit National Convention Center (QSNCC).

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His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with His Excellency Prime Minister of Thailand during the Second Retreat Session of the AELM 2022.



## Call on APEC to continue spirit of multilateralism (continued)

From page 27

and Investment". The session started with a welcome speech from His Excellency Prayut Chan-O-Cha, the Prime Minister of Thailand.

During the session, His Majesty and other APEC leaders discussed cooperation and exchanged views on regional and international issues of mutual interest and also listened to an explanation from the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund on the Global Economic Outlook.

His Majesty noted about the positive results from the 12<sup>th</sup> World Trade Organization (WTO) Ministerial Conference which reflected the commitment of member countries in ensuring that global trade remains without any constraints.

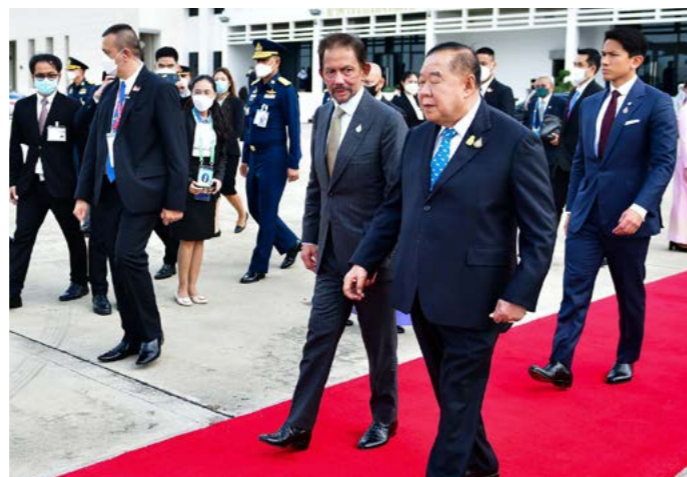
His Majesty also called for APEC to continue the spirit of multilateralism and to involve all stakeholders to ensure that its role as an incubator will continue to contribute to WTO efforts.

His Majesty then emphasised the importance of speeding up economic recovery; strengthen trade and investment by using a holistic and integrated approach in the post-pandemic era, particularly to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

His Majesty emphasised the importance of helping MSMEs to prepare for the future by expanding knowledge base in order to be more resilient to the current situation; form a relevant and predictable policy environment to attract investors and entrepreneurs; in integrating MSMEs into regional and supply chains; and in equipping MSMEs with digital skills.

In concluding the *titah* (royal speech), His Majesty gave support to the United States, Chairman of APEC for the year 2023, which will carry the theme "Creating a Resilient and Sustainable Future for All".

At the AELM, APEC Economic Leaders issued two documents, namely (1) the Declaration of the APEC Economic Leaders which highlighted the work of APEC throughout the year 2022 during Kingdom of Thailand's chairmanship of APEC, which includes



Present at the Don Mueang Air Terminal to bid farewell to His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand.

efforts to advance the Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP), safe passage, women's economic empowerment; and empowerment through the Bio-Circular-Green (BCG) Economy model; and (2) Bangkok Goals on BCG Economy which aims to confirm the commitment of APEC Leaders in pursuing its sustainability objectives in a responsive and comprehensive manner to address the increasing economic and environmental challenges facing the region, while strengthening and contributing to ongoing global action.

APEC is an important platform in promoting dialogue, as well as exchanging of views and best practices on initiatives and policies that contribute to a more conducive economic climate. As an incubator of ideas, APEC also builds economic and technical cooperation and capacity building programmes in various fields. Brunei Darussalam's membership in APEC has enabled participation in policy dialogue and capacity building engagement that can contribute towards achieving the goals of Brunei Vision 2035.

His Majesty left Bangkok today, after attending the 2022 AELM.

## Courtesy Visit reflects Brunei-Malaysia long-standing relations

**PUTRAJAYA, MALAYSIA, November 28** - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam left for Putrajaya, Malaysia to hold a Courtesy Visit to Yang Amat Berhormat Dato' Seri Anwar bin Ibrahim, Prime Minister of Malaysia at the Seri Perdana Complex.

Accompanying His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

The arrival of His Majesty at Subang Air Base was welcomed by the Prime Minister of Malaysia.

His Majesty then proceeded to the official



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with Yang Amat Berhormat Dato' Seri Anwar bin Ibrahim, Prime Minister of Malaysia during the Courtesy Visit.

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His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam being welcomed upon arrival by the Prime Minister of Malaysia. Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

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residence of the Prime Minister for the Courtesy Visit.

During the Courtesy Visit, His Majesty congratulated the Prime Minister on his recent appointment as the 10<sup>th</sup> Prime Minister



of Malaysia. With this appointment, His Majesty looked forward to the further enhancement of existing bilateral cooperation between Brunei Darussalam and Malaysia. His Majesty also hoped that the Prime Minister's leadership will steer Malaysia towards achieving welfare for all, including in the ASEAN region and globally.

The Courtesy Visit, among other things, reflects the warm, close and long-standing relations between Brunei Darussalam and Malaysia. It also gave the opportunity for both leaders to reaffirm and strengthen bilateral cooperation as well as to discuss matters of mutual interest and exploration of new areas of cooperation in pursuit of peace, welfare and prosperity for the citizens and residents of both countries.

Following the Courtesy Visit, His Majesty attended a luncheon hosted by the Prime Minister of Malaysia.

Before leaving, His Majesty was bade farewell by the Prime Minister of Malaysia.

His Majesty and His Royal Highness during the luncheon with Yang Amat Berhormat Prime Minister of Malaysia (left).

## Crown Prince presents BSM Chairman's Awards



**JERUDONG, November 21** - His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office presented the Brunei Shell Marketing (BSM) Chairman's Awards 2022 to the recipients at the Empire Brunei.

His Royal Highness the Crown Prince presented awards to winners of nine categories.

The Best LPG Operational Excellence award was won by Muara Gas Company; the Most Improved Retail Operational Performance award was won by the Pekan Muara Sdn. Bhd. Fuel Station; Perusahaan Cahaya Pakatan Tutong Fuel Station won Best Retail Operational Excellence; Best Retail Service Champion was won by Noorazaimah Haji Ibrahim from Shahryza Bunut Fuel Station; the Milestone Award was won by TK Asco Enterprise; NBT Brunei Sdn. Bhd. won Highest Lubricant Business Growth and Best Corporate Social Responsibility Programme; and Boustead Sendirian Berhad won Best Operational Excellence and Best Marketing Campaign.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, in his capacity as Chairman of Brunei Shell Marketing Company Sdn. Bhd. (BSM) Board of Directors, presenting an award to one of the recipients of the Chairman's Awards 2022 (top left); His Royal Highness the Crown Prince during the event (bottom left).

Charity auction raises over \$29,000



Her Royal Highness Princess Fadzilah Lubabul Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah as Guest of Honour at the private charity auction for Pusat Ehsan Al-Ameerah Al-Hajjah Maryam (Pusat Ehsan) organised by the United States (US) Embassy in Brunei Darussalam.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, November 29** – Some \$29,500 was raised at a private charity auction for Pusat Ehsan Al-Ameerah Al-Hajjah Maryam hosted by the United States (US) Embassy in Brunei Darussalam in support of Pusat Ehsan's mission to train, assist and

care for individuals with special needs to help them achieve their full potential in society.

The event was hosted at Her Excellency Caryn McClelland, US Ambassador to Brunei Darussalam's residence.

Her Royal Highness Princess Fadzilah Lubabul Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah attended as Guest of Honour.

The auction showcased portraits signed by His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen as well as paintings by students of Pusat Ehsan.

Attendees also bade on a polo cap signed by His Majesty, a limited-edition box set of the documentary film 'Prince Azim: Son of the Arts' and a mosaic art of the Eiffel Tower made of micro beads.

The money will be used to construct a new school for special needs students.

Improve efforts, cooperation, guarantee road safety



Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna binti Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Royal Patron of National Road Safety Council (MKKJR), delivering a *sabda* (royal speech).

**JERUDONG, November 24** - Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna binti Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs who is also the Royal Patron of National Road Safety Council (MKKJR), in a *sabda* (royal speech) at the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims 2022 emphasised efforts and cooperation need to be further enhanced to guarantee safety on the road.

The ceremony took place at the Royal Berkshire Hall, Royal Brunei Polo and Riding Club.



Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna presenting a prize to the one of the winners of the road safety quiz and video competitions.



Among those present at the event.

The rate of road accidents showed a downward trend from 3,515 cases in 2017 to 3,104 cases in 2021. However, death cases were recorded from January to October this year compared to 16 cases last year.

Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna stated that various programmes have been implemented, but there are still loss of lives. Therefore, MKKJR

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needs to ensure that the strategic plan is still relevant and in line with the current situation.

At the same time, it is very important that we inculcate awareness about road safety at an early stage, especially for children from primary school.

For this purpose, MKKJR in collaboration with the Department of Schools, Ministry of Education has established the Road Safety Club for school students. Such initiatives, need to be supported and continued, with the hopes of it reaping a good outcome.



Her Royal Highness witness a Road Safety Exhibition.



Her Royal Highness in a group photo.

Her Royal Highness then launched the Second Edition of 'The Safe and Smart Driving in Brunei Darussalam' book and Road Safety Education Reading Book for Primary level.

At the ceremony, Her Royal Highness presented prizes for the Road Safety Quiz Competition for Secondary Schools and Colleges Nationwide 2022 and Road Safety Video Clips Making for Secondary Schools, Colleges and Sixth Form Centres 2022.

AIPA: Unity, centrality to overcome challenges

**PHNOM PENH, KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA, November 24** – Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib, Speaker of the Legislative Council (LegCo) led the delegation from Brunei Darussalam at the 43<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) organised by the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in a message to regional parliamentarians attending the the AIPA General Assembly, highlighted that the theme of this year's AIPA General Assembly, "Advancing Together for a Sustainable, Inclusive and Resilient ASEAN" - is timely as it brings attention to the need for ASEAN to enhance cooperation and work collaboratively for the benefit of all ASEAN citizens.

In the First Plenary Session, the Speaker of LegCo highlighted the importance of unity and centrality in ensuring ASEAN is able to overcome and respond effectively to future challenges.

The impact of COVID-19 on health, education and the economy cannot be predicted and this requires utmost



The Speaker of the Legislative Council (LegCo) in a group photo at 43<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA).

attention.

The AIPA General Assembly was officiated by His Excellency Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin, President of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the President of the 43<sup>rd</sup> AIPA.

The General Assembly ended with the signing of a Joint Communiqué.

The Speaker of LegCo was also awarded the AIPA Distinguished Service Award for his service and commitment to AIPA. Meanwhile, Siti Rozaimeriyanty binti Dato Seri Lela Jasa Haji Abdul Rahman was appointed as Secretary General of AIPA.

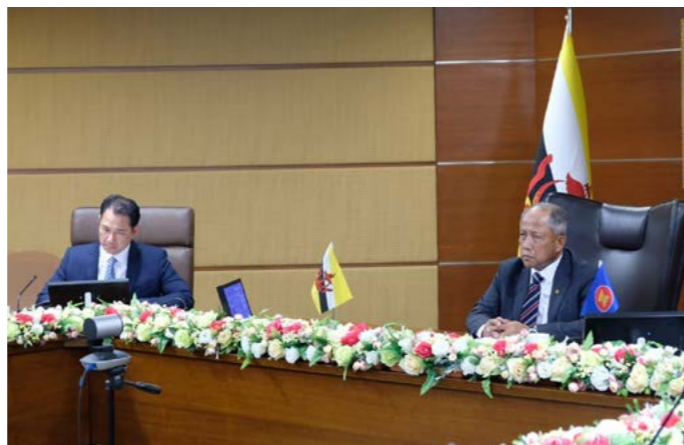


The Speaker of LegCo receiving the AIPA Distinguished Service Award for his service and commitment to AIPA.



### Creating greater synergy across AEC

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, November 10** - Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, attended a virtual Ministerial Interface Meeting on Sustainable Development Agenda under the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) on November 9.



Held on the sidelines of the 21<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Economic Community Council meeting in Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia, the main objective of the meeting was to enhance regional efforts in creating a greater synergy across the AEC.

Yang Berhormat Minister at the Prime Minister's Office during the virtual Ministerial Interface Meeting on Sustainable Development Agenda under the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), which was held virtually.

### Defence Cooperation strengthen solidarity



Yang Berhormat Minister at the Prime Minister's Office in a group photo at the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) Retreat.

**SIEM REAP, KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA, November 22** - The ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) Retreat convened at the Sokha Siem Reap Resort

and Convention Centre.

This year's theme was "Defence Cooperation to Strengthen Solidarity for

Harmonised Security".

Leading the Brunei Darussalam delegation was Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).

Two informal meetings were held on the sidelines of the retreat, namely the ASEAN-United States (US) Defence Ministers' Informal Meeting and ASEAN-India Defence Ministers' Informal Meeting.

A Bilateral Meeting was also held between Brunei Darussalam and the Kingdom of Cambodia.

### Committed to maintaining peace and regional stability

**SIEM REAP, KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA, November 23** - The 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus) concluded at the Sokha Siem Reap Resort and Convention Centre.

Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office who headed the Brunei Darussalam's delegation to the ADMM Retreat Meeting, and the 16<sup>th</sup> ADMM, in June 2022, attended the meeting.

The morning programme began with the Joint Courtesy Call by the ADMM, ADMM-Plus Defence Ministers and representative and the Secretary General of ASEAN to His Excellency Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of Cambodia.

The Prime Minister of Cambodia in his keynote speech among others, recognised the importance of ADMM-Plus as a critical platform for building unity,



Yang Berhormat Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Permanent Secretary (Policy, Finance and Administration), as Brunei Darussalam's ASEAN Defence Senior Official Meeting Plus (ADSOM-Plus) leader at the 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Plus Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM-Plus).

mutual understanding and exchange of views on the regional security landscape.

The meeting concluded with the adoption of a Joint Declaration by ADMM-Plus Defence Ministers on

Defence Cooperation to Strengthen Solidarity for Harmonised Security.

Also held was the handing over of the ADMM Chairmanship from the Kingdom of Cambodia to the Republic of Indonesia.

### Intelligence Hub - strengthening resilience of Brunei's healthcare ecosystem



Yang Berhormat Minister of Health and Yang Berhormat Minister at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and Second Minister of Finance and Economy officiating the Ministry of Health's Intelligence Hub.

**JERUDONG, November 1** - A new hub for public health intelligence and data was officially opened at the EVYD Campus.

The Intelligence Hub is part of the Ministry of Health's (MoH) efforts to strengthen the resilience of Brunei's healthcare ecosystem.

The hub will house the Epidemic Intelligence and Response Unit (Disease Control Division), functioning as a surveillance centre to monitor the nationwide spread of diseases; Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Unit; and the Digital Health Unit.

More government health units such as the Behavioural Insights Programme, the National Clinical Research Unit and the

Non-Communicable Disease Prevention Unit could be located there in the future.

It is part of MoH's commitment to instil new technologies in digital health transformation. The Epidemic Intelligence



The CEO of EVYD Technology with Yang Berhormat Minister of Health and Yang Berhormat Minister at the PMO and Second Minister of Finance and Economy and other signatories and witnesses at the Memorandum of Understanding signing.

and Response Unit Surveillance Centre leverages on a recently developed automated communicable disease surveillance system, to monitor the emergence and spread of over 50 infectious diseases in real-time.

The hub was officiated by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohammad Isham bin Haji Jaafar, Minister of Health; and Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohd. Amin Liew bin Abdullah, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Finance and Economy.

The event coincides with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between MoH and EVYD Technology with University of Singapore Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health as a cross-border collaboration to strengthen health system.

### COVID-19: Control measures updated

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, November 30** - As of today, one case is in Category 5, requiring treatment at the Intensive Care Unit, while one case is in Category 4, requiring oxygen assistance and close monitoring.

The Ministry of Health in its press release stated that 669 cases have recovered yesterday, and one case has passed away.

A total of 86.8 per cent of children aged 5 to 11 have received two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine, and 62.1 per cent of adolescents aged 12 to 17 have received 3 doses. Meanwhile, 78.9 per cent of the country's population have received three doses.

Meanwhile, with the consent of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, the COVID-19 Steering Committee has announced the latest amendments to COVID-19 control measures which will commence on Thursday, December 1, where citizens and residents of Brunei Darussalam including foreign nationals who wish to exit and enter the country via land, sea and air will no longer be required to possess a



travel medical insurance with COVID-19 coverage. However, travellers who wish to obtain such insurance for their own peace of mind are welcomed to do so. Such insurance should cover any medical or treatment costs that may be incurred following any unexpected incident whilst overseas, that is not limited to COVID-19 infections alone.

Citizens of Brunei Darussalam who are travelling overseas are also encouraged to inform the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of their travel details by submitting them via the MFA e-Register on the Ministry's website. Registration of these details will enable the Ministry to identify Brunei citizens who are overseas in the event

of an emergency incident occurring in a particular country.

Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) shared this during the media conference held on November 28.

Also updated were operating hours for land control posts and food distribution for COVID-19 cases. Operating hours for land control posts, namely Sungai Tujoh, Labu, Ujong Jalan and Kuala Lurah Immigration Control Posts, which are currently operating from 6am to 8pm, will be amended to 6am to 10pm. Meanwhile, sea control posts at Serasa Terminal Ferry, Serasa Vehicle Ferry, Muara Port and Kuala Belait Wharf will continue to operate from 6am to 8pm.

The Minister at PMO said, commencing on December 1, food distribution for COVID-19 cases will be discontinued. However, the Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam through the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports will continue to provide assistance to those in need, similar to the situation prior to COVID-19 Pandemic.

## PJSC launches Nuclear Cardiology Services

**JERUDONG, November 1** - Pantai Jerudong Specialist Centre (PJSC) marked another milestone as it officially launched the Nuclear Cardiology Services on level 1 of its premises.

The new services was launched by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohd. Amin Liew bin Abdullah as Chairman of the Board of Directors of PJSC and Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Finance and Economy; and Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohammad Isham bin Haji Jaafar as Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors of PJSC and Minister of Health.

The Nuclear Cardiology Service represents PJSC's continuous efforts towards enhancing the capability of Brunei Darussalam's healthcare system and providing the best care for patients suffering from cardiovascular diseases.

Dr. Hamid Naseer, Department Head of Nuclear Medicine highlighted the existing services in the department, and



Yang Berhormat Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Finance and Economy as Chairman of the Board of Directors of PJSC; and Yang Berhormat Minister of Health as Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors of PJSC in a group photo during the launching ceremony.

emphasised the need for expanding nuclear services for peaceful application of nuclear materials in Brunei Darussalam for providing care to cancer and cardiology patients.

## Enhance ASEAN's efforts towards economic integration

**BERAKAS, November 5** - Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohd. Amin Liew bin Abdullah, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Finance and Economy received the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ABAC) Brunei Chairmanship 2021 report.

The report includes comprehensive information of the presentation of the ABAC, deliverables under Brunei Chairmanship, Policy Agendas, Brunei Legacy Projects, and ASEAN Roundtables.

ABAC has a mandate to provide private sector feedback and guidance to boost ASEAN's efforts towards economic integration and identifies priority areas for consideration of the ASEAN Leaders.

ABAC activities mainly focus on reviewing and identifying issues to facilitate and promote economic cooperation and integration as well as undertaking programmes and projects in support the AEC Strategic Blueprint 2025.



Yang Berhormat Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Finance and Economy receiving the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ABAC) Brunei Chairmanship 2021 report.

## Empowering Value-Added Products, Driver Nation Economy



Yang Berhormat Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism officiating the 12<sup>th</sup> Farmers, Livestock Breeders and Fishermen's Day Mini Expo.

**BERAKAS, November 6** - The 12<sup>th</sup> Farmers, Livestock Breeders and Fishermen's Day Mini Expo at Dewan Muhibbah concluded with members of the public expressing hopes that it will be held again to highlight local entrepreneurs and their products.



Yang Berhormat present a special award to one of the recipients.

The event coincided with a prize presentation to winners of the Crop and Commodity categories by Yang Berhormat Datin Seri Setia Dr. Hajah Romaizah binti Haji Mohd. Salleh, Minister of Education as the Acting Minister of Primary Resources and

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Tourism.

Haji Mohd. Yusree bin Haji Junaidi, Deputy Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism (MPRT) in his closing remarks said some 65 entrepreneurs had participated in the expo, establish business cooperation to further boost their companies.

The opening of the Mini Expo was officiated by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Abdul Manaf bin Haji



Yang Berhormat Minister of Education as Acting Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism presenting a prize to one of the recipients.

## Inspire students with knowledge on space technology

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, November 1** - The People's Republic of China is willing to work with all countries committed to the peaceful uses of outer space, including Brunei Darussalam and other ASEAN countries. This is to carry out more international cooperation and exchanges.

Her Excellency Yu Hong, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China underlined the matter at the 'ASEAN Students Talk with Taikonauts'.

Present at the Institute of Brunei Technical Education's School of Aviation as Guest of Honour was Yang Berhormat Datin Seri Setia Dr. Hajah Romaizah binti Haji Md. Salleh, Minister of Education.

During the session, three crew members



Yang Berhormat visiting the mini expo.

Metussin, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism on November 3.

The Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism in an interview at the ceremony also said that MPRT aims to increase the output of the fisheries, agriculture and agri-food sector by \$1 billion for the Gross Domestic Product, in 2035.

MPRT's focus is to increase production from primary sector and downstream

activities. Strategies will include not only having more farms but also increasing the production of current farms.

The ceremony saw special awards being presented to companies and entrepreneurs by the Minister.

The theme "Empowering Value-Added Products, Driver the Nation Economy", focuses on encouraging more value-added activities to increase production.



ASEAN Students Talk with Taikonauts held at the School of Aviation, IBTE.

who are aboard the space station had a dialogue with the students.

Tiangong Space Station is China's new permanent space station.

## Strengthen ACMM's role in military medical programmes

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, November 2** - The 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting for ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus) Experts' Working Group on Military Medicine (EWG on MM) was held at The Rizqun International Hotel, for three days starting November 1 until 3.

Colonel (Dr.) Haji Awang Mohd. Hafizul

bin Haji Awang Mohd. Hassan, Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) Chief Medical Officer and Brigadier Isaac Seidl, Director General of Operational Health Joint Health Command of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) co-chaired the meeting, officiated by Haji Adi Ihram bin Dato Paduka Haji Mahmud, Deputy Permanent Secretary (Policy and

Strategy) at the Ministry of Defence.

The meeting was physically attended by representatives from ADMM-Plus countries and the ASEAN Centre of Military Medicine (ACMM), while representatives from China, Japan, Malaysia, India, New Zealand, the United States (US) and the

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ASEAN Secretariat joined the meeting virtually.

A representative from the United Nations (UN) Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) stationed in the Philippines was among the guest speakers.

The agenda of the meeting includes a discussion on Health Needs Assessment which will be utilised during the project-based activity known as the Project Community Medical Deployment (PCMD), as well as the use of the ASEAN Logistics Support Framework (LSF).

The project aims to strengthen the ACMM's role in assisting similar future military medical programmes.



Deputy Permanent Secretary (Policy and Strategy) at the Ministry of Defence, Brunei Darussalam in a group photo at the 15th Meeting for ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus) Experts' Working Group on Military Medicine (EWG on MM) held at The Rizqun International Hotel.

## Brunei – Viet Nam strengthen bilateral defence and military relations

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, November 5** – The Ministry of Defence received an Official Visit from His Excellency Senior Lieutenant General Nguyen Tan Cuong, Chief of General Staff of the Viet Nam People's Army and Deputy Minister of National Defence of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam who is currently in the country for a four-day visit.

Upon arrival at Bolkliah Garrison, His Excellency Senior Lieutenant General Nguyen Tan Cuong was greeted by Major General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Muhammad Haszaimi bin Bol Hassan, Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF).

During the visit, both sides reaffirmed their commitments to strengthening bilateral defence and military relations towards attaining peace and stability in the region.



His Excellency Senior Lieutenant General Nguyen Tan Cuong, Chief of General Staff of the Viet Nam People's Army and Deputy Minister of National Defence of Viet Nam during the Official Visit.

## DPES releases LFS 2021 report

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, November 3** - The Department of Economic Planning and Statistics (DEPS), Ministry of Finance and Economy has released the Labour Force Survey (LFS) 2021 Report which is based on final data from the results of the 2021 Labour Force Survey which was conducted simultaneously with the third stage of the Population and Housing Census (BPP) 2021 on December, 2021.

The survey covered about 3,200 selected households throughout the country using systematic sampling method.

Results from LFS 2021 have shown that there was a total of about 76,600 households and 350,300 persons aged 15 and above.

Labour force participation went down to 63.8 per cent in 2021 from 65.5 per cent in 2020. This is due to a decrease in the number of jobseekers and an increase of individuals who have went out of the labour force.

The employed population increased by 0.6 per cent in 2021 which is 212,400 persons, compared to 211,100 persons in 2020. The increase is due to local workers filling jobs in several industrial sectors previously dominated by non-local workers.

Local workers accounted for 71.0 per cent (150,800 persons) of the total labour force, while 29.0 per cent (61,600 persons) were

non-local workers. About 92.1 per cent (195,500 persons) were employees, while those who worked as own-account workers accounted for 4.7 per cent (10,100 persons). A total of 67,000 persons (31.5 per cent) were employed in the government sector which included activities of public administration and government services such as education, health, electricity and water services.

Meanwhile, around 145,400 persons (68.5 per cent) were employed in the private sector. By type of occupation, service and sales workers accounted for the highest share of 21.8 per cent (46,200 persons).

The average monthly income from all jobs in 2021 was \$1,536 per employed person compared to \$1,755 in 2020. Local workers earned a higher income of \$1,710, while the non-local workers earned \$1,110 per month on average.

Meanwhile, the median income from employment was \$880 compared to \$850 in 2020. The median income for local and non-local workers was \$1,010 and \$600. The average hours worked in the main job increased to 47.1 hours in a week from 44.4 hours in a week in 2020.

The number of persons outside the labour force increased by

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6.1 per cent from 119,700 persons in 2020 to 127,000 persons in 2021.

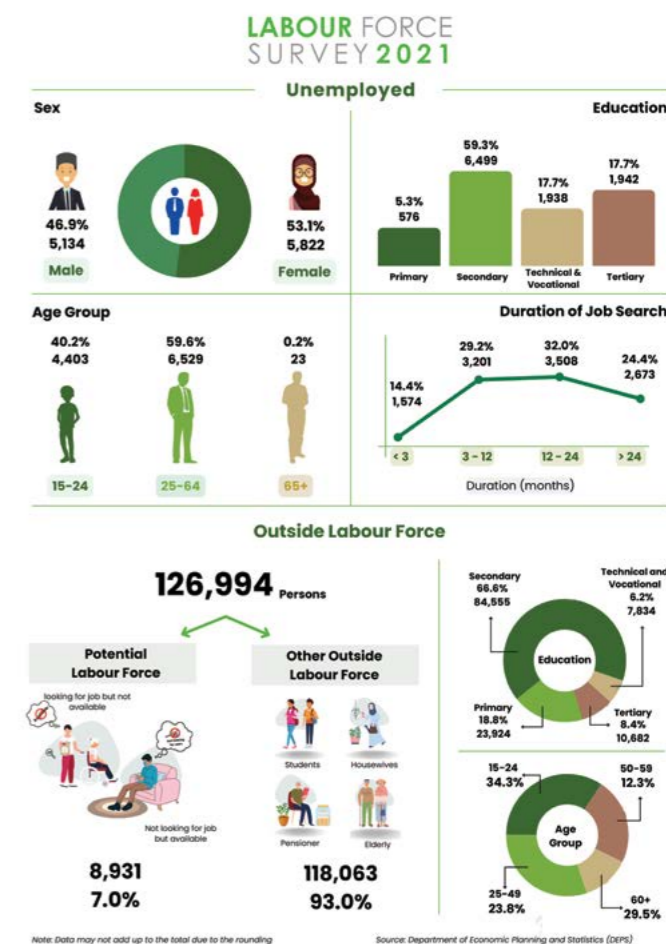
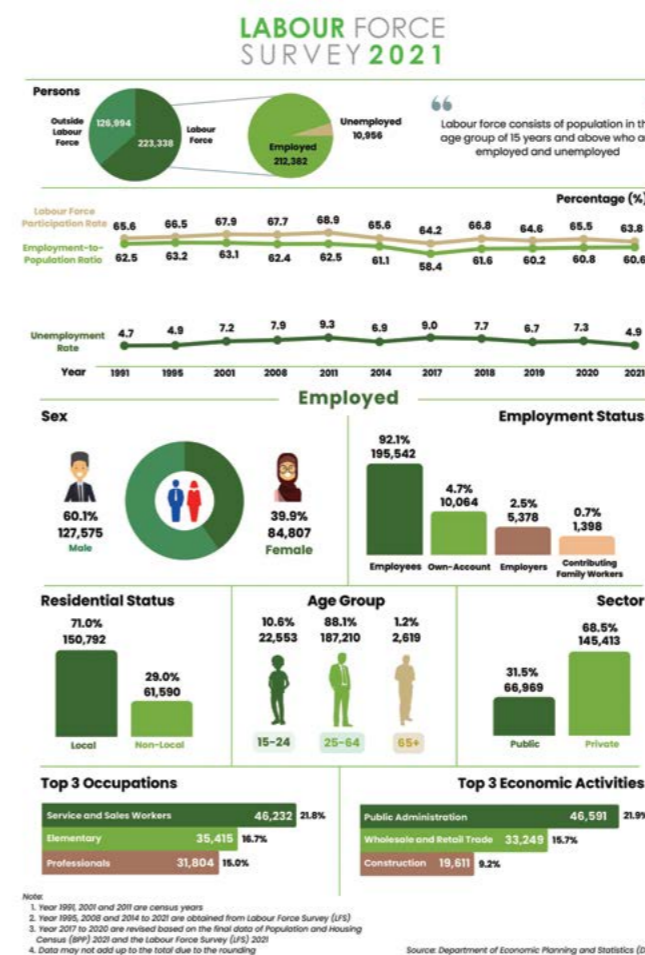
Out of the 127,000 persons outside the labour force, there were 93.0 per cent not actively looking for a job and not ready to work because they are still studying, undergoing training courses, have family or household responsibilities, or have retired. Meanwhile, 7 per cent of persons outside the labour force were either actively looking for jobs but were not available or not actively looking for jobs but are available.

A few additional questions related to the impact of the spread of the COVID-19 epidemic were included in the LFS 2021 questionnaire, as recommended by the ILO for LFS 2020 before. About 40 per cent (84,900 persons) of the total employed

population has experienced changes in their working conditions such as changes in the total working hours, changes of work place or location or working from home.

For the unemployed in 2021, about 2.6 per cent or 300 persons were among those who had jobs in 2020, but were no longer working in 2021. Of these 300 persons, 67.5 per cent (195 persons) had loss of paid employment or temporary employment had ended, 13.3 per cent (38 persons) temporary closure of facilities and premises, 11.2 per cent (32 persons) had to quit or to take leave because of injury, illness or quarantine; and 7.9 per cent (23 persons) were on temporary leave or waiting for a call-back.

The labour force statistics obtained from the LFS from 2017 to 2020 are also revised based on the final data of the Population and Housing Census 2021 and the LFS 2021.



## DEPS releases 2021 BPP report

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, November 8** - The Population and Housing Census (BPP) 2021 was conducted from January to December 2021. According to the BPP 2021: Demographic, Household and Housing Characteristics report issued by the Department of Economic Planning and Statistics (DEPS) Ministry of Finance and Economy, Brunei Darussalam's population during BPP 2021 was 440,715 people.

From the number, 52.7 per cent were male and 47.3 per cent were female. Brunei Muara District was the most populated with 72.3 per cent, followed by Belait District, Tutong District and Temburong District. From the age distribution aspect, 20.5 per cent were below 15 years of age, 73.2 per cent were in the working age group of 15 to 64 years and 6.3 per cent were aged 65 and above.

According to Residential Status, Brunei Citizens make up the largest part with 75.7 per cent, followed by Permanent Residents and Temporary Residents. Malays are the largest community in the country at 67.4 per cent. Chinese and other races comprise 9.6 per cent and 23 per cent respectively. The majority of residents in the country are Muslim, at 82.1 per cent.

During BPP 2021, occupied housing units in the country was 83,810 units with a household of 87,137 people. Average household size was 5 point 1 household member.

In population distribution, the top five villages with the highest number of residents were Kampung Panchor National Housing Scheme with 3 per cent, followed by Kampung Tanah Jambu

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at 2.7 per cent, Kampung Panaga 2.3 per cent, Kampung Bukit Beruang 2.2 per cent, and Kampung Meragang at 2.1 per cent.

Among the top five villages with a highest number of population growth were Kampung Sabun 10.4 per cent, Kampung Lugu 10.2 per cent, Lumut Kawasan Dua National Housing Scheme 7.8 per

cent, Kampung Panchor National Housing Scheme 5.2 per cent, and Kampung Sengkurong 'B' at 4.8 per cent.

The full BPP 2021: Demographic, Household and Housing Characteristic report can be obtained from the DEPS website. Any enquiries, contact the number or go to the website shown on the screen.

