



DECLARATION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ASEAN AI SAFETY NETWORK (ASEAN AI SAFE)

We, the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) gathered on the occasion of the 47th ASEAN Summit in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 26 October 2025;

REAFFIRMING our shared interest in unlocking the significant potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) while mitigating its associated risks;

EMPHASISING our support for the ASEAN-Malaysia Chairmanship 2025 theme of 'Inclusivity and Sustainability';

GUIDED by the ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2025; the ASEAN Guide on AI Governance and Ethics; the Expanded ASEAN Guide on AI Governance and Ethics – Generative AI; and the ASEAN Responsible AI Roadmap (2025-2030);

NOTING that the Fifth ASEAN Digital Ministers' Meeting (ADGMIN) agreed to expand the responsibilities of the ASEAN Working Group on AI Governance (WG-AI) to support the ASEAN Digital Senior Officials' Meeting (ADGSOM) in its leading role in ASEAN AI initiatives, particularly in AI policy, governance, safety, laws, regulations, and standards; and to encourage other sectoral bodies to consult ADGSOM on AI-related initiatives, including collaboration with AI industry players within and beyond ASEAN;

ENCOURAGED by the transformative potential of AI to advance inclusive growth, economic resilience, and sustainable development, while acknowledging the importance of safeguarding ASEAN societies, economies, and institutions from associated risks;

RECOGNISING that ASEAN's AI safety landscape is characterised by varying levels of institutional maturity, technical capacity, and regulatory enforcement; varying approaches to address cross-border AI risks such as misinformation, fraud, and content manipulation; the need for stronger representation in global AI governance initiatives and emerging standard-setting fora; a diverse stakeholder environment that requires enhanced coordination among government, industry, academia, civil society, and communities; and the provision of targeted capacity-building and technical assistance, particularly for ASEAN Member States (AMS) with nascent AI capabilities;

AFFIRMING the importance of AI safety as a foundational enabler of trust, innovation, and sustainable digital transformation; and ensuring that AI systems are developed and deployed safely is essential to protect citizens' rights, uphold ethical values, safeguard regional security, and enhance ASEAN's competitiveness in the global digital economy;

ACKNOWLEDGING that AI safety is a foundational enabler of public trust, responsible innovation, and digital competitiveness, and should be pursued in ways that accommodate the diverse capacities and contexts of AMS; and

REAFFIRMING our shared determination and commitment to collaborative, inclusive, and principle-based approach to AI safety that reflects ASEAN values, respects national sovereignty, supports developmental aspirations, and aligns with international best practices to ensure the safe, transparent, and trustworthy use of AI across the region.

DO HEREBY:

1. **NOTE** the recommendations from the Feasibility Study on the ASEAN AI Safety Network (ASEAN AI Safe) highlight a need to strengthen institutional capacity to coordinate, support, and elevate AI safety efforts across ASEAN, including the proposal to establish the ASEAN AI Safety Network (ASEAN AI Safe) as a regional mechanism to support the ASEAN Digital Senior Officials' Meeting (ADGSOM) and the ASEAN Working Group on AI Governance (WG-AI) on AI safety, enhance regional capacity, foster collaboration, promote AI safety research and innovation efforts, and advance AI safety adoption;
2. **FINALISE** the establishment of the ASEAN AI Safety Network (ASEAN AI Safe) and anchor it within the ASEAN structure, to further advance ASEAN's capacity in AI safety through exchanging best practices, promoting interdisciplinary collaboration, developing multi-stakeholder partnerships, enhancing capacity building and research, and fostering collaboration with external partners;
3. **ESTABLISH** the ASEAN AI Safety Network (ASEAN AI Safe) in full alignment with ASEAN centrality, consensus-based decision-making, and the ASEAN Charter, and will be guided by transparency, accountability, and multi-stakeholder participation;
4. **TASK** ministers from the relevant ASEAN sectoral body to consider the functions, organisational framework and operational model for the ASEAN AI Safety Network (ASEAN AI Safe), which:

- (i) Operates on a voluntary and non-binding basis; and
 - (ii) Ensures coherence with existing ASEAN mechanisms, including ADGSOM, WG-AI, and fosters collaboration with other ASEAN Sectoral Bodies, ASEAN Dialogue and Development Partners, as well as civil society, academia and industry stakeholders.
5. **FURTHER TASK** ministers from the relevant ASEAN sectoral body to explore sustainable funding models for the ASEAN AI Safety Network (ASEAN AI Safe), including recommendations from AMS, ASEAN Dialogue and Development Partners, and multi-stakeholder partnerships, to ensure the long-term viability of the Network;
6. **ENCOURAGE** multi-stakeholder participation, involving ASEAN Sectoral Bodies, ASEAN Dialogue and Development Partners, civil society, academia and industry in discussions and initiatives related to the governance of AI safety issues; and
7. **TASK** Malaysia, as the ASEAN Member State Lead Proponent, in coordination with AMS and the ASEAN Secretariat, to report on the progress of the establishment of the ASEAN AI Safety Network (ASEAN AI Safe) as well as the necessary institutional and operational arrangements, and to present a formal proposal for endorsement at the ASEAN Digital Ministers' Meeting.

DONE in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia this Twenty Sixth Day of October in the Year Two Thousand and Twenty-Five in a single original copy in the English language.