

**ASEAN MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON
KUALA LUMPUR 2024 ROAD SAFETY FRAMEWORK**

21 November 2024, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

1. The 30th ASEAN Transport Ministers (ATM) Meeting held on 21 November 2024 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia emphasised the importance of enhancing road safety standards in ASEAN, which is critically important given the region's rapid urbanisation, economic growth, and increasing motorisation rates.

2. The Meeting noted the following benefits of prioritising road safety: (i) reduction of traffic fatalities and injuries; (ii) reduction of economic losses relating to healthcare cost, worker downtime due to traffic accidents, and damage to infrastructure; (iii) social and public health benefits resulting from less strain on healthcare systems and improvement of overall quality of life; (iv) accelerate ASEAN's capacity to meet commitments under global initiatives, such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); and (v) enhanced regional integration and cooperation.

3. In order to enhance road safety across ASEAN Member States, it is essential to implement strategic initiatives that align with international standards and best practices. Therefore, the Meeting agreed on four (4) key initiatives to guide ASEAN Member States in improving road safety, namely:
 - (i) Encourage ASEAN Member States to review their national standards and laws related to vehicle safety and quality based on international guidelines. This alignment ensures that regulated products meet specific safety and quality criteria across the region, fostering a unified approach to road safety.
 - (ii) Promote the adoption of UN vehicle safety regulations or equivalent international/national standards by ASEAN Member States. This initiative ensures that all new vehicles are equipped with essential safety features such as seat belts, airbags, and active safety systems, thereby enhancing the protection of occupants and other road users.
 - (iii) Advocate for ASEAN Member States to prioritise the adoption and implementation of high-impact road safety regulations, whether based on UN

standards or equivalent international measures when applicable. These regulations are crucial for improving road safety, enhancing road infrastructure, and optimising traffic management systems, ultimately reducing the risk of accidents and fatalities.

- (iv) Encourage ASEAN Member States to work towards the standardisation of road signs, signals, markings, and traffic rules across the region in line with UN Conventions or equivalent international measures. Standardisation fosters safer and more efficient transportation by ensuring consistency and clarity for all road users, thereby minimising confusion and enhancing overall road safety.

4. The Meeting tasked the ASEAN Senior Transport Officials Meeting (STOM) to work with its subordinate body i.e., the ASEAN Multisectoral Road Safety Special Working Group (MRSSWG) to support this Ministerial Statement by developing and implementing a Plan of Action consisting of initiatives with specific timelines to enhance road safety standards in the region.

5. The Meeting called upon the cooperation, support, and commitment of ASEAN Member States to contribute to reducing road fatalities by at least 50 per cent from 2020 to 2030, in line with the Brunei Declaration on Road Safety 2020.

6. The Meeting agreed that the Ministerial Statement on Kuala Lumpur 2024 Road Safety Framework issued at the 30th ATM Meeting reflects ASEAN's commitment to enhance and improve road safety in the region, which is aligned with the global target of the United Nation's Second Decade for Action on Road Safety 2021 – 2030 of reducing road traffic deaths and injuries.
