



**ASEAN — RUSSIA SUMMIT**  
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САММИТ РОССИЯ — АСЕАН СОЧИ 19-20 МАЯ 2016

## **Joint announcement Concerning the Celebration of the ASEAN-Russia Year of Culture in 2016**

We, the representatives of the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, and Ministry/Agency responsible for Culture and the Arts of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), namely, Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao Peoples' Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, held a consultation during the 4th International Cultural Forum in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation on 15 December 2015.

We welcomed the progress of ASEAN-Russia cooperation built on a rich history and a strong basis of friendship and mutual understanding of the peoples of our countries. The cooperation between ASEAN and Russia embodies the spirit of partnership distinguished by vibrant dynamics of development, progressive character, and multidimensional spheres of cooperation.

We concurred with our governments who attach great significance to the development of people-to-people contacts in the cultural and humanitarian spheres which constitute a basis for growing ties in all fields.

Guided by the desire to give a new impetus for the cooperation of our countries in the field of culture, and in order to implement the 2010 Agreement on Cultural Cooperation between the Government of the Member States of the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations and the Government of the Russian Federation, and to celebrate the ASEAN-Russia Year of Culture in 2016 in commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of ASEAN-Russia Dialogue Relations; We expressed our support to the official Programme of Events, attached hereto, to be organised throughout 2016.

We encouraged all countries, public and private organisations concerned, to explore necessary financing sources and conduct consultations required for successful convening of the activities in this Programme of Events.

We noted that the official Programme may subsequently be updated to reflect further agreements made by the countries and organisations concerned.

We hoped that the celebration of the ASEAN-Russia Year of Culture in 2016 will be an important milestone in our dialogue relations and that will serve the further development and strengthening of the atmosphere of trust and friendship between the peoples of the ASEAN Member States and the Russian Federation.

We thanked the Government of the Russian Federation for the hospitality and arrangements made for this consultation.