

## CLOSING REMARKS

**H.E. DATO LIM JOCK HOI  
SECRETARY-GENERAL OF  
THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS  
AT THE  
DIALOGUE ON SDGs WITH ASEM YOUTH  
4<sup>TH</sup> ASEF YOUNG LEADERS SUMMIT (ASEFYLS4)**

***“Youth in Human Resource Development and  
the Digitalisation of Education”***

*13<sup>th</sup> Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Summit (ASEM13)  
Sustainable Development in a Post-COVID-19 World*

*20 September 2021 | Videoconference*

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*Thank you, Kathryn and Nicolas, for the insightful Opening and Closing Statements,*

*Also thank you to Lamia, Akos, and Su Chen, for the excellent moderating,*

*And my appreciation to Ms. Leonie Nagarajan for presiding over the event today.*

*Our speakers and youth delegates,*

It has been a pleasure for me to be part of this Dialogue with you. I commend the depth and breadth of thoughts and ideas that you shared, which demonstrates your passion in strengthening the cooperation between Asia and Europe towards a more adaptable and resilient education system.

Due to the pandemic, the past couple of years have been challenging, not only for students and fresh graduates, but also young professionals and entrepreneurs around the globe. However, as Nicolas mentioned in his remarks, international cooperation and collaboration among various stakeholders, including youths from different regions who are passionate in creating more equitable and inclusive access to education, may eventually help us overcome the virtual borders.

Building back better from the pandemic, particularly in adapting to the changing landscape of education system is indeed crucial for ASEAN. The Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025 has been guiding ASEAN towards a more connected and integrated community, which is competitive and inclusive.

Under the ASEAN Connectivity Master Plan, educational exchange programmes appears as one of the key measures in promoting people-to-people exchange within and beyond the region. I am pleased to highlight ASEF Young Leaders Summit as a good model of cross-regional exchange programme, which will strengthen the capacity of young people in international cooperation.

Rest assured, ASEAN will work together with the Asia-Europe Foundation to advance our collaboration in the future. Before ending my remarks, I would like to once again congratulate the Asia-Europe Foundation for this successful event as well as the youth delegates for the hard work in preparing this important Dialogue. I wish you success in your future undertakings and make sure we work together to advance SDG 4.

Thank you.

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