



**FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT
ON COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN
THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS AND
THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA**

PREAMBLE

WE, the Heads of State/Government of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia (Cambodia), the Republic of Indonesia (Indonesia), the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), Malaysia, the Union of Myanmar (Myanmar), the Republic of the Philippines (the Philippines), the Republic of Singapore (Singapore), the Kingdom of Thailand (Thailand) and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (Viet Nam), Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (collectively, "ASEAN" or "ASEAN Member States", or individually, "ASEAN Member State"), and the Republic of India (India);

RECALLING that in 2002, we had agreed on the importance of enhancing our close economic cooperation and to work towards an ASEAN-India Regional Trade and Investment Area (RTIA) as a long-term objective;

DESIRING to adopt a Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation (this Agreement) between ASEAN and India (collectively, "the Parties", or individually referring to an ASEAN Member State or to India as a "Party") that is forward-looking in order to forge a closer economic partnership in the 21st century;

DESIRING to minimise barriers and deepen economic linkages between the Parties; lower costs; increase intra-regional trade and investment;