

**FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT ON COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC  
COOPERATION AMONG THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE MEMBER  
COUNTRIES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN  
NATIONS AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

The Governments of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Member Countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of Korea,

**RECALLING** the decision made at the ASEAN-Korea Summit held on 30 November 2004 at Vientiane, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, by the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Cooperation Partnership between ASEAN and Korea, to establish an ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Area at an earliest stage with special and differential treatment and additional flexibility for the new ASEAN Member Countries of the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Union of Myanmar and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam;

**DESIRING** to adopt a Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation among them, that will further promote growth and development, increase the living standard of the people throughout the region and provide further dynamic benefits to the region in the long term;

**BEING** confident that the establishment of the ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Area will be a natural extension of their existing relations as well as a stepping stone to elevate their relationship to a higher and more comprehensive level;

**REAFFIRMING** the shared belief that the arrangement for the creation of the ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Area should be based on the agreed principles of comprehensiveness in the liberalisation process, meaningful and substantial liberalisation, enhancement of mutual benefits, and consistency with WTO rules and disciplines;

**BUILDING** on their respective rights and obligations under the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organisation and the other agreements negotiated thereunder and other multilateral and bilateral instruments of cooperation to which they are parties;