ASEAN LEADERS' STATEMENT ON

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ASEAN REGIONAL MINE ACTION CENTRE (ARMAC)

WE, the Heads of State/Government of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's 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, Member States of ASEAN, at the 21st ASEAN Summit;

COMMITTED to intensify our efforts toward the maintenance of regional peace in accordance with the spirit enshrined in the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) of 1976 and other relevant ASEAN documents;

INSPIRED BY the purposes and principles of the ASEAN Charter as a basis and legal institutional framework for an ASEAN Community 2015 and beyond as well as the principles of the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) Blueprint which envisages a Cohesive, Peaceful, Stable and Resilient Region with shared responsibility for comprehensive security;

RECOGNIZING that the presence of landmines and other explosive remnants of war (ERW) in the soil poses constant threats to the safety of the people and hinders national socio-economic development and aggravates humanitarian problems in many countries in the region as well as other parts of the world;

ENCOURAGED by the progress and achievements in landmine and ERW clearance in the region and recognizing that some ASEAN Member States are actively engaging in landmine and ERW clearance as part of the UN Peacekeeping Operations and the UN Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Programme;

DETERMINED to address the humanitarian aspects of landmine and ERW issues in the region;

RECALLING the reference to demining in the Annex to the ASEAN-UN Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnerships at the 19th ASEAN Summit in Bali in November 2011;

TAKING NOTE of the Concept Paper on the Establishment of an ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) aiming at providing a framework for ASEAN Member States to collectively tackle the humanitarian aspects of the landmines and ERW through an integrated approach of experiences sharing, skills training and other capacity building activities.

DO HEREBY:

- Task the relevant Ministers to develop modalities of an ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) and to submit their recommendations to the 22nd ASEAN Summit for consideration.

Adopted in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, this Eighteenth of November in the Year Two Thousand and Twelve, in a single original copy, in the English language.