17 November, 2026

ASEAN-India Joint Statement on Cooperation in Disaster Management

WE, the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Republic of India, gathered on the occasion of the 23rd ASEAN-India Summit on 17 November 2026 in Manila, Philippines;

REAFFIRMING our commitment to promote the ASEAN-India Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, guided by the fundamental principles, shared values and norms that have steered the ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations since its establishment in 1992, including those enunciated in the Vision Statement of the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit (2012), the Delhi Declaration of the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit to Mark the 25th Anniversary of ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations (2018), the ASEAN-India Joint Statement on Cooperation on the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific for Peace, Stability, and Prosperity in the Region (2021), the Joint Statement on ASEAN-India Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (2022), the ASEAN-India Joint Statement on Maritime Cooperation (2023), the ASEAN-India Joint Leaders' Statement on Strengthening Food Security and Nutrition in Response to Crises (2023), the ASEAN-India Joint Statement on Advancing Digital Transformation (2024), and the ASEAN-India Joint Leaders' Statement on Sustainable Tourism (2025);

NOTING the ASEAN-India Plan of Action (2026-2030) for the implementation of the ASEAN-India Comprehensive Strategic Partnership;

RECALLING the shared exposure of ASEAN Member States and India to hazards, including earthquakes, tsunamis, floods, cyclones, extreme heat and landslide and other climate-induced disasters, and their disproportionate impact on people in vulnerable situations;

RECOGNISING the timely contributions of ASEAN and India to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, including through ASEAN's collective response under the ASEAN Declaration on One ASEAN, One Response, which marks its 10th Anniversary in 2026, and India's assistance to ASEAN Member States affected by disasters, as well as our shared commitment to building a disaster-resilient region;

NOTING the potential for synergies between ASEAN’s efforts under the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) and the disaster management-related elements of India’s Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions (MAHASAGAR) vision, in accordance with their respective frameworks and mandates;

RECOGNISING the value of early warning systems, anticipatory action and regional interoperability of disaster response mechanisms in reducing loss of life and property;

DESIRING to deepen ASEAN-India cooperation across the full disaster management cycle, encompassing prevention, preparedness, response and recovery;

DO HEREBY AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

1. Institutional Cooperation and Coordination

1.1 Strengthen regular consultations between the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM), the AHA Centre and India's National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to promote complementarity between respective disaster management mechanisms.

1.2 Explore modalities for regular consultations within existing ACDM mechanisms to review cooperation and identify priority areas for joint action.

2. Early Warning Systems and Risk Information

2.1 Enhance cooperation on early warning systems for earthquakes, tsunamis, floods and cyclones and landslide, including through the sharing of satellite data, seismic monitoring information and meteorological forecasts, on a voluntary basis and in accordance with national laws and regulations.

2.2 Support the use of space-based data and applications, building on ongoing ASEAN-India Space Cooperation, for disaster risk assessment, monitoring and forecasting.

3. Preparedness and Rapid Response Capacity

3.1 Strengthen joint preparedness through regular training exercises, simulation drills and the exchange of disaster response personnel between ASEAN Member States and India, including through Joint exercises.

3.2 Facilitate the rapid deployment of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) upon the request or with the consent of the affected Member State, utilising existing mechanisms.

3.3 Encourage cooperation between armed forces and civil defence agencies of ASEAN Member States and India within the ADMM-Plus framework on humanitarian assistance and disaster relief in accordance with their respective mandates, recognising the primary role of civilian authorities and the use of military assets as a last resort.

4. Resilient Recovery and Reconstruction

4.1 Share experiences and best practices on post-disaster recovery, and environmentally sustainable practices.

4.2 Support capacity building for people in vulnerable situations, and promote the meaningful participation of women, youth, older persons and persons with disabilities in disaster preparedness and recovery, consistence with relevant work programme.

4.3 Promote cooperation in advancing sustainable resilience, including through risk-informed governance, investment in resilience, resilient infrastructure, science, technology and innovation, and people-centred approaches, in line with national laws and regulations.

5. Technology and Innovation in Disaster Management

5.1 Promote the safe, responsible and ethical application of artificial intelligence, machine learning and big data analytics for disaster risk assessment, early warning and response coordination, in accordance with national laws and regulations.

5.2 Encourage cooperation between relevant research institutions of ASEAN Member States and India on disaster-resilient technologies and infrastructure standards.

6. Capacity Building and Training

6.1 Conduct joint training programmes for disaster management officials, including through relevant ASEAN and AHA Centre capacity-building programmes and India's National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) and other relevant Indian agency.

6.2 Support scholarships and technical exchanges for disaster management professionals between ASEAN Member States and India.

7. Implementation Mechanism

7.1 Task the relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies, including the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM), and their India counterparts, to identify concrete activities to implement this Joint Statement in line with the ASEAN-India Plan of Action (2026-2030), and to report on progress through existing mechanisms.

Manila
November 17, 2026