



## **FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT ON THE ASEAN INVESTMENT AREA**

**The Governments of Brunei Darussalam, 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 States of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN);**

**REAFFIRMING** the importance of sustaining economic growth and development in all Member States through joint efforts in liberalising trade and promoting intra-ASEAN trade and investment flows enshrined in the Framework Agreement on Enhancing ASEAN Economic Co-operation signed in Singapore on 28 January 1992;

**RECALLING** the decision of the Fifth ASEAN Summit held on 15 December 1995 to establish an ASEAN Investment Area (hereinafter referred to as "AIA"), in order to enhance ASEAN's attractiveness and competitiveness for promoting direct investments;

**AFFIRMING** their commitment to the 1987 ASEAN Agreement for the Promotion and Protection of Investments and its 1996 Protocol to enhance investor confidence for investing in ASEAN;

**MINDFUL** of the decision to establish an ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) and the implementation of the ASEAN Industrial Co-operation (AICO) Scheme, to encourage greater investment flows into the region;

**RECOGNISING** that direct investment is an important source of finance for sustaining the pace of economic, industrial, infrastructure and technology development; hence, the need to attract higher and sustainable level of direct investment flows in ASEAN;

**DETERMINED** to realise the vision of ASEAN to establish a competitive ASEAN Investment Area through a more liberal and transparent investment environment by 1st January 2010; and

**BEARING IN MIND** that the measures agreed upon to establish a competitive ASEAN Investment Area by 2010 shall contribute towards ASEAN Vision 2020.