

**LETTER OF INTENT**  
**BETWEEN ASEAN CENTRE FOR BIODIVERSITY**  
**AND THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME**

CONSIDERING THAT,

The ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (hereinafter “ACB”) is an intergovernmental regional centre of excellence established through an agreement among the Governments of the ASEAN Member States for the purpose of facilitating cooperation and coordination among the members of ASEAN on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of such biodiversity in the ASEAN region;

The United Nations Environment Programme (hereinafter “UN Environment”) is the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment; and

UN Environment and ACB share common objectives with regard to the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development, and have collaborated in providing technical and capacity building support to ASEAN Member States in the field of biodiversity conservation and ecosystem management under the ASEAN-UN Cooperation Framework, and wish to collaborate to further these common goals and objectives within their respective mandates and governing rules and regulations. Implementation of specific activities/projects which entails the transfer of funds between ACB and UN Environment shall necessitate the conclusion of separate legal instruments;

ACB and UN Environment hereby AFFIRM THEIR intention of strengthening the collaboration to operationalize the ASEAN-UN Action Plan on Environment and Climate Change 2016-2020, particularly the Strategic Priority 1 on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity and achieve their common objectives in the field of biodiversity conservation and ecosystem management, and to work towards the conclusion of an agreement to that effect. Specific areas of potential collaboration would be, inter alia:

- a. Joint support to ASEAN Member States in implementing biodiversity-related Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), including synergies among biodiversity-related MEAs, Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing and integration of gender considerations into the National Biodiversity Strategies (NBSAPs) implementation;
- b. Joint support to ASEAN Member States in marine and coastal planning and management towards implementation of the East Asian Seas Action Plan, including facilitating Blue Economy, marine spatial planning, marine protected areas, and related data and decision support;
- c. Joint support to ASEAN Member States in integrated management of land- and seascapes including strengthening Protected Area networks/ASEAN Heritage Sites, and prevention and control of Invasive Alien Species; and
- d. Joint support to ASEAN Member States in improving knowledge and decision-support systems to facilitate the adoption of Green Growth practices and Natural Capital investments in decisions and operations of key economic sectors, through the application of ecosystem economics tools and methodologies, such as valuation and accounting of Natural Capital and with active engagement with the private sector.



United Nations  
Environment Programme

This Letter of Intent will complement and enhance existing cooperation of the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity with other attached agencies of the UN Environment such as the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre. ACB and UN Environment may engage in joint fundraising efforts to support collaborative initiatives to be implemented in the above-mentioned fields of work.

Nothing in this letter shall be construed as a binding legal agreement.

Signed, in duplicate, at \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2017, in the English language.

For ACB:

For UN Environment: