

## News

### 42nd ASEAN Summit Retreat Session

11/05/2023



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in a titah highlights that intensifying major power rivalries including in the Asia-Pacific region have, among other things, resulted in global supply chain disruptions, economic uncertainty, the rise of minilateral blocs and shifting strategic alliances. Therefore, ASEAN needs to preserve and uphold its Centrality and cohesiveness in order to ensure that it remains relevant as a platform for constructive dialogue. To this end, His Majesty believes that ASEAN needs to do more in promoting and implementing the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific, which would ensure it also remains a platform for dialogue and cooperation towards continued progress, peace and prosperity.

His Majesty made the titah at the Retreat Session of the 42nd ASEAN Summit which was held this morning at the Komodo Ballroom, Meruorah Komodo Convention Center, Republic of Indonesia. Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen. In the titah, His Majesty also touched on the situation in Myanmar. The Monarch says the resolution of the problems in the country is in the hands of its people, through a Myanmar-led and Myanmar-owned process. Therefore, ASEAN should continue to facilitate a conducive environment for their reconciliation.

His Majesty in the titah also proposes that ASEAN should consider engaging Myanmar once again in the near future, to emphasise concerns on the implementation of the Five-Point Consensus, which ASEAN Leaders had agreed upon in 2021.

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