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19 July 2016

**His Excellency WANG YI**  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
People's Republic of China  
**BEIJING**

Excellency,

On the occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations, I would like to extend, on behalf of the Association of South East Asian Nations, our warmest congratulations and best wishes to the Government and people of the People's Republic of China.

Since their commencement in 1991, ASEAN-China relations have made significant progress and expanded to cover a wide range of areas of political-security, economic and socio-cultural cooperation. Our collective commitment to promoting peace, stability and prosperity in the region as a shared strategic vision and cornerstone of ASEAN-China relations has been demonstrated through China's early accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in South East Asia and our agreement on the need to ensure effective and full implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties (DOC) and early conclusion of a Code of Conduct (COC) in the South China Sea.

With effective implementation of the ASEAN-China Free Trade Area (ACFTA), ASEAN and China have become major trading partners with two-way trade having increased by nearly 50 times as we are on track toward achieving our total trade target of USD 1 trillion by 2020. In other key areas of cooperation such as agriculture, information and communication technology, energy, transport, disaster management, public health, tourism, education, culture and people-to-people contact, substantial progress has also been made.

The launch of the ASEAN-China Cultural Exchange Year in 2014 and the ASEAN-China Educational Exchange initiative this year are examples of our successful efforts to enhance mutual understanding and friendship among the

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peoples of ASEAN and China. Following the successful conclusion of the ASEAN-China Plan of Action 2011-2015, we are committed to effective implementation of the 2016-2020 Plan of Action to further advance our cooperation.

As we are celebrating a quarter of a century of ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations, ASEAN remains committed to working closely with China with a view to bringing the ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership to new heights in the interest of regional and international peace, stability and prosperity.

Please accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

**LE LUONG MINH**