Remarks by H.E. Mr. Anutin Charnvirakul, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand for Joint Press Conference with H.E. Mr. Lawrence Wong, Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore

Your Excellency Mr. Lawrence Wong, Distinguished delegates, Members of the media,

- 1. It is my great honour to pay an official visit to Singapore today at the kind invitation of Prime Minister Wong.
- 2. This visit is meaningful and timely, as Thailand and Singapore celebrate the 60th anniversary of the diplomatic relations this year. Over the past year, we have been exchanging **several high-level visits**.
- 3. Today, we build progress on key areas of mutual interest and our strategic partnership that **reflect on the progress** we have made, and **way forward** in our **forward-looking partnership**.
- 4. First, green and sustainable partnership, we both share the same goals on clean energy and climate change commitments. Thailand is pleased with the signing of carbon credits trading agreement between Thailand and Singapore. It is the first of its kind that Singapore has with an ASEAN country, and that will allow us to start trading carbon credits.
- 5. We also reaffirmed support for the 2nd phase of the Lao PDR Thailand Malaysia Singapore Power Integration Project to enhance renewable energy cooperation.
- 6. <u>Second</u>, <u>resilient and integrated economies</u>. Singapore has been the number-one investor in Thailand for two consecutive years. Thailand welcomes more investments on high-tech industries from Singapore, such as semiconductors, EVs, biotech, and data centers.
- 7. We also aim to further integrate our economies through <u>a Joint Venture in</u> Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO) in aviation sector—to strengthen Thailand and Singapore as regional aviation hubs.
- On <u>digital economy</u>, we aim to work at all fronts. At the international level, through **Digital Economy Partnership Agreement (DEPA)**. At the ASEAN level, through **ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA)**. And at the bilateral level, through an <u>MOU in the Field of Digital Economy</u> to unlock the full potential of digital economy and innovation.

- <u>On food security.</u> We welcomed the **signing the Memorandum of Cooperation on Rice Trade today**, which will guarantee sufficient amount of high-quality Thai rice for Singapore.
- On healthcare, we welcomed the signing of the MOU on Capacity Building for Healthcare Leadership in Urban Ageing Care today, which will help address the challenge of ageing society.
- **8.** Third, enhanced security and defense ties. Thailand and Singapore will continue to strengthen the defense and security ties and explore cooperation on defense industry and technologies.

Importantly, we will intensify cooperation to combat transnational crime, especially online scams. Thailand will soon host an international conference on combatting online scams and will work closely with Singapore and other partners.

9. Lastly, on regional cooperation.

- We will cooperate closely on strategic issues to strengthen ASEAN's effectiveness and resilience.
- We recognise Asia as the center of world economic gravity with advanced regional economic integration and unlock the full potential of a huge market of over 600 million people in ASEAN.
- We will explore a partnership to improve road, rail, air, sea, digital and energy connectivity within the region.
- Thailand is ready to serve as a regional logistic hub that will connect Mainland with Maritime Southeast Asia, China, and India.
- Globally, we reaffirmed our commitment to the rules-based multilateral trading system amid protectionism pressures.
- I also took this opportunity to brief Prime Minister Wong on the Thailand Cambodia border situation, and reaffirmed Thailand's commitment to the effective implementation of the Joint Declaration signed in Kuala Lumpur last month. And I thanked Singapore for the continued support through both bilateral mechanisms and ASEAN.
- 10. Thank you so much for your hospitality.
