Joint Ministerial Statement on the occasion of the second Trade and Investment Dialogue between the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) and the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

26 November 2026
Ha Noi, Viet Nam

1. We, Ministers and Representatives of the Parties to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) and the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), held the second CPTPP-ASEAN Trade and Investment Dialogue in Ha Noi on 26 November 2026 (Dialogue).

2. Recalling the shared understanding reached at the Dialogue in Melbourne in November 2025, we reaffirm our commitment to strengthening cooperation between CPTPP Parties and ASEAN Member States in support of free, fair, open, transparent, inclusive, sustainable and rules-based trade and investment. We reaffirm our support for ASEAN centrality in the ASEAN-led regional architecture and recognise the important role of closer CPTPP–ASEAN engagement in promoting economic integration, resilience and prosperity.

3. Given the challenges facing international trade, we acknowledge the crucial role of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in fostering the growth and stability of the global economy. We underscored our commitment to strengthening the multilateral trading system with the WTO at its core.We also reaffirm our shared commitment to support work underway in Geneva to reform the WTO, including on decision-making, level playing field, development, and foundational issues, through a transparent, inclusive, and member-driven process, taking into account the needs and interests of Members to ensure its continued relevance and effectiveness in addressing current and emerging trade challenges.

4. We express our shared concerns with the use of market-distorting practices, which distort trade and investment flows and adversely affect supply chains, and cause excess capacity. We also express our concerns about economic coercion that seeks to exploit economic vulnerabilities and dependencies. We will strengthen cooperation to address such developments in the global trading environment.

5. Against the backdrop of an evolving global trade and economic environment, we underscore the importance of strengthening economic ties, enhancing supply chain resilience, advancing the digital economy and ensuring that the benefits of trade and investment are broadly shared. We welcome the progress made since the last Dialogue meeting in areas of mutual interest, including the digital economy, supply chain resilience and trade facilitation, and support for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

Championing a rules-based global trade environment

6. To strengthen the global trade system and advance World Trade Organization (WTO) reform, we will continue to identify objectives where Dialogue participants can make complementary contributions in support of WTO reform.

7. We further underscore our efforts to incorporate the Agreement on Electronic Commerce and the Investment Facilitation for Development Agreement into the WTO legal framework. More broadly, we call on WTO members to support plurilateral initiatives for rulemaking in the WTO while preserving transparency, openness and opportunities for broader participation. We confirm our commitment to a fully and well-functioning WTO dispute settlement system accessible to all Members. We encourage greater participation in the Multi-Party Interim Appeal Arbitration Arrangement (MPIA), taking into account the respective circumstances, pending the establishment of a fully and well-functioning dispute settlement mechanism.

8. We reaffirm our commitment to a long-term solution for the moratorium on customs duties on electronic transmissions. We note with regret that the moratorium could not be extended at the 14th WTO Ministerial Conference in Yaoundé, Cameroon. We also reaffirm our current practice of not imposing customs duties on electronic transmissions.

Advancing Digital Economy cooperation

9. We recognise the growing importance of the digital economy in driving economic growth, innovation and regional economic integration, as well as in creating new opportunities for businesses, including MSMEs, to participate in regional and global trade.

10. We reaffirm our interest in continued cooperation on areas of mutual interest that can promote digital interoperability, facilitate digital trade and support businesses in navigating the digital transition, taking into account our respective circumstances and policy frameworks.

11. We recognize the significance of the signing of the ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA) and commend ASEAN's ongoing efforts to drive digital transformation, expand digital trade, and promote secure, interoperable ecosystems.

12. We welcome the work undertaken by the officials in the field of digital economy, led by Singapore, New Zealand and Chile, and progress in developing the Joint Report of Key Learnings and Opportunities to promote compatibility and interoperability between CPTPP and ASEAN. We task officials to continue engaging on digital economy issues.

13. We commend Canada for organizing the Workshop on CPTPP-ASEAN Integration: Opportunities for boosting innovation through digital and services trade and sustainability in October 2026. The Workshop highlighted the potential for strengthening CPTPP–ASEAN cooperation in digital and services trade to promote innovation, attract investment, enhance the efficiency of global value chains, and support the green transition.

Promoting supply chain resilience, and trade facilitation

14. We recognise the importance of resilient, reliable and diversified supply chains in supporting economic security, strengthening energy resilience, maintaining free and transparent trade flows and strengthening our economies' capacity to respond to global supply chain disruptions.

15. We recognise regional initiatives to build more resilient global energy supply chains, including the Partnership On Wide Energy and Resources Resilience Asia (POWERR Asia), with close coordination on energy between producer and consumer countries.

16. We welcome Japan's hosting of the CPTPP-ASEAN-EU Workshop on Supply Chain Resilience, Trade Diversification, and Facilitation in Tokyo in July 2026 and the constructive technical discussion held during the Workshop. We will build on these discussions in 2027, including by exploring collective measures to build resilient, reliable, and diversified supply chains. We task officials to consider ways to strengthen the implementation of rules of origin and customs procedures, including to address risks associated with illegal transshipment and other practices that circumvent duties. Furthermore, we task officials to explore ways to enhance the utilisation of preferential treatment under existing EPAs/FTAs. We resolve to strengthen our supply chain resilience and global value chains through our collective actions to this end.

Empowering Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)

17. We recognise the important contribution of MSMEs to our economies, including through employment, innovation and inclusive economic growth, and underscore the importance of enabling MSMEs to benefit more fully from regional and global trade opportunities.

18. We welcome Viet Nam's hosting of the CPTPP–ASEAN–EU Business Forum 2026: From Dialogue to Business Action in Ha Noi in November, which helps strengthen cross-regional business connectivity among CPTPP, ASEAN and the EU by identifying key business priorities and addressing barriers to trade and investment. It will promote concrete government–business cooperation to build resilient and sustainable supply chains, enhance MSMEs participation in regional and global value chains, and improve the business and investment environment.

19. We task officials to identify practical opportunities for further cooperation to support MSMEs participation in trade, including through improved access to information and market opportunities, capacity-building, business connectivity and policy dialogue.

Next steps

20. We instruct Senior Officials from CPTPP Parties and Senior Economic Officials from ASEAN Member States to build on the progress achieved under the Dialogue and advance practical cooperation in the areas identified above and any other areas of mutual interest, consistent with our respective priorities and mandates. We look forward to reviewing progress at our next CPTPP–ASEAN Trade and Investment Dialogue, to be held in 2027.