

The Governments of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand¹ and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Member Countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and the Republic of Korea,

RECALLING the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation among the Governments of the Member Countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of Korea (Framework Agreement) signed in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on the 13th day of December 2005;

FURTHER RECALLING Articles 1.3 and 2.2 of the Framework Agreement, which reflect their commitment to establish the ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Area covering trade in services;

NOTING the objectives of the Framework Agreement to enhance economic cooperation and deepen economic integration among them through progressive liberalisation of trade in services consistent with Article V of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS);

REAFFIRMING their commitment to liberalise trade in services among the ASEAN Member Countries and the Republic of Korea with substantial sectoral coverage, taking into account the sensitive sectors of the Parties, and with special and differential treatment to ASEAN Member Countries and additional flexibility for the new ASEAN Member Countries of the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Union of Myanmar and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam;

STRIVING TO enhance cooperation in services among them in order to improve efficiency and competitiveness, as well as to diversify the supply and distribution of services of the respective service suppliers of the Parties; and

RECOGNISING the right of the Parties to regulate, and to introduce new regulations, on the supply of services within their respective territories in order to meet national policy objectives and, given asymmetries existing with respect to the degree of development of services regulations within the Parties, the particular need of the Parties to exercise this right,

HAVE AGREED as follows:

¹ For the purpose of this Agreement, the Kingdom of Thailand is included in the reference of this term only after the relevant signature on her behalf has been appended.