

**SESSION 1**  
**WELCOMING REMARKS**  
**CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT**  
**OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA**  
**AT THE 9<sup>TH</sup> COUNCIL OF ASEAN CHIEF JUSTICES MEETING**  
**IN JAKARTA**

**JAKARTA (VIRTUAL), 7 OCTOBER 2021**



**Chief justices of the ASEAN Supreme Courts whom I hold in the highest esteem.**

I would first like to bid welcome to the ninth CACJ hosted by the Supreme Court of the Republic of Indonesia.

It is indeed a great honor for the Indonesian Supreme Court to act as host to the ninth CACJ/this is the first instance in the history of CACJ where we have opportunity to serve as host/and it is with high enthusiasm that we assume this role.

It is indeed unfortunate that this event has to be convened amidst the ongoing pandemic, preventing us from welcoming Your Honors and distinguished delegates in our country.

I express a special welcome to the ASEAN Secretary General, His Excellency Dato Lim Jock Hoi, who has graciously given us his time to join us in the Opening session of the this CACJ meeting and deliver a welcoming remark

I would like to extend my highest appreciation to the previous CACJ chair, The Honourable Nguyen Hoa Binh, Chief Justice of the Supreme People's Court of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam who has successfully concluded his role as CACJ Chair for the period of 2020-2021 and has given much guidance and inspiration for the development of CACJ.

Please allow me to introduce members of the Indonesian Supreme Court Delegation in attendance. This morning I am accompanied by the Honourable Dr Andi Samsan Nganro SH., MH (Deputy Chief Justice for Judicial Affairs), the Honourable Dr Sunarto, SH., MH (Deputy Chief Justice for Non-Judicial Affairs), the Honourable Prof. Dr. Takdir Rahmadi, SH., LL.M (Head of Development Chamber), the Honourable Prof. Dr. Supandi, SH., M.Hum (Head of State Administration Chamber), the Honourable Dr. H. Amran Suadi, SH., MH., MM, (Head of Religious Chamber), the Honourable Dr. Suhadi, SH., MH (Head of the Criminal Chamber), the Honourable Dr. Burhan Dahlan, SH., MH (Head of the Criminal Military Chamber) the Honourable I Gusti Agung Sumanatha, SH., MH (Head of the Civil Chamber), the Honourable Dr. H. Zahrul Rabain, SH., MH (Head of the Supervisory Chamber), the Honourable

Dr Ibrahim, SH., MH., LL.M and the Honourable Dr Yasardin, SH., MHum. Also, in attendance this morning are the Registrar of the Indonesian Supreme Court Dr Ridwan Mansyur and the Secretary of the Indonesian Supreme Court Dr Hasbi and members of delegation who I am not able to mention one by one.

***The Honourable Chief Justices of Chief Justices, His Excellency Secretary General of ASEAN,***

It should be foremost in our thoughts that the CACJ was established upon key objectives set forth in the CACJ Charter, namely:

- To maintain and strengthen international partnerships and regional solidarity among the Judiciaries of ASEAN Member States;
- To provide a regular forum for ASEAN Chief Justices to exchange views on common issues and share best practices;
- To facilitate judicial cooperation to enhance the legal framework in ASEAN in order to promote equitable and effective access to justice and economic growth in the region; and
- To collaborate in capacity building of the judiciaries in ASEAN, in particular in upholding the rule of law, in judicial education and in the area of court technology.

These objectives reflect the extent to which expectations are placed upon the CACJ / and how important it is for us to continually seek ways to attain these stated objectives.

**The Honourable Chief Justices of ASEAN,**

Since 2016 CACJ has been officially registered as an associated entity of ASEAN, which has made the need to improve organizational management and procedure and develop work programs towards achieving CACJ's objective to become ever more important. Further, it is necessary to give serious thought to collaborate with external entities and develop the resources needed to perform the work of CACJ.

**The Honourable Chief Justices of Chief Justices, His Excellency Secretary General of ASEAN,**

The ninth CACJ meeting in general will discuss the progress of the workplan achieved during the past year. At this time there are seven working groups that are working in parallel. For the first time ever, this year CACJ has been working in full pandemic mode. No single meeting has been conducted physically. All sessions have been held online and I would take a moment to express my highest appreciation to CACJ board members who continue to give their full commitment in discharging CACJ's work despite having to perform them online.

The ninth CACJ meeting also allocates one special session to discuss the progress of ASEAN member countries' judiciaries amidst the pandemic. This is still a highly relevant issue, as it was unavoidable that many adjustments have had to be made by courts in the region in the past year due to the pandemic, adjustments that need to be shared and learnt from.

***The Honourable Chief Justices of Chief Justices, His Excellency Secretary General of ASEAN,***

It is my sincerest hope that this year we will see the pandemic starting to subside and countries' ability to address the pandemic improve, so as to allow the relaxation of measures to respond to the pandemic and thus making it possible for us to work normally and engage in proper interaction.

Again I would like to welcome and extend my greatest appreciation to all Chief Justices of the Supreme Courts of ASEAN for their commitment to attend the ninth CACJ Meeting despite its having to be organized online. This demonstrates the unwavering dedication of ASEAN judiciaries to continually encourage the CACJ to work and contribute towards achieving its objectives. I am also hoping that the distance between us and the virtual manner in which we conduct this meeting will not prevent the meeting from being held in a transparent, honest and productive, given that we have learned much during the past year on how to work amidst the pandemic.

On that note, I conclude by brief welcoming remarks.

I will now invite the Honourable Chief Justices of ASEAN to deliver their opening remarks. Given the time constraints, the remarks of each Chief Justices or Heads of Delegation shall be delivered within two minutes in the alphabetical order of the countries being represented, beginning with: (in alphabetical order of the countries)

**CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA**

**Dr, H, M, Syarifuddin, S.H., M.H.**

WELCOMING REMARKS OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE  
OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA  
9<sup>th</sup> COUNCIL OF ASEAN CHIEF JUSTICES (CACJ)