

**Speech in the Opening Session of  
the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Council of ASEAN Chief of Justices  
7 October 2021**

*Presented by: Pro. Dr. Viengthong Siphandon*

- **His Excellency Pro. Dr. Syarifuddin, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Indonesia**
- **Distinguished Ladies and gentlemen!**

First of all, please allow me to introduce that I have just been appointed as the President of the People's Supreme Court of Lao People's Democratic Republic in March this year.

On behalf of the People's Supreme Court of Lao PDR and the delegation, I would like to express our delightfulness and honor to attend the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Council of ASEAN Chief of Justices which is my first regional meeting I have attended since my terms of office at the People's Supreme Court of Lao People's Democratic Republic and is being organized via video conference due to the pandemic of the Covid -19.

As mentioned by his excellency **Pro. Dr. Syarifuddin** in his opening speech, I fully support the productive results gained from previous meetings as well as the objectives of today's meeting.

It is perceived that the development of economy has direct link with social justice enhancement and, indeed, they must be considered as one. The more economy grows, the more people's court systems transform in holistic dimensions in order to provide timely, transparent, impartial, certain and fair services protecting legal rights and benefits of general citizens contributing to social security and economic development.

The ASEAN Community has strong cooperation among member states and this has been embedded into major public and private entities. Today indicates our solid solidarity with dedicated leaderships and talented and well-trained personnel and judges. The CACJ is one of the excellent examples and serves as a forum for common purpose of exchanging skills, knowledge and ideas under multiple working groups.

Despite some difficulties we faced, we are ready to work with all member Chief Justices of ASEAN states to promote our solidarity and to cooperation.

**Thank You Very Much!**