

Welcome Remarks
By
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At the Opening Ceremony of the 43rd Plenary Meeting of ASEAN-COCI

Excellencies,
Distinguished Guests,

I am very pleased and honoured to address you in this opening ceremony of the ASEAN-COCI Plenary Meeting. I would like to warmly welcome the delegates from member countries to Nay Pyi Taw.

The ultimate goal of ASEAN at the time being is to strive for a self-reliant and prosperous ASEAN Community based on 3 pillars, namely Security Community, Economic Community and Socio-culture Community, among which the Socio-culture Community immerses as a Sharing and Caring Society with view of promoting the social coherence through cooperation. The ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community will focus on nurturing human, cultural and natural resources for sustained development in a harmonious and people-centered ASEAN.

As ASEAN has to integrate into a community, the active participation of people of ASEAN countries becomes essential. We must promote people to people contacts and we must try to better understand each other.

Our meeting today will provide us with an opportunity to exchange views and experiences on cultural heritage preservation and to make recommendations toward building a Socio-Cultural Community.

In my conclusion, the organizing committee has worked hard to make your stay in Nay Pyi Taw as comfortable as possible. I thank all the delegates of ASEAN countries for being here at this opening ceremony. I wish all delegates a very fruitful meeting of the COCI Plenary Meeting.

Thank you.