



Office of the President of the Philippines

STATEMENT

Participation of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte at the 4th ASEAN-Russia Summit To Mark 30 Years of Dialogue Partnership 28 October 2021

President Rodrigo Roa Duterte and other Leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) joined President Vladimir V. Putin of the Russian Federation in a productive exchange of views at the 4th ASEAN-Russia Summit, held on October 28, 2021 via video conference.

President Duterte lauded 30 years of dialogue relationship between ASEAN and Russia which was elevated to a Strategic Partnership in 2018.

"I am very much encouraged by our growing cooperation across the three pillars of ASEAN," the President said.

The President thanked Russia for its donation of Sputnik V vaccines to the Philippines and welcomed the resumption of training courses for epidemiologists in Vladivostok to help boost ASEAN countries' capacity to address and prevent future outbreaks.

President Duterte conveyed the Philippines' full support for the ASEAN-Russia Plan of Action 2021-2025 aimed at strengthening cooperation in disaster management, cybersecurity, research and development, and innovation. He said, *"we must ensure its effective implementation to bolster post-pandemic recovery and enhance our resilience against pandemics."*

The President likewise welcomed Russia's renewed commitment to work with ASEAN in countering the illegal drug problem, promoting peace and prosperity for the peoples of the Asia-Pacific, Indian Ocean region and Greater Eurasia, and its efforts to deepen defense engagement through the ASEAN Defense Ministers Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus). The Philippines supports Russia's co-chairmanship of the ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Counter-Terrorism for the cycle 2021-2024.

"All these important initiatives add greater value to our Strategic Partnership," President Duterte stressed. **END**