



PRIME  
MINISTER

**GENERAL STATEMENT ADDRESS BY  
HIS EXCELLENCY PRIME MINISTER  
KAY RALA XANANA GUSMÃO**

**IN THE OCCASION OF THE ASEAN – JAPAN SUMMIT**

Vientiane, Lao PDR

10 October 2024

Thank you, Chair, Your Excellency Sonexay SIPHANDONE

Honourable Leaders of ASEAN

Your Excellency Shigeru Ishiba, Prime Minister of Japan

Your Excellency Secretary General of ASEAN,

Ladies and gentlemen,

I thank the Chair for this opportunity to observe the ASEAN-Japan Summit and make these brief remarks.

On behalf of the Government of Timor-Leste I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Mr. Shigeru Ishiba on your appointment as the new Prime Minister of Japan.

I look forward to working with you to strengthen our bilateral relations and enhance our cooperation.

Timor-Leste commends the significant progress in implementing the ASEAN-Japan Plan of Action across the three ASEAN community pillars and the establishment of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

Timor-Leste supports ASEAN and Japan in emphasising the importance of multilateralism, regional prosperity and peace.

Timor-Leste has a strong relationship with Japan. Japan is also an important development partner of Timor-Leste and provides support across a range of sectors, including infrastructure and agriculture.

We recently entered into a "Comprehensive Partnership towards Sustainable Growth and Development," reflecting our long history of cooperation and friendship.

This partnership focuses on enhancing bilateral relations through dialogue and collaboration in areas such as infrastructure development, economic diversification, social services, and capacity building.

In conclusion, Timor-Leste looks forward to deepening our bi-lateral relationship with Japan as well as enhancing our collaboration within the ASEAN-Japan partnership framework to support regional friendship and cooperation.

Thank you, Chair.

Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão