



**RCEP Joint Committee Co-Chairs' Statement
on the Inauguration of the RCEP Support Unit Office**
9 December 2024, ASEAN Headquarters, Jakarta, Indonesia

1. The Inauguration of the RCEP Support Unit (RSU) Office was held on 9 December 2024, attended by the Secretary-General of ASEAN, Minister of Trade of the Republic of Indonesia as the ASEAN RCEP Ministers' Meeting (RMM) Co-Chair, RCEP Joint Committee (RJC) Co-Chairs and Leads or their representatives, Executive Director of the RSU, Members of the ASEAN Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) and ASEAN FTA Partners' (AFPs) Missions to ASEAN. The RSU office is located on the 6th floor of the Heritage building, ASEAN Headquarters.
2. The inauguration of the RSU office marks a significant milestone for the RCEP following RCEP Ministers' decision on 17 September 2022 at the inaugural RCEP Ministers' Meeting to establish the RSU as a special unit within the ASEAN Secretariat. The RSU will provide the necessary institutional support to the RJC and its subsidiary bodies and will serve as a basis for the establishment of RCEP Secretariat pursuant to Article 18.3 of the RCEP Agreement.
3. During the 8th RJC Meeting on 27 November 2024, the RJC agreed on the effective date of the RSU on 2 December 2024. Furthermore, the RJC Leads welcomed the inauguration of the RSU office on 9 December 2024, which marks the full operationalization of the RSU and encouraged the RSU to take a proactive role in ensuring the effective and efficient implementation of the RCEP Agreement and fostering deeper regional cooperation.
