Preface

In December 2013, the heads of state and government of the ASEAN member states and Japan gathered in Tokyo at the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit to mark the 40th anniversary of ASEAN-Japan relations. This was the second summit, following the historic meeting held in Tokyo in December 2003 at which the Tokyo Declaration for the Dynamic and Enduring Japan-ASEAN Partnership in the New Millennium and the Japan-ASEAN Plan of Action were adopted. Specifically, the 2003 summit emphasized Japanese support for reinforcing ASEAN integration, enhancing the economic competitiveness of ASEAN member countries, and addressing transnational issues.

Building on the achievements of the past decade, the second summit in 2013 broadened the scope of ASEAN-Japan partnership by calling for bilateral cooperation for peace and stability, prosperity, quality of life, and “heart-to-heart” understanding, in the Vision Statement on ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation: Shared Vision, Shared Identity, Shared Future. The 2013 summit also produced a joint statement titled Hand in Hand, Facing Regional and Global Challenges.

In the midst of these significant government-level developments, a multinational study group comprising a group of scholars from ASEAN member states and Japan was established in September 2012 with the support of the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF). This group has engaged in two phases of extensive and comprehensive research. The first phase of study, which lasted from September 2012 to November 2013, focused on how ASEAN-Japan strategic partnership could strengthen the ASEAN Community-building process. The outcome, including policy recommendations, was reported in Beyond 2015: ASEAN-Japan Strategic Partnership for Democracy, Peace, and Prosperity in Southeast Asia, which was presented to the respective governments of ASEAN and Japan in time for the 2013 ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit.

Aptly enough, the second phase of our study, which started in June 2013, has dealt with ASEAN-Japan strategic partnership in East Asia and in global governance, the importance of which the 2013 ASEAN-Japan
Commemorative Summit highlighted explicitly. This volume looks into these themes both conceptually and in practical terms, with a view to contributing to the advancement of ASEAN-Japan cooperation beyond Southeast Asia.

The importance of these Track 2 efforts was initially raised during informal consultations held in Jakarta and Tokyo in 2010 among Tadashi Yamamoto (the late president of the Japan Center for International Exchange [JCIE]), Hitoshi Tanaka (chairman of the Institute for International Strategy, Japan Research Institute, and senior fellow, JCIE), Surin Pitsuwan (then secretary-general of ASEAN), Jusuf Wanandi (co-founder and vice chairman of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies [CSIS], Indonesia), Takio Yamada (then Japan's ambassador to ASEAN), and ourselves. As a result, in mid-2012, with support from the Indonesian government and the JAIF, CSIS and JCIE launched this two-phase study project.

The second phase of the study examined the ways in which ASEAN-Japan cooperation can contribute to the creation of an East Asian order that is peaceful, prosperous, and governed by the rule of law, and to addressing global issues for better global governance. A preparatory meeting was held in Bali, Indonesia, in June 2013; a research meeting to discuss 17 research papers was organized in Jakarta in February 2014; and, in June 2014, the final meeting of the co-chairs was held in Tokyo, along with a roundtable with the Japanese policy community. A short report making policy recommendations was released in time for the 2014 ASEAN-Japan Summit, and this volume compiles the more detailed papers that were developed to complete this second and final phase.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to the project supervisors, Jusuf Wanandi and Hitoshi Tanaka, for their insight and guidance in this process; to the co-chairs, Mely Caballero-Anthony (head of the Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies at Nanyang Technological University’s S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies), Chikako Kawakatsu Ueki (professor, Waseda University), Djisman Simandjuntak (professor, Prasetiya Mulya Business School), and Toshiya Hoshino (professor, Osaka University), for their dedication to and leadership of the study groups; to the project managers, Clara Joewono (vice chair, CSIS, Indonesia) and Hideko Katsumata (executive director and COO, JCIE), for their thoughtful input and for shepherding this project to completion so effectively; and to the invaluable contributions of the study group members. Thanks also to the members of CSIS and JCIE who have worked tirelessly to bring this project to fruition, including Lina Alexandra, Iis Gindarsah, Tomoko Suzuki, Kana Yoshioka, Kim Gould Ashizawa, Susan Hubbard, Patrick Ishiyama, Kaede Kawauchi, and
Serina Bellamy. We are also deeply grateful to the JAIF for its support of this project.

On behalf of all those involved in this project, we sincerely hope that these findings will serve as an impetus for deeper ASEAN-Japan cooperation in creating a more peaceful and prosperous East Asia and for contributing together in combatting some of the most pressing global challenges before us. We also hope it can help facilitate dialogue among relevant stakeholders—including policymakers, academics, opinion leaders, the media, and civil society—so that ASEAN-Japan cooperation will become stronger, more effective, and more productive in the decades to come.

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