PRESS RELEASE

ASEAN MAP LAUNCHED TO STRENGTHEN MOTORCYCLE SAFETY ACROSS SOUTHEAST ASIA

BANGI, 11 AUGUST 2026 – The Ministry of Transport Malaysia, through the Malaysian Institute of Road Safety Research (MIROS), officially launched the ASEAN Motorcycle Assessment Programme (ASEAN MAP) today at Bangi Resort Hotel, Selangor. The launch was officiated by YB Datuk Haji Hasbi bin Haji Habibollah, Deputy Minister of Transport Malaysia, and brought together government representatives from Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam and Malaysia, alongside motorcycle manufacturers, road safety experts, universities, technical institutions and international partners.

In his keynote address, the Deputy Minister highlighted the vital role of motorcycles in supporting mobility across Southeast Asia, while noting that motorcyclists continue to represent a significant proportion of road fatalities in the region. He emphasised that advancing motorcycle safety requires close collaboration among governments, industry, researchers and international organisations. He further stressed that ASEAN MAP is not a programme for Malaysia alone, but a regional platform built on the shared knowledge, commitment and active participation of its partner countries.

“ASEAN MAP reflects our collective responsibility to make motorcycles safer, empower consumers with better information and encourage manufacturers to continuously enhance the safety of their products. Its success will depend on strong regional cooperation and the active contribution of all participating countries,” he said.

Indonesia, Thailand, and Vietnam have expressed their commitment to participating in and contributing to ASEAN MAP, including by sharing technical expertise, national experience, and input to support the development of the regional assessment framework.

ASEAN MAP will initially focus on Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, and Malaysia, where motorcycles play a significant role in daily mobility, and motorcyclists account for a substantial proportion of road fatalities. The programme is expected to expand progressively to other ASEAN Member

States, with the long-term objective of establishing a harmonised, region-wide motorcycle safety assessment framework across ASEAN.

ASEAN MAP is supported by the United Nations Road Safety Fund (UNRSF), with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) serving as a key project partner. The programme also benefits from collaboration with the Global Road Safety Facility of the World Bank, Autoliv and TotalEnergies.

Building on Malaysia's experience with the Malaysia Motorcycle Assessment Program (MyMAP), ASEAN MAP aims to establish a harmonised regional framework for evaluating motorcycle safety across ASEAN. During its initial phase from 2027 to 2028, the programme will focus on the assessment of technical and regulatory documentation, safety features, manufacturing and conformity-of-production processes, as well as support programmes provided by motorcycle manufacturers. From 2029 to 2034, ASEAN MAP will progressively expand to include technical performance assessments, including braking performance and motorcycle visibility tests, further strengthening the region's approach to motorcycle safety evaluation.

The Director-General of MIROS, Associate Professor Ir. Ts. Dr. Siti Zaharah Ishak, said ASEAN MAP would be implemented as a continuous and evolving programme, rather than as a one-off assessment exercise. "As motorcycle technology continues to advance, ASEAN MAP must evolve alongside it. The programme must remain responsive to developments in braking systems, rider-assistance technologies and connected safety systems, while continuing to reflect the motorcycles, riders and traffic environments of Southeast Asia," she said.

The two-day programme brought together government representatives and technical experts from Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, and Malaysia to discuss the programme's governance, strategic direction, and assessment framework, culminating in the official launch on the second day.

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