بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

Gibran Resigns from the Position of Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia Amid Controversy over Education Requirements

Indonesia's Vice President, Gibran Rakabuming Raka, has officially resigned from his post amid sharp scrutiny over the validity of his education documents. According to his statement to Reuters, aide and loyalist figure Budi Arie Setiadi said that Gibran had submitted his resignation to President Prabowo Subianto on Wednesday, November 11, 2026, and would submit his official letter to the People's Consultative Assembly (MPR) on Thursday morning.

This decision follows the decisions of the Supreme Court (MA) and the Constitutional Court (MK) which annulled his high school diploma equivalency certificate. The court considered that there was no valid evidence of a foreign diploma as a basis for equalizing candidacy requirements in the 2024 Presidential Election. Previously, around 120 cross-faction lawmakers had also filed an impeachment petition against the eldest son of former President Joko Widodo.

The Coordinating Minister for Legal, Human Rights, Immigration, and Corrections, Yusril Ihza Mahendra, explained that the MPR will hold a session to determine vacancies and ask the President to submit two names of replacement candidates to be selected within a maximum of 60 days.

President Prabowo Conveys Apology to ASEAN Regarding Haze

Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto apologized for the cross-border haze pollution crisis during the plenary session of the 49th ASEAN Summit in Manila, Philippines, 15. November 2026. He reiterated his government's commitment to crack down on corporations responsible for forest and land fires.

The Indonesian government has revoked the concession licenses of 17 companies, named 11 companies as suspects, and is investigating a total of 104 companies. In addition, Indonesia deployed 71,000 firefighters in an operation that also claimed 16 officer lives and lost two helicopters, while preparing to establish a special agency for forest fire prevention.

Although the ASEAN meteorological center reported that the haze conditions began to subside since mid-November thanks to the rainfall, this year's crisis exacerbated by the El Niño phenomenon has triggered health problems, school closures, and flight cancellations in Malaysia and Singapore.

ASEAN leaders also pushed for the acceleration of the ratification of the Transboundary Haze Pollution Control Coordination Centre (ACC-THPC), while Singapore Prime Minister Lawrence Wong proposed expanding the joint investigative task force to a regional-level platform. Observers and environmental activists stressed that consistent law enforcement from Indonesia is the key to realizing ASEAN's goal of smoke-free ASEAN by 2030.

Cambodia and France Sign 29 Agreements on Macron's State Visit

Cambodia and France signed 29 bilateral agreements and released a joint political declaration during French President Emmanuel Macron's state visit to Phnom Penh on November 15. Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet called the package of agreements that coincided with the 20th Francophonie Summit the largest number his country has ever signed with one partner at a time.

The agreement includes economic cooperation in the fields of energy—including the development of hydroelectric power plants—health, transportation, infrastructure, wholesale markets, and artificial intelligence (AI) research. The two countries also expanded French language teaching from elementary to university levels, as well as strengthened defense cooperation, UN peacekeeping missions, and the eradication of cybercrime and online scams.

In a joint press conference, the two leaders affirmed their support for the peaceful settlement of the Cambodia-Thailand border dispute based on international law. Macron also called for a thorough investigation into the murder case of Lim Kimya in Bangkok as well as strengthening judicial cooperation to eradicate drug and human trafficking.

The visit continues to Siem Reap on November 16, where Macron and King Norodom Sihamoni are scheduled to inaugurate the completion of the restoration of the West Mebon temple as a symbol of the two countries' long-term cultural partnership.

ASEAN Leaders Review Implementation of Myanmar's Five-Point Consensus in Manila

ASEAN leaders will review the implementation of the Five-Point Consensus (5PC) for Myanmar and set the direction for the bloc's future engagement at the 49th ASEAN Summit in Manila on 15-17 November 2026. Philippine Foreign Secretary and ASEAN Special Envoy to Myanmar, Theresa P. Lazaro, stated that this review document will evaluate the latest developments and progress in the implementation of the 5PCs that have been agreed since 2021.

Lazaro emphasized that the 5PCs remain ASEAN's main reference in dealing with the Myanmar crisis, including an end to violence, inclusive dialogue, and the distribution of humanitarian aid. Although Myanmar has established an ASEAN Affairs Committee that is expected to drive substantive progress, Lazaro stressed that the real results depend heavily on Myanmar's willingness to implement these action points.

Regarding humanitarian access, the mission led by Lazaro in October launched a month-long relief operation for more than 11,000 households in Kayin and northern and southern Shan states. The operation targeted communities that had not been reached by the AHA Centre, distributing rice and hygiene kits with the ASEAN Monitoring Team, representatives of member countries' embassies, and Japan. The implementation of Myanmar's five-point consensus is part of ASEAN's efforts to contribute to resolving the humanitarian crisis in Myanmar.