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| **ASEAN defence ministers adopt joint declaration on security vision**  Hanoi – **ASEAN defence ministers adopted a joint declaration** on a strategic security vision at the 7th ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting Plus (ADMM+) held via videoconference yesterday, chaired by Vietnam.  The declaration has an important meaning in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, showing the unity, commitment and determination of ADMM+ member countries to enhance defence cooperation, contributing to peace, stability and development in the region and the world.  At the meeting, participants agreed to continue promoting defence cooperation and discussed regional and international issues of common concern.  They stressed that ADMM+ member countries had increased cooperation and maintained regular exchanges and cooperation via digital platforms despite COVID-19.  They applauded Vietnam’s efforts to adapt to the new situation and implementing initiatives and priorities set for its ASEAN Chairmanship role this year amid the complex developments of the pandemic.  Vietnam has held ASEAN defence meetings, ensuring security safety and efficiency; and proposed and implemented many initiatives in disease prevention and control as well as carrying out cooperation activities within the ADMM+ framework, they said.  They highlighted the progress of the ADMM+ over the past 10 years, particularly practical cooperation activities like humanitarian aid and disaster relief, maritime security, military medicine, **counter-terrorism** and peacekeeping, contributing to building capacity and enhancing the cooperation ability of member countries to respond to traditional and non-traditional security challenges.  Vietnamese Minister of National Defence said ASEAN defence cooperation continued to be a bright spot although the COVID-19 pandemic has adversely impacted all aspects of life across the globe.  The defence channel has proved its role not only in disease prevention and control efforts but also regional cooperation, he said.  In the context of travel restrictions due to COVID-19, many initiatives and new methods have been implemented to promote cooperation within ASEAN and between ASEAN and its counterparts, he said. | **ASEAN defence ministers adopted a joint declaration:** các bộ trưởng quốc phòng ASEAN thông qua tuyên bố chung.  **counter-terrorism:** chống khủng bố. |