

ailand



รายงานการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒

(42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly)

ในรูปแบบการประชุมผ่านสื่ออิเล็กทรอนิกส์
ระหว่างวันที่ ๒๓-๒๕ สิงหาคม ๒๕๖๔



กลุ่มงานสมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน สำนักองค์การรัฐสภาฯระหว่างประเทศ

สำนักงานเลขาธิการสภาผู้แทนราษฎร

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REPORT OF THE 42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (AIPA)

รายงานการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒
ระหว่างวันที่ ๒๓ - ๒๕ สิงหาคม ๒๕๖๔
การประชุมผ่านสื่ออิเล็กทรอนิกส์
ณ ห้องประชุมงบประมาณ ชั้น ๔ อาคารรัฐสภา
โดย เนการาบรูไนดารุสซาลาม

การประชุมใหญ่สมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒ (The 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly) จัดขึ้นระหว่างวันที่ ๒๓ - ๒๕ สิงหาคม ๒๕๖๔ ซึ่งเป็นการประชุมผ่านสื่ออิเล็กทรอนิกส์ โดยมีเนการาบรูไนดารุสซาลามเป็นเจ้าภาพ ภายใต้หัวข้อ “Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion Towards ASEAN Community 2025” ในการประชุมครั้งนี้มีประเทศสมาชิกสมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียนเข้าร่วมประชุมจำนวน ๙ ประเทศ ประกอบด้วย ๑) เนการาบรูไนดารุสซาลาม ๒) ราชอาณาจักรกัมพูชา ๓) สาธารณรัฐอินโดนีเซีย ๔) สาธารณรัฐประชาธิปไตยประชาชนลาว ๕) มาเลเซีย ๖) สาธารณรัฐฟิลิปปินส์ ๗) สาธารณรัฐสิงคโปร์ ๘) ราชอาณาจักรไทย และ ๙) สาธารณรัฐสังคมนิยมเวียดนาม ประเทศผู้สังเกตการณ์ จำนวน ๙ ประเทศ และ ๑ องค์การ ได้แก่ ๑) เครือรัฐออสเตรเลีย ๒) สาธารณรัฐเบลารุส ๓) แคนาดา ๔) สาธารณรัฐสังคมนิยมประชาชนจีน ๕) สภายุโรป ๖) สาธารณรัฐอินเดีย ๗) สาธารณรัฐเกาหลี ๘) ราชอาณาจักรมอริอ็อกโก ๙) ราชอาณาจักรนอร์เวย์ และ ๑๐) สหพันธรัฐรัสเซีย นอกจากนี้ ประเทศเจ้าภาพได้เชิญองค์กรต่าง ๆ เข้าร่วมการประชุมในฐานะแขกของประเทศเจ้าภาพ ได้แก่ ๑) สำนักงานเลขาธิการอาเซียน ๒) สาธารณรัฐแห่งสหภาพเมียนมา ๓) สหภาพรัฐสภา ๔) รัฐสภาภาคพื้นเอเชียและแปซิฟิก ๕) สถาบันวิจัยด้านเศรษฐกิจในภูมิภาคอาเซียนและเอเชียตะวันออก และ ๖) Parliamentary Centre of Asia (PC Asia)

นายชวน หลีกภัย ประธานรัฐสภา ในฐานะหัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยในการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชา-รัฐสภาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒ นำคณะผู้แทนฯ จำนวน ๒๖ คน เข้าร่วมการประชุม ประกอบด้วย ๑) นายชวน หลีกภัย ๒) ศาสตราจารย์พิเศษพรเพชร วิชิตชลชัย ๓) นายสุชาติ ตันเจริญ ๔) พลเอก สิงห์ศึก สิงห์ไพร ๕) นายศุภชัย โพธิ์สุ ๖) นายศุภชัย สมเจริญ ๗) นายสมพงษ์ อมรวิวัฒน์ ๘) นายศราวุธ เพชรพนมพร ๙) นางพิกุลแก้ว ไกรฤกษ์ ๑๐) นายกฤษฏา ตันเทอดทิตย ๑๑) ศาสตราจารย์พิเศษกาญจนาภรณ์ ลีวีโรจน์ ๑๒) นายกิตติ วะสีนนท์ ๑๓) นายจักรพันธ์ พรนิมิตร ๑๔) นายเจตน์ ศิรธรานนท์ ๑๕) พลเอก ทวีป เนตรนิยม ๑๖) นางสาวเพชรชมพู กิจบูรณะ ๑๗) นางสาวเพชรดาว โต๊ะมีนา ๑๘) นายมนูญ สีวาภิรมย์รัตน์ ๑๙) รองศาสตราจารย์รงค์ บุญสวยขวัญ ๒๐) นายวีระศักดิ์ พุทธะกุล ๒๑) นายอัครเดช วงษ์พิทักษ์โรจน์ ๒๒) นายเอกชัย ทรงอำนาจเจริญ ๒๓) นายเอกภพ เพียรพิเศษ ๒๔) นายอนุศาสน์ สุวรรณมงคล ๒๕) นายอิสระ เสรีวัฒนวุฒิ และ ๒๖) นายวิวัฒน์ มุ่งการดี

ทั้งนี้ เนื่องจากเนการาบรูไนดารุสซาลามได้ใช้วิธีแจ้งเวียนเอกสารของคณะกรรมการบริหารทางไปรษณีย์อิเล็กทรอนิกส์แก่ประเทศสมาชิกเพื่อพิจารณาและตอบกลับก่อนการประชุม นายชวน หลีกภัย ประธานรัฐสภา ในฐานะหัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยได้พิจารณาและรับรองเอกสาร ดังนี้

๑. กำหนดการประชุม ระเบียบวาระการประชุมสมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒ และเอกสารที่เกี่ยวข้อง

๒. การเสนอให้ประธานรัฐสภาราชอาณาจักรกัมพูชาเป็นรองประธานการประชุมคณะกรรมการบริหาร AIPA

๓. การส่งองค์ประกอบคณะผู้แทน ในการประชุมคณะกรรมการต่าง ๆ แก่สภานิติบัญญัติแห่งชาติ
บรูไน

๔. การเสนอชื่อผู้รับรางวัลผู้ทำคุณงามความดีของ AIPA จากรัฐสภาแห่งราชอาณาจักรกัมพูชาและ
รัฐสภาแห่งสาธารณรัฐอินโดนีเซีย โดยให้มีการพิจารณาในคณะกรรมการด้านกิจการ AIPA

๕. การขอเป็นประเทศผู้สังเกตการณ์ของ AIPA โดยให้มีการพิจารณาในคณะกรรมการด้านกิจการ AIPA
ซึ่งจะต้องได้รับการรับรองโดยที่ประชุมใหญ่ AIPA

๖. การรับเป็นเจ้าภาพการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๓ ของรัฐสภาแห่งราชอาณาจักร
กัมพูชา

นอกจากนี้ นายชวน หลีกภัย ประธานรัฐสภา ในฐานะหัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยได้รับทราบและ
เห็นควรให้รอความเห็นประธานการประชุมต่อวาระเร่งด่วน คือ ร่างข้อมติว่าด้วยการสนับสนุนของรัฐสภาต่อ
สถานการณ์ในเมียนมา เสนอโดย รัฐสภาแห่งสาธารณรัฐอินโดนีเซีย เป็นวาระการพิจารณาของที่ประชุม
คณะกรรมการด้านการเมือง

พิธีเปิดการประชุม

พิธีเปิดการประชุมจัดขึ้นในวันจันทร์ที่ ๒๓ สิงหาคม ๒๕๖๔ เวลา ๐๙.๐๐ นาฬิกา โดยมีการแสดง
เทปบันทึกเพลง AIPA จากประเทศเจ้าภาพ ต่อจากนั้น His Excellency Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato
Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib ประธาน AIPA และ
ประธานสภานิติบัญญัติแห่งชาติบรูไนกล่าวถ้อยแถลงเปิดการประชุม และบรรเลงเพลงชาติบรูไน จากนั้น
สมเด็จพระราชาธิบดีฮัจญ์ ฮัสซานัล โบลเกียห์ มูอิซซัดดิน วัดเดาละห์ (สุลต่านและยังดีเปอร์ตวนแห่งบรูไน) ได้
มีพระราชดำรัสต่อที่ประชุม เป็นการเปิดการประชุมอย่างเป็นทางการ





คณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยระหว่างเข้าร่วมพิธีเปิดการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒

การประชุมใหญ่สมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒ (การประชุมเต็มคณะ ช่วงที่หนึ่ง)

หลังจากพิธีเปิดเสร็จสิ้นแล้ว คณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย นำโดยนายชวน หลีกภัย ประธานรัฐสภา ในฐานะหัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย พร้อมด้วยคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยได้เข้าร่วมการประชุมเต็มคณะ (Plenary session) ของการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒ ช่วงที่หนึ่ง ซึ่งเป็นการประชุมผ่านสื่ออิเล็กทรอนิกส์ ณ ห้องประชุมงบประมาณ ชั้น ๔ อาคารรัฐสภา

ในช่วงแรก ที่ประชุมได้รับรองการแต่งตั้งประธาน AIPA ครั้งที่ ๔๒ และแนะนำคณะผู้แทน ต่อจากนั้นเป็นการพิจารณาและรับรองเอกสารต่าง ๆ ดังนี้

- กำหนดการประชุม
- วาระการประชุม
- องค์ประกอบคณะกรรมการ
- การพิจารณาการเป็นเจ้าภาพ AIPA Caucus ครั้งที่ ๑๓
- การพิจารณาการเป็นเจ้าภาพ AIPACODD ครั้งที่ ๕
- วันและสถานที่ในการจัดการประชุมใหญ่ AIPA ครั้งที่ ๔๓

ในช่วงบ่าย ภารกิจสำคัญของที่ประชุม คือ การกล่าวถ้อยแถลงของหัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาสมาชิก คณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาผู้สังเกตการณ์ และคณะผู้แทนแขกรับเชิญของประเทศเจ้าภาพที่เข้าร่วมการประชุม สำหรับ คณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย ประธานรัฐสภาได้กล่าวถ้อยแถลงต่อที่ประชุม โดยมีใจความสำคัญ ดังนี้ “การปรับตัวให้เข้ากับชีวิตวิถีใหม่ในยุคการแพร่ระบาดของโรคโควิด-๑๙ รวมทั้งปัญหาของประชาชนอาเซียนในเรื่อง การเข้าถึงเทคโนโลยีดิจิทัล และได้กล่าวสนับสนุนหัวข้อหลักการประชุมครั้งนี้ คือ “การสร้างความร่วมมือของ รัฐสภาในการเข้าถึงเทคโนโลยีดิจิทัล เพื่อมุ่งสู่ประชาคมอาเซียน ค.ศ. ๒๐๒๕” ที่มีความสอดคล้องและเหมาะสมกับสถานการณ์ดังกล่าว รวมทั้ง กล่าวถึงความสำคัญของการสร้างความสอดคล้องทางกฎหมาย

ภายในภูมิภาคอาเซียน และการหารืออย่างสร้างสรรค์ระหว่าง AIPA และอาเซียน นอกจากนี้ ยังได้กล่าวถึง แผนแม่บทอาเซียนด้านดิจิทัล ค.ศ. ๒๐๒๕ ที่มีส่วนที่จะช่วยฟื้นฟูภาวะเศรษฐกิจได้เร็วขึ้นและมีความมั่นคง และครอบคลุมมากกว่าที่ผ่านมา สิ่งที่เราให้ความสำคัญเกี่ยวกับกฎหมายคือความจำเป็นในระยะสั้นและ วัตถุประสงค์ในระยะยาว โดยกล่าวถึงสิ่งที่ควรพิจารณาก่อนการบัญญัติกฎหมายที่อาจส่งผลกระทบต่อสิทธิ ของแต่ละบุคคล ได้แก่ กฎหมายนั้นมีความจำเป็นและมีประสิทธิภาพหรือไม่ กฎหมายนั้นมีความคุ้มค่าหรือไม่ และกฎหมายนั้นจะใช้บังคับตลอดไปหรือเกินเลยไปจากความตั้งใจในการบัญญัติหรือไม่ นอกจากนี้ ยังกล่าวถึง AIPA ในฐานะศูนย์กลางของการวางยุทธศาสตร์ นโยบาย และแผนงานให้เป็นไปในแนวทางเดียวกัน รวมทั้ง ได้กล่าวถึงการทูตเชิงรัฐสภาที่จะช่วยเป็นช่องทางในการสร้างความเข้าใจและทำให้เกิดการปรองดอง และ ท้ายสุด ได้กล่าวเชิญประเทศสมาชิก AIPA เข้าร่วมการประชุม AIPA Caucus ครั้งที่ ๑๓ ซึ่งประเทศไทยจะ เป็นเจ้าภาพในปี ๒๕๖๕”



นายชวน หลีกภัย ประธานรัฐสภา ในฐานะหัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย ในการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒

๑) การประชุมคณะกรรมการด้านสมาชิกวุฒิสภาสตรีของสมัชชาวุฒิสภาอาเซียน (WAIPA)

การประชุมคณะกรรมการด้านสมาชิกวุฒิสภาสตรีของสมัชชาวุฒิสภาอาเซียน (Meeting of Women Parliamentarian of AIPA: WAIPA) ในการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชาวุฒิสภาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒ จัดขึ้น ในวันจันทร์ที่ ๒๓ สิงหาคม ๒๕๖๔ เวลา ๑๖.๐๐ – ๑๘.๐๐ นาฬิกา ณ ห้องประชุม ๔๐๖ ชั้น ๔ อาคารรัฐสภา โดยในการประชุมผ่านสื่ออิเล็กทรอนิกส์ครั้งนี้ Honourable Ms. Siti Rozaimeriyanty Dato Seri Laila Jasa Haji Abdul Rahman สมาชิกสภานิติบัญญัติแห่งชาติบรูไน ทำหน้าที่ประธานในการประชุม

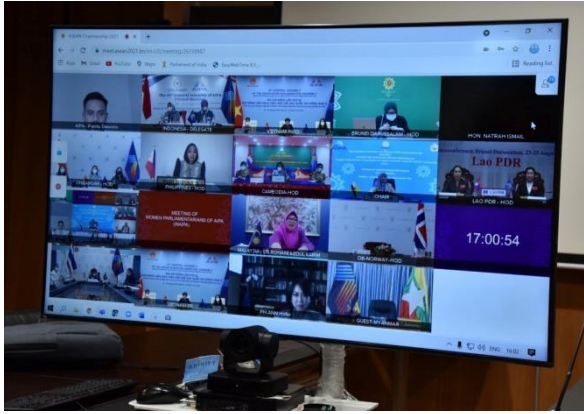
ทั้งนี้ มีประเทศสมาชิกสมัชชาวุฒิสภาอาเซียนเข้าร่วมประชุม จำนวน ๙ ประเทศ โดยคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยที่เข้าร่วมการประชุมดังกล่าว ประกอบด้วย

- ๑) นางพิกุลแก้ว ไกรฤกษ์ สมาชิกวุฒิสภา
หัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยในการประชุมคณะกรรมการด้านสมาชิกวุฒิสภาสตรีของสมัชชาวุฒิสภาอาเซียน
- ๒) นางสาวเพชรชมพู กิจบูรณะ สมาชิกสภาผู้แทนราษฎร
ผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย



นางพิกุลแก้ว ไกรฤกษ์ สมาชิกวุฒิสภา หัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยในการประชุมคณะกรรมการด้านสมาชิกวุฒิสภาสตรีของสมัชชาวุฒิสภาอาเซียน (ขวา) และนางสาวเพชรชมพู กิจบูรณะ สมาชิกสภาผู้แทนราษฎร ผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย (ซ้าย)

ในการประชุมครั้งนี้ ที่ประชุมได้ร่วมกันหารือและรับรอง **ข้อมติว่าด้วยการส่งเสริมบทบาทของสตรีด้านเศรษฐกิจเกี่ยวกับการทำงานในอนาคตและภายหลังการฟื้นฟูโรคระบาดใหญ่** ด้วยการเข้าถึงเทคโนโลยีดิจิทัลและการเงินอย่างครอบคลุม (Resolution on Promoting Women's Economic Empowerment in The Future of Work and Post Pandemic Recovery through Digital and Financial Inclusion) ซึ่งเสนอโดยสภานิติบัญญัติแห่งชาติบรูไน สรุปสาระสำคัญได้ดังนี้



บรรยากาศระหว่างการประชุมคณะกรรมการด้านสมาชิกวุฒิสภาสตรีของสมาชิกรัฐสภาอาเซียน (WAIPA)

การประชุมคณะกรรมการด้านสมาชิกวุฒิสภาสตรีของสมาชิกรัฐสภาอาเซียน (WAIPA) ในครั้งนี้ได้สะท้อนถึงข้อตกลงร่วมกันของ AIPA และความพยายามอย่างต่อเนื่องในการส่งเสริมความเสมอภาคระหว่างเพศและศักยภาพสตรี ทั้งนี้ ประเด็นสำคัญดังกล่าวได้ถูกกำหนดไว้ในข้อบังคับของ AIPA เพื่อให้มีความสอดคล้องกับวิสัยทัศน์หลักของอาเซียน ๒๐๒๕ และเป้าหมายการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืนที่จะก้าวไปด้วยกันและไม่ทิ้งใครไว้ข้างหลัง

ข้อมติว่าด้วยการส่งเสริมบทบาทของสตรีด้านเศรษฐกิจเกี่ยวกับการทำงานในอนาคตและภายหลังการฟื้นฟูโรคระบาดใหญ่ ด้วยการเข้าถึงเทคโนโลยีดิจิทัลและการเงินอย่างครอบคลุมนั้นเสนอโดยสภานิติบัญญัติแห่งชาติบรูไน โดยตั้งอยู่บนแนวคิดที่ว่าความหลากหลายทางเพศยังคงเป็นความท้าทายและอุปสรรคในการสร้างเอกภาพทางการเมือง การบูรณาการทางเศรษฐกิจ รวมถึงการรับมือกับผลกระทบจากการสร้างประชาคมอาเซียนที่มีความเข้มแข็ง

ในการอภิปรายต่อข้อมติดังกล่าว ที่ประชุมมุ่งเน้นแสดงความคิดเห็นต่อประเด็นการเข้าถึงเทคโนโลยีดิจิทัลและการเงินอย่างครอบคลุมสำหรับสตรี ซึ่งถือว่าเป็นประเด็นที่มีความสำคัญยิ่งกว่าประเด็นความเสมอภาคระหว่างเพศ เพราะการเข้าถึงเทคโนโลยีดิจิทัลและการเงินอย่างครอบคลุมนั้นส่งผลต่อการพัฒนาประเทศในทุกด้าน ทั้งด้านเศรษฐกิจ สังคม และการเมือง ดังนั้นที่ประชุมจึงเห็นพ้องร่วมกันว่าควรมีการพัฒนากรอบกฎหมายในประเทศหรือนโยบายที่เกี่ยวข้องเพื่อเปิดช่องว่างทางเพศในการเข้าถึงเทคโนโลยีดิจิทัล พร้อมทั้งวางแผนฟื้นฟูหลังการระบาดใหญ่สำหรับสตรีให้มีความพร้อมในการทำงานในอนาคต รวมถึงพัฒนาความร่วมมือในภูมิภาคเพื่อสร้างความมั่นใจทางเศรษฐกิจให้แก่สตรีผ่านการเข้าถึงเทคโนโลยีดิจิทัลและการเงินอย่างครอบคลุม นอกจากการเข้าถึงทรัพยากรทางการเงินแล้ว ที่ประชุมยังเห็นพ้องกันว่าสตรีควรได้รับการคุ้มครองทางสังคมที่เพียงพอเพื่อรักษาความปลอดภัยและความมั่นคงทางการเงินด้วยการพัฒนาธุรกรรมทางการเงินดิจิทัล

ทั้งนี้ ข้อมติดังกล่าวได้เรียกร้องให้ประเทศสมาชิก ASEAN ดำเนินการต่าง ๆ ดังนี้

๑) พัฒนาและเสริมสร้างความเข้มแข็งของยุทธศาสตร์ดิจิทัลที่ครอบคลุมด้วยการปรับปรุงความสามารถในการเข้าถึงเทคโนโลยีดิจิทัล รวมถึงจัดการความปลอดภัยดิจิทัลและความปลอดภัยทางไซเบอร์และขยายนโยบายเพื่อรับมือกับความท้าทายในการก้าวสู่ยุคอุตสาหกรรม ๔.๐ โดยการเพิ่มประเด็นการมีส่วนร่วมของสตรีและส่งเสริมความเป็นผู้นำในกระบวนการตัดสินใจและการกำหนดนโยบายโดยคำนึงถึงความเหลื่อมล้ำทางดิจิทัล

๒) จัดทำแผนการรับมือสถานการณ์ภายหลังการแพร่ระบาดใหญ่ในการเพิ่มขีดความสามารถทางเศรษฐกิจของสตรีใน ASEAN ผ่านการรวมระบบดิจิทัลและการเงิน โดยการสร้างเครือข่ายและความร่วมมือทุกระดับในการดำเนินการวิจัยผลกระทบที่ครอบคลุมของโรคโควิด-๑๙ เกี่ยวกับแรงงานสตรีใน ASEAN และการพัฒนาขีดความสามารถ รวมถึงการเสริมสร้างการตอบสนอง และเพิ่มพูนทักษะอย่างมีประสิทธิภาพ เพื่อให้มั่นใจว่าสตรีและเด็กหญิงจะมีงานทำ

๓) สนับสนุนการพัฒนาทางการเงินของสตรีอย่างยั่งยืนผ่านการพัฒนาธุรกรรมทางการเงินดิจิทัลด้วยกลไกการคุ้มครองทางสังคมที่เพียงพอและระบบนิเวศน์ดิจิทัลสำหรับผู้ประกอบการสตรี รวมถึงวิสาหกิจขนาดกลางและขนาดย่อม (MSMEs) ที่ดำเนินการโดยสตรี โดยส่งเสริมการดำเนินการของคณะกรรมการอาเซียนด้านสตรี ๒๐๒๑ – ๒๐๒๕ (ASEAN Committee on Women: ACW) และตระหนักถึงบทบาทของหญิงชายในการเข้าถึงเงินทุนที่สนองตอบต่อธุรกิจที่เกิดขึ้นใหม่หรือโครงการนวัตกรรมซึ่งเป็นส่วนหนึ่งของความพยายามอย่างยั่งยืนในการฟื้นฟูหลังการระบาดใหญ่ และการตระหนักถึงการรวมดิจิทัล

๔) ตรากฎหมาย เสริมสร้าง หรือแก้ไขกฎหมายที่เกี่ยวข้องกับความปลอดภัยในโลกไซเบอร์และออนไลน์ การคุ้มครองทางสังคมในเศรษฐกิจนอกระบบและแพลตฟอร์มดิจิทัล ตระหนักถึงงานให้การดูแลที่ไม่ได้รับค่าตอบแทนของสตรี ปรับรูปแบบผลิตภัณฑ์ทางการเงินและการบริการต่าง ๆ เพื่อให้เหมาะสมกับความต้องการของสตรี รวมถึงส่งเสริมและเน้นย้ำการมีส่วนร่วมของสตรีในการออกแบบ การสร้าง และการเป็นผู้นำอนาคตดิจิทัลของเรา

๒) การประชุมคณะกรรมการด้านการเมือง

การประชุมคณะกรรมการด้านการเมืองในการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒ จัดขึ้นในวันอังคารที่ ๒๔ สิงหาคม ๒๕๖๔ เวลา ๐๘.๓๐-๑๒.๓๐ นาฬิกา ณ ห้องประชุม ๔๐๖ ชั้น ๔ อาคารรัฐสภา โดยในการประชุมผ่านสื่ออิเล็กทรอนิกส์ครั้งนี้ Honourable Ms. Nik Hafimi Abdul Haadii สมาชิกสภานิติบัญญัติแห่งชาติบรูไนดารุสซาลาม ทำหน้าที่ประธานในการประชุม และ Honourable Mr. Chheang Vun สมาชิกรัฐสภาราชอาณาจักรกัมพูชา ทำหน้าที่รองประธานในการประชุม

ทั้งนี้ มีประเทศสมาชิกสมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียนเข้าร่วมการประชุม จำนวน ๙ ประเทศ โดยคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยที่เข้าร่วมการประชุมดังกล่าว ประกอบด้วย

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| ๑) นายกิตติ วะสีนนท์ | สมาชิกวุฒิสภา
หัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยในการประชุม
คณะกรรมการด้านการเมือง |
| ๒) พลเอก ทวีป เนตรนิยม | สมาชิกวุฒิสภา
ผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย |
| ๓) รองศาสตราจารย์รงค์ บุษยสวัสดิ์ | สมาชิกสภาผู้แทนราษฎร
ผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย |



นายกิตติ วะสินนท์ สมาชิกวุฒิสภา หัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยในการประชุมคณะกรรมการธิการด้านการเมือง (ภาพบน)
พลเอก ทวีป เนตรนิยม สมาชิกวุฒิสภา คณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย (ภาพซ้าย)
และรองศาสตราจารย์รงค์ บุญสวยขวัญ สมาชิกสภาผู้แทนราษฎร คณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย (ภาพขวา)

ที่ประชุมฯ ได้พิจารณา เจรจาเนื้อหาถ้อยคำ และเห็นชอบข้อมติการประชุมซึ่งเกี่ยวข้องกับ การส่งเสริมความร่วมมือด้านนิติบัญญัติในการสนับสนุนด้านการเมืองและความมั่นคงของอาเซียน สรุปลง สำคัญ ดังนี้

๑. ข้อมติว่าด้วยการรับรองรายงานการประชุม AIPA Caucus ครั้งที่ ๑๒

ที่ประชุมฯ ให้ความเห็นชอบข้อมติว่าด้วยการรับรองรายงานการประชุม AIPA Caucus ครั้งที่ ๑๒ ซึ่งเป็นการประชุมผ่านสื่ออิเล็กทรอนิกส์ ในเดือนมิถุนายน ๒๕๖๔ โดยรัฐสภาสาธารณรัฐสิงคโปร์เป็นเจ้าภาพ การประชุม

๒. ข้อมติว่าด้วยการเพิ่มความปลอดภัยทางไซเบอร์และการป้องกันข้อมูลเพื่อมุ่งสู่การเตรียมพร้อม และตอบสนองต่อภัยคุกคามทางไซเบอร์ เสนอโดยรัฐสภาสถานิติบัญญัติแห่งชาติบรูไนดารุสซาลาม

ที่ประชุมฯ ได้พิจารณาให้ความเห็นชอบข้อมติซึ่งมีสาระสำคัญเพื่อส่งเสริมการคุ้มครองข้อมูลส่วนบุคคลอันเป็นการวางหลักการเกี่ยวกับการคุ้มครองข้อมูลส่วนบุคคลและความมั่นคงทางไซเบอร์ให้เป็นมาตรฐาน เดียวกัน โดยเรียกร้องให้อาเซียนให้สานต่อการดำเนินการด้านดังกล่าวเพื่อมุ่งสู่ประชาคมเศรษฐกิจดิจิทัลของ อาเซียน ผ่านความร่วมมือภายในกรอบการทำงานทั้งภายในและภายนอกอาเซียน ทั้งนี้ ที่ประชุมฯ ยังเห็นชอบ ให้บรรจุข้อเสนอของไทยในประเด็นการส่งเสริมความร่วมมือเพื่อศึกษาความเป็นไปได้ในการที่อาเซียนจะปรับ กฎหมายให้สอดคล้องในข้อมติข้างต้นอีกด้วย

๓. ข้อมติว่าด้วยการส่งเสริมความมั่นคงของมนุษย์ในการเข้าถึงเทคโนโลยีดิจิทัลอย่างครอบคลุมของอาเซียน เสนอโดยรัฐสภาประเทศมาเลเซีย

ที่ประชุมฯ ได้พิจารณาให้ความเห็นชอบข้อมติซึ่งมีสาระสำคัญของการเข้าถึงเทคโนโลยีดิจิทัลอย่างครอบคลุมของอาเซียนจะเป็นปัจจัยที่สำคัญหนึ่งในการฟื้นตัวจากสถานการณ์การแพร่ระบาดของโควิด-๑๙ รวมไปถึงการบรรลุเป้าหมายการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืน นอกจากนี้ ยังให้ความสำคัญกับประเด็นแนวคิดที่ว่าด้วยความมั่นคงของมนุษย์ของสหประชาชาติในการจัดการความท้าทายที่กระทบต่อความปลอดภัย การดำรงชีวิต ความมีศักดิ์ศรีของประชาชนอาเซียน และข้อมดียังเรียกร้องให้ AIPA ให้ความสำคัญการส่งเสริมความมั่นคงของมนุษย์ผ่านความร่วมมือของรัฐสภาการเจรจาหรือ และการแลกเปลี่ยนรูปแบบปฏิบัติที่เป็นเลิศ เพื่อบรรลุการเข้าถึงเทคโนโลยีดิจิทัลอย่างครอบคลุม รวมถึงการทูตเชิงรัฐสภาในการส่งเสริมการทูตของรัฐบาลในประเด็นข้างต้น



บรรยากาศการประชุมคณะกรรมการด้านการเมือง ในการประชุมใหญ่ฯ ครั้งที่ ๔๒

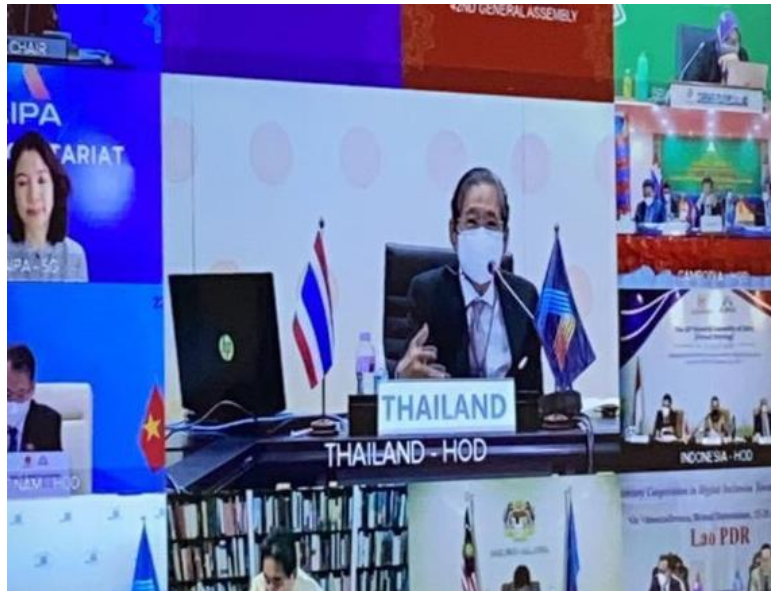
๔. ข้อมติว่าด้วยการส่งเสริมการทูตรัฐสภาในการขับเคลื่อนประชาคมอาเซียน เสนอโดยรัฐสภาไทย

นายกิตติ วะสีนนท์ สมาชิกวุฒิสภา ในฐานะหัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยในการประชุมคณะกรรมการด้านการเมือง ได้กล่าวต่อที่ประชุมถึงวัตถุประสงค์ที่ไทยได้เสนอร่างข้อมตินี้ โดยมุ่งหวังว่าแนวทางการทูตเชิงรัฐสภาซึ่งในกรอบองค์กรรัฐสภาระหว่างประเทศต่างๆ ได้ให้การยอมรับกันจะเป็นแนวทางสำคัญที่ AIPA สามารถนำมาสนับสนุนการขับเคลื่อนประชาคมอาเซียนรวมถึงการยกระดับความร่วมมือและปฏิสัมพันธ์ระหว่าง AIPA และอาเซียน ในสามประเด็น ได้แก่

- การให้รัฐบาลประเทศสมาชิกอาเซียนเข้าร่วมการประชุมระหว่าง AIPA กับอาเซียนในการประชุมสุดยอดอาเซียนเพื่อให้เกิดการทำงานที่เป็นรูปธรรมในการแก้ปัญหาประเด็นที่กระทบต่อประชาชนอาเซียน
- การให้อาเซียนเข้ามามีส่วนร่วมในการทำงาน/หารืออย่างใกล้ชิดกับ AIPA ผ่านกรอบการประชุมต่าง ๆ ของ AIPA อาทิ การประชุมใหญ่ AIPA และ AIPA Caucus และการประชุมหารือกับประเทศผู้สังเกตการณ์
- การสนับสนุนประเด็นต่างๆ ที่อาเซียนมุ่งผลักดันและอาจติดขัดในด้านกฎหมายภายในประเทศสมาชิกผ่านช่องทางรัฐสภา

ทั้งนี้ ที่ประชุมฯ ได้พิจารณาและให้ความเห็นชอบต่อเนื้อหาของข้อมติโดยเพิ่มเติมเนื้อหาในประเด็นการใช้แนวทางการทูตเชิงรัฐสภาในการสนับสนุนอาเซียนจัดการประเด็น COVID-19 และความท้าทายอื่นๆ นอกเหนือจากความมั่นคงแบบดั้งเดิม รวมไปถึงการส่งเสริมและปกป้องประชาธิปไตย หลักนิติธรรม และสิทธิมนุษยชนขั้นพื้นฐาน

อนึ่ง ในตอนท้าย ที่ประชุมฯ ได้มีการหารือร่างข้อมติว่าด้วยการสนับสนุนของรัฐสภาต่อสถานการณ์ในเมียนมาที่เสนอโดยรัฐสภาอินโดนีเซียแต่ไม่สามารถหาฉันทามติ (consensus) ได้ และด้วยข้อจำกัดของเวลา ผู้แทนรัฐสภาอินโดนีเซียจึงได้ตั้งข้อสงวนต่อข้อมติทั้งสี่ข้างต้น อย่างไรก็ตาม ที่ประชุมฯ ก็ได้แสดงความห่วงกังวลต่อสถานการณ์ที่เกิดขึ้นและเห็นร่วมกันว่าทุกฝ่ายควรใช้แนวทางแก้ปัญหาโดยสันติเพื่อประโยชน์ของประชาชนเมียนมา รวมไปถึงสนับสนุนการดำเนินตามฉันทามติ ๕ ข้อที่เป็นผลจากการประชุมผู้นำอาเซียนอย่างทันที ทั้งนี้ ที่ประชุมฯ ยังแสดงความยินดีที่อาเซียนได้แต่งตั้งผู้แทนพิเศษของประธานอาเซียนซึ่งจะทำหน้าที่อำนวยความสะดวกในการเป็นสื่อกลางของกระบวนการหารือของฝ่ายต่าง ๆ และเรียกร้องให้มีการช่วยเหลือทางมนุษยธรรมแก่เมียนมาผ่านศูนย์ประสานงานการให้ความช่วยเหลือด้านมนุษยธรรมของอาเซียน



๓) การประชุมคณะกรรมการด้านเศรษฐกิจ

การประชุมคณะกรรมการด้านเศรษฐกิจในการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒ จัดขึ้นในวันอังคารที่ ๒๔ สิงหาคม ๒๕๖๔ เวลา ๑๒.๕๐-๑๕.๑๐ นาฬิกา ณ ห้องประชุม ๔๐๖ ชั้น ๔ อาคารรัฐสภา โดยในการประชุมผ่านสื่ออิเล็กทรอนิกส์ครั้งนี้ Honourable Ms. Siti Rozaimeriyanty Dato Seri Laila Jasa Haji Abdul Rahman สมาชิกสภานิติบัญญัติแห่งชาติบรูไน ทำหน้าที่ประธานในการประชุม และ Honourable Mr. Ty Sokun สมาชิกรัฐสภาราชอาณาจักรกัมพูชา ทำหน้าที่รองประธานในการประชุม

ทั้งนี้ มีประเทศสมาชิกสมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียนเข้าร่วมการประชุม จำนวน ๙ ประเทศ โดยคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยที่เข้าร่วมการประชุมดังกล่าว ประกอบด้วย

- ๑) นายมนูญ สิวาภิรมย์รัตน์ สมาชิกสภาผู้แทนราษฎร
หัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยในการประชุม
คณะกรรมการธิการด้านเศรษฐกิจ
- ๒) นางพิกุลแก้ว ไกรฤกษ์ สมาชิกวุฒิสภา
ผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย
- ๓) นายกฤษฎา ตันเทอดทิตย์ สมาชิกสภาผู้แทนราษฎร
ผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย



นายมนูญ สิวาภิรมย์รัตน์ สมาชิกสภาผู้แทนราษฎร หัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยในการประชุมคณะกรรมการธิการด้านเศรษฐกิจ (ซ้าย)
นายกฤษฎา ตันเทอดทิตย์ สมาชิกสภาผู้แทนราษฎร ผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย (ขวา)

ในการประชุมครั้งนี้ที่ประชุมได้ร่วมกันหารือและรับรองข้อมติจำนวน ๒ ข้อมติ ดังนี้ ๑) ข้อมติว่าด้วยการเสริมสร้างการบูรณาการด้านเศรษฐกิจของอาเซียนผ่านการส่งเสริมกระบวนการในการใช้เทคโนโลยีดิจิทัลของกลุ่มผู้ประกอบการธุรกิจขนาดกลาง ขนาดย่อม และรายย่อย (Strengthening ASEAN Economic Integration Through Promoting Digitalisation of MSMEs) ซึ่งเสนอโดยสภานิติบัญญัติแห่งชาติบรูไน และรัฐสภามาลาเลเซีย สรุปลงสาระสำคัญได้ดังนี้



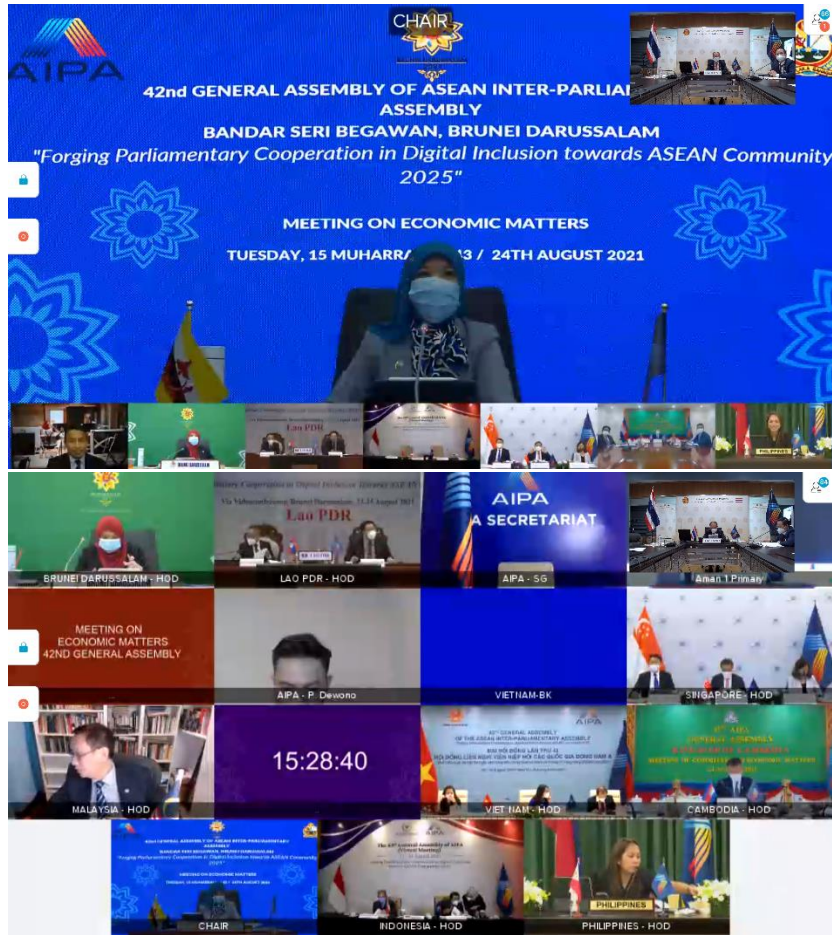


คณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยในการประชุมคณะกรรมการด้านเศรษฐกิจ ในการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒

การแพร่ระบาดของโรคติดเชื้อไวรัสโคโรนา 2019 (โควิด-19) ได้ส่งผลกระทบต่อเศรษฐกิจโดยเฉพาะวิสาหกิจขนาดกลาง ขนาดย่อม และรายย่อย (MSMEs) ทั้งนี้ข้อมติดังกล่าวยังได้ตระหนักถึงความสำคัญของการรวมกลุ่มทางเศรษฐกิจซึ่งเป็นวาระหลักของประชาคมเศรษฐกิจอาเซียนเช่นเดียวกับความเท่าเทียมทางดิจิทัลในอาเซียน

คณะกรรมการยืนยันบทบาทสำคัญของเทคโนโลยีดิจิทัลในการเสริมสร้างความเชื่อมโยงทางเศรษฐกิจของอาเซียนและความพร้อมในการตอบสนองต่อความท้าทายที่เกิดจากสถานการณ์ระบาดของโรคติดเชื้อโควิด - 19 และยังได้เน้นย้ำถึงความสำคัญของ MSMEs ในฐานะกำลังสำคัญของเศรษฐกิจอาเซียนที่มีความหลากหลายและมีพลวัต ทั้งนี้ คณะกรรมการยังได้หารือเพิ่มเติมเกี่ยวกับการพัฒนาขีดความสามารถและเครือข่าย MSMEs รวมถึงการพัฒนาเพื่อยกระดับทักษะและการสร้างทักษะใหม่ทางดิจิทัลของ MSMEs

ดังนั้น คณะกรรมการจึงมีมติให้ส่งเสริมการประสานกฎหมายและนโยบายเกี่ยวกับการรวมกลุ่มทางเศรษฐกิจดิจิทัลของอาเซียนให้สอดคล้องกัน ซึ่งให้ความสำคัญกับความเชื่อมโยง โดยเฉพาะอย่างยิ่งความเชื่อมโยงในอนุภูมิภาคและพื้นที่ห่างไกล การบูรณาการระดับภูมิภาค และลดช่องว่างการพัฒนาระหว่างประเทศสมาชิกอาเซียน ในการประสานงานเพื่อคว้าโอกาสในการเปลี่ยนผ่านไปสู่การปฏิวัติอุตสาหกรรมครั้งที่สี่ ให้บรรลุการบูรณาการในภาคส่วนสำคัญเพื่อการบูรณาการทางเศรษฐกิจของอาเซียนโดยรวม นอกจากนี้ ที่ประชุมยังสนับสนุนเศรษฐกิจดิจิทัลและการเปลี่ยนแปลงเพื่อเป็นแนวทางในการทำธุรกิจสำหรับ MSMEs ให้มีโอกาสที่ดีขึ้นและก้าวผ่านผลกระทบของการหยุดชะงักทางเศรษฐกิจอันเนื่องมาจากการระบาดของโรคติดเชื้อโควิด-19



บรรยากาศการประชุมผ่านสื่ออิเล็กทรอนิกส์ของคณะกรรมการการด้านเศรษฐกิจ ในการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒

๒) ข้อมติว่าด้วยการฟื้นฟูเศรษฐกิจหลังยุคโควิด-19: ความร่วมมือด้านการท่องเที่ยวในอาเซียน (Resolution on the Post – COVID-19 Economic Recovery: Tourism Cooperation in ASEAN) ซึ่งเสนอโดย รัฐสภาแห่งราชอาณาจักรไทย ในกรณีนี้ นายมนูญ สีวาทิรมย์รัตน์ สมาชิกสภาผู้แทนราษฎร ในฐานะหัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยในการประชุมคณะกรรมการการด้านเศรษฐกิจ ได้กล่าวนำเสนอแนวคิดของข้อมติดังกล่าว โดยมีสาระสำคัญดังนี้ ตั้งแต่ปี ๒๐๑๙ โลกได้เผชิญกับการระบาดร้ายแรงที่เรียกว่า Corona Virus Disease หรือ COVID-19 ซึ่งทำให้เกิดการเปลี่ยนแปลงที่สำคัญมากมายในชีวิตของผู้คนทั่วโลก หลายธุรกิจต้องปิดตัวลงและคนจำนวนมากต้องตกงาน การท่องเที่ยวก็เป็นหนึ่งในภาคธุรกิจที่ได้รับผลกระทบอย่างมากจากการแพร่ระบาดของโรคโควิด-19

การแพร่ระบาดดังกล่าวทำให้การเดินทางทั่วโลกต้องหยุดชะงัก ก่อให้เกิดความเสียหายอย่างร้ายแรงต่อการท่องเที่ยวทั่วโลก โดยเฉพาะในอาเซียนที่เศรษฐกิจต้องพึ่งพาภาคการท่องเที่ยวเป็นอย่างมาก และพลิกโฉมการท่องเที่ยวสู่ความปกติรูปแบบใหม่

ในช่วงวิกฤตนี้ องค์การสหประชาชาติได้เปิดตัวงานวิจัยที่ชี้ให้เห็นภาพรวมของผลกระทบทางเศรษฐกิจและสังคมจากการแพร่ระบาดของโรคโควิด-19 ที่มีต่อการท่องเที่ยว ในขณะเดียวกันก็เน้นย้ำว่าการท่องเที่ยวจะมีบทบาทสำคัญในการก้าวไปสู่เป้าหมายการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืน ไม่เพียงแต่การฟื้นฟูเศรษฐกิจโดยทั่วไปเท่านั้น แต่ยังคงกล่าวถึงความสัมพันธ์กับสิ่งแวดล้อมและวัฒนธรรมอีกด้วย

อาเซียนได้ริเริ่มความร่วมมือด้านการท่องเที่ยวในภูมิภาคเพื่อมุ่งสู่การบรรลุเป้าหมายร่วมของอาเซียน โดยได้จัดทำแผนยุทธศาสตร์ด้านการท่องเที่ยวอาเซียน ปี พ.ศ. ๒๕๕๘-๒๕๖๘ (ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan 2016-2025) และมีการแก้ไขร่วมกันเมื่อเดือนกุมภาพันธ์ พ.ศ. ๒๕๖๔ โดยจัดลำดับความสำคัญของกิจกรรมและโครงการที่มุ่งฟื้นฟูการท่องเที่ยวในภูมิภาคหลังสถานการณ์โควิด-19 ทั้งนี้ ประเทศไทยพร้อมที่จะร่วมมืออย่างเต็มที่กับประเทศสมาชิกในการดำเนินการตามแผนยุทธศาสตร์ดังกล่าว เพื่อเสริมสร้างความเข้มแข็งของประชาคมอาเซียนในระยะยาว

ในข้อติดังกล่าวประเทศไทยยังได้ทบทวนว่าในอดีตภูมิภาคของเราได้ใช้ประโยชน์จากทรัพยากรและความหลากหลายทางชีวภาพเพื่อสร้างการเติบโตทางเศรษฐกิจ และผลของการกระทำดังกล่าวส่งผลให้ทรัพยากรเสื่อมโทรม ความหลากหลายทางชีวภาพลดลง และเกิดมลภาวะอย่างมากซึ่งนำไปสู่ปัญหาสิ่งแวดล้อมและปัญหาสุขภาพ และถึงเวลาแล้วที่การท่องเที่ยวอาเซียนจะนำแนวทางและนวัตกรรมใหม่มาใช้



หลังจากนั้นที่ประชุมได้ร่วมกันพิจารณาและรับรองข้อติดังกล่าว สรุปสาระสำคัญได้ดังนี้ การแพร่ระบาดของเชื้อไวรัสโควิด-19 ได้ส่งผลกระทบต่อภาคการท่องเที่ยวทั่วโลกอย่างรุนแรง โดยเฉพาะอย่างยิ่งภูมิภาคอาเซียน ซึ่งการท่องเที่ยวเป็นบทบาทหลักในการขับเคลื่อนเศรษฐกิจ อย่างไรก็ตาม ที่ประชุมได้เน้นย้ำว่าภาคการท่องเที่ยวจะมีบทบาทสำคัญในการแก้ปัญหาอย่างยั่งยืนสำหรับภูมิภาคอาเซียนหลังวิกฤตโควิด-19 โดยการเสริมสร้างความร่วมมือระหว่างประเทศสมาชิก

ในระหว่างการประชุมคณะกรรมการได้ยืนยันถึงความมุ่งมั่นของสมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียนที่จะสนับสนุนแผนยุทธศาสตร์ด้านการท่องเที่ยวอาเซียนปี พ.ศ. ๒๕๕๘-๒๕๖๘ (ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan 2016-2025) อย่างเต็มที่ โดยให้ความสำคัญต่อกิจกรรมและโครงการที่มุ่งฟื้นฟูการท่องเที่ยวในภูมิภาคหลังจากผ่านพ้นวิกฤตโควิด-19 นอกจากนี้ ยังสนับสนุนวิสัยทัศน์สำหรับการท่องเที่ยวอาเซียนจนถึงปี พ.ศ. ๒๕๖๘ ซึ่งอาเซียนตั้งเป้าหมายที่จะเป็นสถานที่ท่องเที่ยวที่ปลอดภัยและมีคุณภาพ โดยนำเสนอประสบการณ์อาเซียนที่มีเอกลักษณ์และหลากหลาย และมุ่งมั่นที่จะพัฒนาการท่องเที่ยวอย่างมีความรับผิดชอบ ยั่งยืน ครอบคลุม และสมดุล เพื่อสนับสนุนความเป็นอยู่ที่ดีทางเศรษฐกิจและสังคมของประชาชนอาเซียนโดยเฉพาะในช่วงหลังการระบาดของโควิด-19



นายเจตน์ ศิรธรานนท์ สมาชิกวุฒิสภา ในฐานะหัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยในการประชุมคณะกรรมการด้านสังคม (ภาพบน)
นายจักรพันธ์ พรนิมิตร สมาชิกสภาผู้แทนราษฎร (ภาพซ้าย)
และนางสาวเพชรดาว ไต่ะมีนา สมาชิกสภาผู้แทนราษฎร (ภาพขวา)

ที่ประชุมได้ร่วมกันพิจารณาและรับรองข้อมติ จำนวน ๓ ข้อมติ ดังนี้

๑. ข้อมติว่าด้วยการรับรองรายงานการประชุมคณะมนตรีที่ปรึกษาของสมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียนว่าด้วยยาเสพติดอันตราย (AIPACODD) ครั้งที่ ๔ และข้อมติว่าด้วยการพิชิตและรับมือกับความท้าทายในปัจจุบัน เพื่อมุ่งสู่ประชาคมอาเซียนที่ปลอดยาเสพติด (Resolution on the Adoption of the 4th AIPACODD Report and Resolution on Prevailing the Contemporary and Responsive Challenges towards Drug-Free ASEAN)

ที่ประชุมฯ ได้รับรองข้อมติว่าด้วยการรับรองรายงานการประชุมคณะมนตรีที่ปรึกษาของสมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียนว่าด้วยยาเสพติดอันตราย (AIPACODD) ครั้งที่ ๔ และข้อมติว่าด้วยการพิชิตและรับมือกับความท้าทายในปัจจุบัน เพื่อมุ่งสู่ประชาคมอาเซียนที่ปลอดยาเสพติด ซึ่งจัดขึ้นในวันที่ ๒๔ พฤษภาคม ๒๕๖๔ ในรูปแบบการประชุมผ่านสื่ออิเล็กทรอนิกส์ โดยสถานิติบัญญัติแห่งชาติบูรไนดารุสซาลามเป็นเจ้าภาพจัดการประชุม ข้อมติเน้นความสำคัญเรื่องการให้รัฐสภาสมาชิก AIPA ร่วมกันแสดงจุดยืนที่จะไม่อดทนต่อปัญหาเสพติด ยึดหลักการและความรับผิดชอบร่วมกันในการส่งเสริมด้านสาธารณสุขและความปลอดภัยจากยาเสพติด เสริมสร้างมาตรการด้านกฎหมาย การบริหาร สังคม และการศึกษา เพื่อปกป้องชุมชนจากการใช้ยาเสพติด และเพื่อป้องกันการผลิตและการค้ายาเสพติดที่ผิดกฎหมาย ตลอดจนเพิ่มมาตรการที่มีประสิทธิภาพ เสริมสร้างนโยบายที่มีอยู่ให้ได้ผลยิ่งขึ้น ส่งเสริมความร่วมมือข้ามพรมแดนและเสริมสร้างความเข้มแข็งของความร่วมมือกับหน่วยงานด้านการปราบปรามยาเสพติด หน่วยงานระดับประเทศ และองค์กรอื่น ๆ เพื่อให้มั่นใจในการให้คำมั่นของ AIPACODD ที่จะพยายามบรรลุเป้าหมายในการทำให้อาเซียนปลอดจากยาเสพติด



บรรยากาศการประชุมคณะกรรมการธิการด้านสังคมผ่านสื่ออิเล็กทรอนิกส์

๒. ข้อมติว่าด้วยการเสริมสร้างความร่วมมือและการเพิ่มการเข้าถึงเทคโนโลยีดิจิทัลอย่างครอบคลุม เพื่อลดผลกระทบจากการเปลี่ยนแปลงสภาพภูมิอากาศ (Resolution on Strengthening Cooperation and Enhancing Digital Inclusion to Mitigate the Impacts of Climate Change)

ที่ประชุมฯ ได้พิจารณาข้อมติว่าด้วยการเสริมสร้างความร่วมมือและการเพิ่มการเข้าถึงเทคโนโลยีดิจิทัลอย่างครอบคลุม เพื่อลดผลกระทบจากการเปลี่ยนแปลงสภาพภูมิอากาศ ซึ่งเสนอโดยประเทศบรูไนดารุสซาลาม สาระสำคัญของข้อมติดังนี้

ที่ประชุมฯ เน้นย้ำถึงความสำคัญของการเปลี่ยนแปลงสภาพภูมิอากาศในฐานะเป็นความท้าทายระดับภูมิภาคที่ได้กล่าวถึงในข้อมติต่าง ๆ ในการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียนที่ผ่านมา และได้กล่าวถึงความสำคัญของข้อตกลงปารีสภายใต้กรอบอนุสัญญาสหประชาชาติว่าด้วยการเปลี่ยนแปลงสภาพภูมิอากาศที่รับรองในปี ๒๕๕๘ ซึ่งมีวัตถุประสงค์เพื่อเสริมสร้างการตอบสนองทั่วโลกต่อการคุกคามของการเปลี่ยนแปลงสภาพภูมิอากาศ และมุ่งมั่นที่จะจำกัดการเพิ่มขึ้นของอุณหภูมิโลกให้ต่ำกว่า ๒ องศาเซลเซียส และยังจำกัดการเพิ่มอุณหภูมิไว้ที่ ๑.๕ องศาเซลเซียส เมื่อเปรียบเทียบกับระดับอุณหภูมิในช่วงก่อนยุคอุตสาหกรรม ตลอดจนมุ่งมั่นที่จะเพิ่มความสามารถในการปรับตัวให้เข้ากับผลกระทบจากการเปลี่ยนแปลงสภาพภูมิอากาศ และส่งเสริมการปรับตัวต่อการเปลี่ยนแปลงภูมิอากาศและการพัฒนาที่ปล่อยก๊าซเรือนกระจกต่ำ (GHG) นอกจากนี้ ยังกล่าวถึงความมุ่งมั่นของอาเซียนในการขับเคลื่อนการดำเนินการด้านสภาพภูมิอากาศเพื่อบรรลุการสนับสนุนเป้าหมายการมีส่วนร่วมที่ประเทศกำหนด (NDC) โดยคำนึงถึงหลักการความรับผิดชอบร่วมกันในระดับที่แตกต่างและคำนึงถึงขีดความสามารถของแต่ละประเทศ และตระหนักถึงแผนปฏิบัติการของคณะทำงานอาเซียนด้านการเปลี่ยนแปลงสภาพภูมิอากาศ พ.ศ. ๒๕๕๙-๒๕๖๘ และแผนปฏิบัติการความร่วมมือด้านพลังงานของอาเซียน ระยะที่ ๒ พ.ศ. ๒๕๖๔-๒๕๖๘ รวมถึงแผนปฏิบัติการภายใต้ความตกลงอาเซียนว่าด้วยการจัดการภัยพิบัติและการตอบโต้สถานการณ์ฉุกเฉิน พ.ศ. ๒๕๖๔-๒๕๖๘ ตลอดจนเน้นย้ำถึงแถลงการณ์ร่วมอาเซียนด้านการเปลี่ยนแปลงสภาพภูมิอากาศ ในการประชุมรัฐสภาอาเซียนอนุสัญญาสหประชาชาติว่าด้วยการเปลี่ยนแปลงสภาพภูมิอากาศ สมัยที่ ๒๕ ในปี ๒๕๖๒

ที่ประชุมฯ ได้แสดงความกังวลเกี่ยวกับความเปราะบางของภูมิภาคต่อภัยคุกคามจากการเปลี่ยนแปลงสภาพภูมิอากาศ ที่อาจส่งผลกระทบต่อส่วนที่สำคัญโดยเฉพาะด้านเศรษฐกิจ การเกษตร สภาพแวดล้อมทางธรรมชาติและสิ่งแวดล้อมที่สร้างขึ้น ความหลากหลายทางชีวภาพ การจัดหาอาหาร ความมั่นคงด้านอาหาร และสาธารณสุข และการพลัดถิ่นของผู้อยู่อาศัยที่ต้องพึ่งพาเศรษฐกิจตามแนวชายฝั่งของภูมิภาค เนื่องมาจากระดับน้ำทะเลที่สูงขึ้น อุณหภูมิที่เพิ่มขึ้น สภาพอากาศที่รุนแรงขึ้น และภัยพิบัติต่าง ๆ รวมถึง ที่ประชุมฯ ยังได้รับทราบถึงความสำคัญของความร่วมมือระดับภูมิภาคและบทบาทของเทคโนโลยีดิจิทัลในการขับเคลื่อนการดำเนินการเกี่ยวกับสภาพอากาศและการลดความเสี่ยงต่อการเปลี่ยนแปลงสภาพภูมิอากาศในภูมิภาค นอกจากนี้ ที่ประชุมฯ ยังตระหนักถึงความสำคัญของความร่วมมือระดับภูมิภาค โดยเห็นพ้องกันอย่างเป็นเอกฉันท์ที่จะร่วมมือกันในการใช้เทคโนโลยีดิจิทัลเป็นเครื่องมือที่มีประสิทธิภาพสำหรับการจัดการ การเฝ้าติดตาม การเตือน การรายงานข้อมูลเกี่ยวกับการบรรเทาการเปลี่ยนแปลงสภาพภูมิอากาศ ความยืดหยุ่น และการปรับตัว ดังนั้น ที่ประชุมฯ จึงได้เรียกร้องให้ประเทศสมาชิกอาเซียนสร้างความร่วมมือและจัดตั้งเครือข่ายในการแลกเปลี่ยนข้อมูลด้านวิทยาศาสตร์ภูมิภาค การวิจัย และการสังเกตอย่างเป็นระบบ รวมถึงการแบ่งปันข้อมูลระหว่างประเทศสมาชิกอาเซียน นอกจากนี้การจัดตั้งศูนย์ข้อมูลระดับภูมิภาคให้มีความสอดคล้องกันเพื่อประสานงานด้านการแบ่งปันข้อมูลระหว่างประเทศสมาชิกอาเซียนให้มีความเชื่อมโยงอย่างใกล้ชิดกับการบริหารความเสี่ยงจากภัยพิบัติแล้ว ยังอาจจัดตั้งขึ้นเพื่อดำเนินการประเมินสภาพอากาศ และเริ่มต้นใช้ปัญญาประดิษฐ์ (AI) เพื่อเป็นการควบคุมและเป็นเครื่องมือติดตาม สร้างแผนที่การเกิดภัยในรูปแบบออนไลน์และระบบเตือนภัยล่วงหน้า ตลอดจนเรียกร้องให้ประเทศสมาชิกอาเซียนสนับสนุนจัดหาเงินทุนเพื่อการเปลี่ยนแปลงสภาพภูมิอากาศ และสร้างโอกาสสำหรับความช่วยเหลือด้านเทคนิคในด้านการสร้างขีดความสามารถและการถ่ายทอดเทคโนโลยีระหว่างกัน เพื่อส่งเสริมการดำเนินการด้านการเปลี่ยนแปลงสภาพภูมิอากาศในห้วงเวลาที่เหมาะสมในเรื่องการปรับตัวและความยืดหยุ่นต่อการเปลี่ยนแปลงสภาพภูมิอากาศ



คณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยพิจารณาเอกสารร่างข้อมติการประชุม

๓. ข้อมติว่าด้วยการขับเคลื่อนเป้าหมายการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืนในระดับพื้นที่ เพื่อนำไปสู่การปฏิบัติในระดับประเทศอย่างมีประสิทธิภาพ (Resolution on Localising the Sustainable Development Goals for Effective National Implementation)

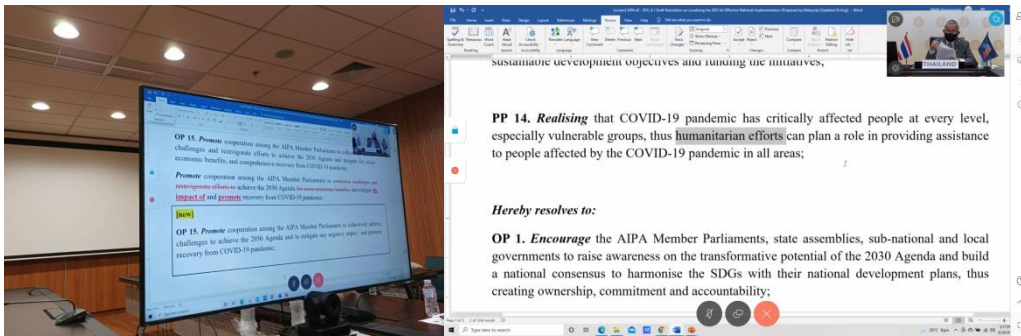
ที่ประชุมฯ ได้พิจารณาข้อมติว่าด้วยการขับเคลื่อนเป้าหมายการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืนในระดับพื้นที่เพื่อนำไปสู่การปฏิบัติในระดับประเทศอย่างมีประสิทธิภาพ ซึ่งเสนอโดยประเทศมาเลเซีย สาระสำคัญของข้อมติมีดังนี้

ที่ประชุมฯ อ้างถึงเอกสารที่เกี่ยวข้องกับวาระการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืน ค.ศ. ๒๐๓๐ และรับทราบถึงความเกี่ยวเนื่องระหว่างวิสัยทัศน์ประชาคมอาเซียน ค.ศ. ๒๐๒๕ กับวาระการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืน ค.ศ. ๒๐๓๐ ของสหประชาชาติที่สามารถยกระดับมาตรฐานชีวิตของประชาชนให้ดีขึ้น และการปฏิบัติตามแนวคิดดังกล่าวต้องการการมีส่วนร่วมของภาคเอกชนต่าง ๆ โดยเฉพาะอย่างยิ่งสมาชิกรัฐสภา อีกทั้ง ระบุว่าสมาชิกรัฐสภา AIPA มีบทบาทสำคัญในการทำให้แน่ใจว่ากฎหมายและนโยบายต่าง ๆ สนับสนุนการบรรลุวาระการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืน ค.ศ. ๒๐๓๐ นอกจากนี้ ยังรับรู้ถึงความท้าทายในการกำหนดกลไกและยุทธศาสตร์ที่มีอยู่ รวมถึงจำเป็นต้องทำให้แน่ใจว่าวาระการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืน ค.ศ. ๒๐๓๐ จะกระจายลงไปสู่ระดับท้องถิ่นและทำให้เกิดผลที่แท้จริง รวมทั้งมีการบูรณาการเรื่องดังกล่าวไว้ในนโยบายและกรอบการดำเนินงานต่าง ๆ นอกจากนี้ ยังเน้นว่าการขับเคลื่อนเป้าหมายการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืนในระดับพื้นที่ที่สามารถเร่งให้เกิดการปฏิบัติตามวาระการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืน ค.ศ. ๒๐๓๐ ให้มีความเชื่อมโยงและเป็นประโยชน์ต่อประชาชนอาเซียน

ทั้งนี้ ที่ประชุมฯ ได้สนับสนุนให้รัฐสภาประเทศสมาชิก AIPA และส่วนท้องถิ่นทุกระดับสร้างการตระหนักรู้เรื่องศักยภาพสู่การเปลี่ยนแปลงของวาระการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืน ค.ศ. ๒๐๓๐ และสร้างฉันทามติระดับประเทศในการสร้างความสอดคล้องกันระหว่างเป้าหมายการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืนกับแผนพัฒนาแห่งชาติ รวมทั้ง ยังเน้นความสำคัญของการประสานงาน ความร่วมมือ และการติดต่อสื่อสารระหว่างส่วนที่มีอำนาจในการตัดสินใจของการปกครองทุกระดับกับภาคเอกชนเพื่อนำไปปฏิบัติที่มีประสิทธิภาพ ที่ประชุมฯ จึงได้พิจารณาการจัดตั้งกลไกการสื่อสารกับผู้มีส่วนได้ส่วนเสียจากภาครัฐและภาคเอกชน และนำความคิดของกลุ่มเหล่านี้มารวมไว้ใน การดำเนินการตามวาระการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืน ค.ศ. ๒๐๓๐ เพื่อให้สมาชิกรัฐสภามีมุมมองที่กว้างขวางขึ้นในการทบทวนนโยบายของประเทศ นอกจากนี้ ที่ประชุมฯ ยังเรียกร้องให้สมาชิกรัฐสภาทบทวนยุทธศาสตร์และช่องว่างต่าง ๆ ในนโยบายระดับประเทศเพื่อส่งเสริมบทบาทของการปกครองส่วนท้องถิ่นในการปฏิบัติตามวาระการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืน ค.ศ. ๒๐๓๐ ในบริบทของแต่ละท้องถิ่น รวมทั้งสนับสนุนให้สมาชิกรัฐสภาประเทศสมาชิก AIPA มีส่วนร่วมในการออกกฎหมาย การกำกับดูแล และการส่งเสริมการพัฒนาและการปฏิบัติตามแผนปฏิบัติการระดับประเทศเกี่ยวกับเป้าหมายการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืน เพื่อผลประโยชน์ของประชาชน ตลอดจนมีส่วนร่วมในกระบวนการจัดทำรายงานผลการดำเนินการตามวาระการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืนในระดับชาติโดยสมัครใจ (Voluntary National Review) เพื่อให้แน่ใจว่าการปฏิบัติตามเป้าหมายการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืนจะเป็นไปตามเป้าหมายที่ตั้งไว้

นอกจากนี้ ที่ประชุมฯ ยังเห็นว่าการนำเทคโนโลยีดิจิทัลมาใช้ประโยชน์จะสร้างโอกาสในการปรับปรุงการปฏิสัมพันธ์ การประสานงาน และความร่วมมือระหว่างกลุ่มผู้มีส่วนได้ส่วนเสีย โดยสนับสนุนให้ประเทศสมาชิกอาเซียนปรับปรุงความพร้อมใช้งานของข้อมูลและคุณภาพของข้อมูลแบบแยกย่อย (disaggregated data) และใช้ข้อมูลดังกล่าวสำหรับกระบวนการตัดสินใจเพื่อดำเนินการและตรวจสอบเป้าหมายการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืน อีกทั้ง เรียกร้องให้สมาชิกรัฐสภาทบทวนนโยบายที่จะพัฒนานวัตกรรมและโครงการที่สอดคล้องสำหรับการพัฒนาทักษะและการสร้างทักษะใหม่ที่ทำให้ความมั่นใจเรื่องการเชื่อมโยงทางเทคโนโลยีดิจิทัลและการมีส่วนร่วมของประชาชนในท้องถิ่นในการปฏิบัติตามและตรวจสอบเป้าหมายการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืน นอกจากนี้ ยังเห็นว่าการแพร่ระบาดของโรคโควิด-19 ส่งผลกระทบต่อประชาชนในทุกๆระดับ การให้ความช่วยเหลือด้านมนุษยธรรมจึงมีบทบาทต่อการช่วยเหลือประชาชนที่ได้รับผลกระทบในทุกด้าน จึงกระตุ้นให้ประเทศสมาชิกอาเซียนให้ความช่วยเหลือด้านมนุษยธรรมเพื่อให้แน่ใจเรื่องการเข้าถึงการให้ความช่วยเหลือด้านบริการสาธารณสุขแก่ทุกคน รวมทั้งให้ความสำคัญกับความร่วมมือระดับภูมิภาคและการมีส่วนร่วมของชุมชนเพื่อรับมือกับการแพร่ระบาดของโรคโควิด-19 ซึ่งจะช่วยสนับสนุนการบรรลุเป้าหมายการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืน ตลอดจนส่งเสริมความร่วมมือระหว่างรัฐสภาประเทศสมาชิก AIPA เพื่อจัดการกับ

ความท้าทายต่าง ๆ เพื่อบรรลุวาระการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืน ค.ศ. ๒๐๓๐ และเพื่อบรรเทาผลกระทบด้านลบและส่งเสริมการฟื้นฟูจากการแพร่ระบาดของโรคโควิด-19



การแก้ไขร่างข้อมติการประชุม

ในการพิจารณาร่างข้อมติข้างต้น คณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยได้แสดงความเห็นในเรื่องการให้ความช่วยเหลือด้านมนุษยธรรม โดยเฉพาะอย่างยิ่งการเข้าถึงบริการด้านสาธารณสุขของประชาชนที่ได้รับผลกระทบจากการแพร่ระบาดของโรคโควิด-19 ซึ่งเป็นประเด็นที่เสนอโดยรัฐสภาไทยว่า เรื่องดังกล่าวเป็นไปตามหลักการของเป้าหมายการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืนเรื่องการไม่ทิ้งใครไว้ข้างหลัง เป็นการลดความเหลื่อมล้ำ โดยทุกประเทศสามารถช่วยเหลือกันได้ อีกทั้ง ยังสอดคล้องกับเป้าหมายการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืนเป้าหมายที่ ๑๐ ลดความไม่เสมอภาคในประเทศและระหว่างประเทศ โดยการให้ประชาชนได้เข้าถึงโอกาสที่เท่าเทียม ทั้งนี้ การให้ความช่วยเหลือของประเทศต่าง ๆ ยังช่วยในการบรรลุเป้าหมายที่ ๒ การขจัดความหิวโหย และเป้าหมายที่ ๘ งานที่มีคุณค่าและการเติบโตทางเศรษฐกิจด้วยเช่นกัน



นายเจตน์ ศิรธรานนท์ สมาชิกวุฒิสภา หัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยในการประชุมคณะกรรมการด้านสังคม กล่าวแสดงความคิดเห็นในการประชุม

ทั้งนี้ สำหรับการพิจารณาร่างข้อมติว่าด้วยเทคโนโลยีเพื่อส่งเสริมการมีส่วนร่วมในการเลือกตั้ง (Draft Resolution on Technology to Facilitate Greater Election Participation) ซึ่งเสนอโดยประเทศมาเลเซีย ที่ประชุมฯ ได้มีการอภิปรายและมีความเห็นว่าการเลือกตั้งเป็นเรื่องกิจการภายในของแต่ละประเทศ ทุกประเทศมีสิทธิในการใช้วิธีการของตนในการเลือกตั้ง จึงมีความกังวลว่าร่างข้อมตินี้ไม่สอดคล้องกับ

หลักการเรื่องการไม่แทรกแซงกิจการภายใน ดังนั้น ที่ประชุมฯ จึงให้เลื่อนการพิจารณาร่างข้อมติฉบับนี้ไปในการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียนครั้งถัดไป

๕) การประชุมคณะกรรมการด้านกิจการสมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน

การประชุมคณะกรรมการด้านกิจการสมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน จัดขึ้นในวันพุธที่ ๒๕ สิงหาคม ๒๕๖๔ เวลา ๐๙.๐๐-๑๑.๓๐ นาฬิกา ณ ห้องประชุม ๔๐๖ ชั้น ๔ อาคารรัฐสภา โดยในการประชุมผ่านสื่ออิเล็กทรอนิกส์ครั้งนี้ Honourable Mr. Haji Abdul Hamid Sabli Haji Arshad สมาชิกสภานิติบัญญัติแห่งชาติบรูไน ทำหน้าที่ประธานในการประชุม และมี Honourable Mr. Chhit Kim Yeat สมาชิกรัฐสภาราชอาณาจักรกัมพูชา ทำหน้าที่รองประธานในการประชุม

ทั้งนี้ มีประเทศสมาชิกสมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียนเข้าร่วมการประชุม จำนวน ๙ ประเทศ และเลขาธิการ AIPA ในฐานะผู้ดูแลและรับผิดชอบกิจการภายในสำนักงานเลขาธิการ AIPA โดยคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยที่เข้าร่วมการประชุมดังกล่าว ประกอบด้วย

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| ๑. นายอนุศาสน์ สุวรรณมงคล | สมาชิกวุฒิสภา
หัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทยในการประชุม
คณะกรรมการด้านกิจการสมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน |
| ๒. ศาสตราจารย์พิเศษกาญจนารัตน์ ลีวิโรจน์ | สมาชิกวุฒิสภา
ผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย |
| ๓. นายอิสระ เสรีวัฒนวุฒิ | สมาชิกสภาผู้แทนราษฎร
ผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย |



นายอนุศาสน์ สุวรรณมงคล สมาชิกวุฒิสภา หัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย (กลาง)
ศาสตราจารย์พิเศษกาญจนารัตน์ ลีวิโรจน์ สมาชิกวุฒิสภา ผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย (ซ้าย)
นายอิสระ เสรีวัฒนวุฒิ สมาชิกสภาผู้แทนราษฎร ผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย (ขวา)

ในการประชุมครั้งนี้ ที่ประชุมได้พิจารณาและให้การรับรองข้อมติ จำนวน ๑๕ ข้อมติ ดังนี้

๑. ข้อมติว่าด้วยรายงานการเงินประจำปีงบประมาณ ๒๕๖๓-๒๕๖๔ (Resolution on Financial Report 2020-2021) สรุปสาระสำคัญได้ดังนี้ เลขานุการ AIPA ได้นำเสนอรายงานการใช้จ่ายงบประมาณในรอบปีที่ผ่านมา ในการนี้ที่ประชุมได้แสดงความคิดเห็นเกี่ยวกับการบริหารจัดการเงินกองทุนพิเศษโดยเห็นว่าสามารถนำมาใช้ประกอบกับเงินค่าบำรุงหลักเพื่อดูแลค่าใช้จ่ายต่าง ๆ โดยให้เป็นไปตามระเบียบของ AIPA ทั้งนี้ ที่ประชุมได้มอบหมายให้สำนักงานเลขานุการ AIPA ดำเนินการจัดทำรายการทรัพย์สินของ AIPA ด้วย

๒. ข้อมติว่าด้วยการขอใช้งบประมาณจากกองทุนพิเศษเพื่ออุดหนุนค่าใช้จ่ายด้านสาธารณูปโภคภายในสำนักงาน AIPA แห่งใหม่และการปรับอัตราเงินเดือนเพิ่มขึ้นของเจ้าหน้าที่ (Resolution on Granting Permission to Use Special Funds for the Payment of Cost-Sharing of the New Premises of AIPA Secretariat and for the Minor Adjustment in the Salary of the Locally Recruited Staff of the AIPA Secretariat) สรุปสาระสำคัญได้ดังนี้ เลขานุการ AIPA ได้นำเสนอต่อที่ประชุมว่าจะขอใช้งบประมาณจากกองทุนพิเศษเพื่อดูแลค่าใช้จ่ายที่เพิ่มขึ้นของสำนักงานฯ AIPA โดยแบ่งออกเป็น ค่าสาธารณูปโภคจากการย้ายสำนักงานไปยังอาคารใหม่และค่าเงินเดือนของเจ้าหน้าที่ที่มีการปรับเพิ่มขึ้น ที่ประชุมได้เห็นชอบให้รับรองข้อมตินี้และให้โอนเงินจากกองทุนพิเศษมาใช้เพื่อรับผิดชอบค่าใช้จ่ายดังกล่าว ทั้งนี้ การใช้จ่ายเงินควรเป็นไปตามระเบียบของ AIPA

๓. ข้อมติว่าด้วยประมาณการงบประมาณประจำปี ๒๕๖๔-๒๕๖๕ (Resolution on Budget Estimation 2021-2022) สรุปสาระสำคัญได้ดังนี้ เลขานุการ AIPA ได้นำเสนอประมาณการงบประมาณของปีถัดไปซึ่งจะมีรายจ่ายมากกว่ารายรับ ทั้งนี้ จำนวนเงินที่ขาดดุลนั้นเป็นค่าใช้จ่ายที่เพิ่มขึ้นโดยแบ่งเป็นค่าสาธารณูปโภคจากการย้ายสำนักงานฯ AIPA ไปยังอาคารใหม่และค่าเงินเดือนของเจ้าหน้าที่ที่ปรับเพิ่มขึ้น ซึ่งรายละเอียดต่าง ๆ ได้ถูกกล่าวไปแล้วในร่างข้อมติว่าด้วยการขอใช้งบประมาณจากเงินกองทุนพิเศษ โดยสำนักงานฯ AIPA จะนำเงินจากกองทุนพิเศษมาใช้อุดหนุนในส่วนนี้ไปพลางก่อน

๔. ข้อมติว่าด้วยรายงานการปฏิบัติงานของสำนักงานเลขานุการ AIPA ประจำปีงบประมาณ ๒๕๖๓-๒๕๖๔ (Resolution on the Secretariat's Annual Report 2020-2021) สรุปสาระสำคัญได้ดังนี้ เลขานุการ AIPA ได้รายงานให้ที่ประชุมได้รับทราบผลการปฏิบัติงานและการเข้าร่วมกิจกรรมต่าง ๆ ประจำปี ๒๕๖๔ ของ AIPA อาทิ การประชุมต่าง ๆ ทั้งในระดับผู้แทน AIPA และระดับเจ้าหน้าที่ การสัมมนา การอบรม และการประชาสัมพันธ์ข้อมูลข่าวสารต่าง ๆ ที่เกี่ยวกับ AIPA เป็นต้น ซึ่งในรอบปีที่ผ่านมาการจัดและเข้าร่วมกิจกรรมส่วนใหญ่จะใช้รูปแบบผ่านสื่ออิเล็กทรอนิกส์เนื่องจากการแพร่ระบาดของโควิด-๑๙ ยังคงอยู่ในระดับที่สูงเกินกว่าที่จะจัดกิจกรรมในรูปแบบปกติได้

๕. ข้อมติว่าด้วยการมอบสถานะประเทศผู้สังเกตการณ์ AIPA ให้กับรัฐสภายูเครน (Resolution on Accrediting the Parliament of Ukraine as an Observer of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary (AIPA)) สรุปสาระสำคัญได้ดังนี้ ที่ประชุมได้ให้การรับรองสถานะประเทศผู้สังเกตการณ์กับรัฐสภายูเครนโดยได้รับเสียงสนับสนุนอย่างเป็นเอกฉันท์ ทั้งนี้ ที่ประชุมได้เน้นย้ำว่า ประเทศผู้สังเกตการณ์ที่ได้รับสถานะใหม่จะต้องปฏิบัติตามระเบียบและแนวทางการรับประเทศผู้สังเกตการณ์ของ AIPA รวมถึงต้องมีส่วนร่วมกับ AIPA อย่างแข็งขันและสร้างผลกระทบในทางบวกให้กับ AIPA และอาเซียนด้วย

๖. **ข้อมติว่าด้วยการมอบสถานะประเทศผู้สังเกตการณ์ AIPA ให้กับรัฐสภาปากีสถาน (Resolution on Accrediting the National Assembly of Islamic Republic of Pakistan as an Observer of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary (AIPA))** สรุปสาระสำคัญได้ดังนี้ ที่ประชุมได้ให้การรับรองสถานะประเทศผู้สังเกตการณ์กับรัฐสภาปากีสถาน ทั้งนี้ ในช่วงแรกของการพิจารณา รัฐสภาฟิลิปปินส์ได้แสดงท่าทีว่าไม่สนับสนุนรัฐสภาปากีสถานซึ่งขัดแย้งกับท่าทีของประเทศสมาชิกที่เหลือ ที่ประชุมจึงได้ร่วมกันหารือกับรัฐสภาฟิลิปปินส์ถึงข้อดีข้อเสียในการให้สถานะกับรัฐสภาปากีสถานซึ่งได้ข้อสรุปว่าการรับรัฐสภาปากีสถานเข้ามาเป็นประเทศผู้สังเกตการณ์ของ AIPA นั้นไม่ส่งผลเสียใด ๆ กับ AIPA จึงมีมติให้การรับรองข้อมติดังกล่าว



นายอนุศาสน์ สุวรรณมงคล สมาชิกวุฒิสภา หัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย ร่วมแสดงความคิดเห็นในข้อมติว่าด้วยการแก้ไขธรรมนูญ AIPA

๗. **ข้อมติว่าด้วยการแก้ไขธรรมนูญ AIPA (Resolution on Amendments to the AIPA Statutes)** สรุปสาระสำคัญได้ดังนี้ ข้อมตินี้เป็นผลมาจากการประชุมคณะกรรมการของ AIPA เมื่อวันที่ ๕ พฤษภาคม ๒๕๖๔ เรื่องระเบียบและขั้นตอนของการจัดประชุมใหญ่ AIPA โดยมีรายละเอียดเกี่ยวกับการเสนอให้มีการแก้ไขธรรมนูญ จำนวน ๔ มาตรา และในวันที่ ๘ มิถุนายน ๒๕๖๔ เรื่องการปรับโครงสร้างการทำงานภายในสำนักงานเลขาธิการ AIPA โดยมีรายละเอียดเกี่ยวกับการเสนอให้มีการปรับเพิ่มอัตราบุคลากรและอัตราเงินเดือน ซึ่งผู้แทนจากประเทศสมาชิกได้ร่วมแสดงความคิดเห็นและได้เห็นชอบร่วมกันในเบื้องต้นไปเรียบร้อยแล้ว ที่ประชุมได้รับทราบว่าการแก้ไขธรรมนูญ AIPA นั้นมีความสำคัญกับการบริหารองค์กร นอกจากนี้ ที่ประชุมยังตระหนักอีกว่าระเบียบและขั้นตอนในการเป็นเจ้าภาพจัดการประชุมใหญ่ AIPA นั้นจะสามารถดำเนินการต่อไปได้เมื่อธรรมนูญ AIPA ได้ถูกปรับปรุงแก้ไขเรียบร้อยแล้ว

ในการนี้ นายอนุศาสน์ สุวรรณมงคล สมาชิกวุฒิสภา หัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย ได้ร่วมแสดงความคิดเห็นและได้เสนอขอแก้ไขถ้อยคำในธรรมนูญ AIPA มาตราที่ ๙ วรรค ๓ ซึ่งมีรายละเอียดเกี่ยวกับสถานที่และรูปแบบของการประชุมใหญ่เพื่อให้ถ้อยคำมีความกระชับและมีความหมายที่ชัดเจนมากขึ้น

๘. **ข้อมติว่าด้วยแนวทางและขั้นตอนในการเป็นเจ้าภาพจัดการประชุมใหญ่ AIPA (Resolution on Guiding Rules and Procedures for the Hosting of the AIPA General Assembly)** สรุปสาระสำคัญได้ดังนี้ ที่ประชุมได้มีมติรับรองระเบียบและขั้นตอนสำหรับการเป็นเจ้าภาพจัดการประชุม

ใหญ่สมาชิก AIPA ซึ่งเนื้อหาของข้อมตินั้นสอดคล้องกับข้อมติเรื่องการแก้ไขธรรมนูญ AIPA ซึ่งได้รับการรับรองไปแล้วก่อนหน้านี้ ข้อมตินี้มีจุดมุ่งหมายเพื่อปรับปรุง ประมวล และจัดระเบียบบทบัญญัติต่างๆ จากธรรมนูญ AIPA ที่มีเนื้อหาเกี่ยวข้องกับการจัดการประชุมใหญ่ เพื่อนำมาเรียบเรียงและจัดทำเป็นคู่มือให้แก่ประเทศเจ้าภาพใช้เป็นแนวทางในการจัดการประชุมเพื่อให้เกิดเป็นมาตรฐานเดียวกัน

๙. ข้อมติว่าด้วยแนวทางและขั้นตอนการหารือระหว่างคณะผู้แทน AIPA กับผู้แทนสำนักงานเลขาธิการอาเซียน (Resolution on Guidelines and Procedures of AIPA-ASEAN Hearing) สรุปสาระสำคัญได้ดังนี้ ที่ประชุมได้เห็นชอบกับการจัดทำแนวทางและขั้นตอนของการประชุมร่วมกันระหว่างผู้แทน AIPA และผู้แทนจากสำนักงานเลขาธิการอาเซียน นอกจากนี้ ที่ประชุมได้เสนอให้ทำการศึกษาเพิ่มเติมเพื่อสำรวจและค้นหาแนวทางที่ดีที่สุดในการแลกเปลี่ยนความคิดเห็นระหว่างสองสถาบัน

๑๐. ข้อมติว่าด้วยข้อบังคับและขั้นตอนการประชุมยุวสมาชิกรัฐสภาของ AIPA (Resolution on the Rules and Procedures of the Meeting of the Young Parliamentarians of AIPA) สรุปสาระสำคัญได้ดังนี้ ที่ประชุมได้แสดงความชื่นชมสำนักงานเลขาธิการ AIPA ถึงการจัดเตรียมร่างข้อบังคับและขั้นตอนการประชุมของยุวสมาชิกรัฐสภาของ AIPA และการอำนวยความสะดวกในการประสานงานกับรัฐสภาประเทศสมาชิกโดยผ่านทางอีเมลในการรวบรวมข้อมูลจากรัฐสภาประเทศสมาชิก ทั้งนี้ ที่ประชุมได้มีข้อกังวลเกี่ยวกับเรื่องของอายุของผู้ที่จะเข้าร่วมเป็นยุวสมาชิกรัฐสภาของ AIPA ว่าควรที่จะกำหนดเกณฑ์อายุสูงสุดเท่าใด ระหว่างอายุ ๔๕ ปี หรือ ๕๐ ปี โดยที่ประชุมได้ร่วมกันอภิปรายในประเด็นนี้อย่างกว้างขวางเนื่องจากแต่ละประเทศมีกฎหมายที่แตกต่างกัน การกำหนดอายุของสมาชิกรัฐสภาจึงมีความแตกต่างกัน

ในการนี้ นายอิสระ เสรีวัฒนวุฒิ สมาชิกสภาผู้แทนราษฎร ผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย ได้ร่วมอภิปรายเกี่ยวกับการกำหนดอายุของยุวสมาชิกรัฐสภาโดยได้อธิบายเปรียบเทียบรูปแบบการประชุมยุวสมาชิกรัฐสภาของ AIPA กับรูปแบบการประชุมยุวสมาชิกรัฐสภาในกรอบของสหภาพรัฐสภา อย่างไรก็ตาม ที่ประชุมเห็นว่าร่างข้อบังคับและขั้นตอนฯ ฉบับนี้ควรมีการสำรวจเนื้อหาสาระให้ครบถ้วนและจัดทำข้อมูลรายละเอียดเพิ่มเติมให้ครอบคลุมมากกว่านี้ จึงมีมติให้สำนักงานฯ AIPA จัดตั้งคณะทำงานขึ้นมาเพื่อพิจารณาจัดทำร่างข้อบังคับและขั้นตอนฯ ต่อไป



นายอิสระ เสรีวัฒนวุฒิ สมาชิกสภาผู้แทนราษฎร ผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย
ได้ร่วมอภิปรายในข้อมติว่าด้วยข้อบังคับและขั้นตอนการประชุมยุวสมาชิกรัฐสภาของ AIPA

๑๑. ข้อมติว่าด้วยการตั้งกรอบการหารือระหว่าง AIPA กับสภายุโรป (Resolution on the Establishment of AIPA-EP Dialogue) สรุปสาระสำคัญได้ดังนี้ ที่ประชุมได้แสดงความยินดีและชื่นชมความคิดริเริ่มนี้ซึ่งเป็นผลจากการรักษาความสัมพันธ์ที่ดีระหว่าง AIPA และสภายุโรปผ่านการประสานงานและดำเนินกิจกรรมต่าง ๆ ร่วมกันมาอย่างต่อเนื่อง ที่ประชุมมีมติให้สนับสนุนข้อมตินี้อย่างเต็มที่

๑๒. ข้อมติว่าด้วยการมอบรางวัลผู้ทำคุณงามความดีของ AIPA ให้กับนาย Kittisethabindit Cheam Yeap จากรัฐสภากัมพูชา (Resolution on AIPA Distinguished Service Award to H.E. Post. Dr. Kittisethabindit Cheam Yeap (Cambodia)) สรุปสาระสำคัญได้ดังนี้ ที่ประชุมมีมติให้มอบรางวัลผู้ทำคุณงามความดีของ AIPA หรือรางวัล Mr. AIPA ให้กับนาย Kittisethabindit Cheam Yeap จากรัฐสภาราชอาณาจักรกัมพูชา

๑๓. ข้อมติว่าด้วยการมอบรางวัลผู้ทำคุณงามความดีของ AIPA ให้กับนาย Fadli Zon จากรัฐสภาอินโดนีเซีย (Resolution on AIPA Distinguished Service Award to Hon. Fadli Zon (Indonesia)) สรุปสาระสำคัญได้ดังนี้ ที่ประชุมมีมติให้มอบรางวัลผู้ทำคุณงามความดีของ AIPA หรือรางวัล Mr. AIPA ให้กับนาย Fadli Zon จากรัฐสภาอินโดนีเซีย

๑๔. ข้อมติว่าด้วยการแสดงความขอบคุณประธาน AIPA (Resolution on the Appreciation of the President of AIPA) สรุปสาระสำคัญได้ดังนี้ ที่ประชุมได้แสดงความยินดีและแสดงความขอบคุณนาย Pehin Dato Awang Haji Abdul Rahman Taib ประธานสภานิติบัญญัติแห่งชาติบรูไน ในฐานะประธาน AIPA ที่ได้ปฏิบัติหน้าที่อย่างเต็มความสามารถตลอดช่วงเวลาของการดำรงตำแหน่ง

๑๕. ข้อมติว่าด้วยวันและสถานที่ในการประชุมใหญ่ AIPA ครั้งที่ ๔๓ (Resolution on the Date and Venue of the 43rd AIPA General Assembly) สรุปสาระสำคัญได้ดังนี้ ผู้แทนจากรัฐสภาราชอาณาจักรกัมพูชาได้แจ้งให้ที่ประชุมได้ทราบว่า การประชุมใหญ่ AIPA ครั้งที่ ๔๓ จะจัดขึ้นในเดือนกันยายน ๒๕๖๕ ณ กรุงพนมเปญ ราชอาณาจักรกัมพูชา



บรรยากาศการประชุมออนไลน์ประกอบด้วยผู้เข้าร่วมจากประเทศสมาชิกและสำนักงานเลขาธิการ AIPA

การประชุมใหญ่สมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒ (การประชุมเต็มคณะ ช่วงที่สอง)

นายชวน หลีกภัย ประธานรัฐสภา ในฐานะหัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย พร้อมด้วยคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย เข้าร่วมการประชุมเต็มคณะ ช่วงที่สอง และพิธีปิดการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒ ในวันที่ ๒๕ สิงหาคม ๒๕๖๔ เวลา ๑๓.๓๐-๑๕.๓๐ นาฬิกา ณ ห้องประชุมงบประมาณ ชั้น ๔ อาคารรัฐสภา โดยมี His Excellency Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib ประธานสภานิติบัญญัติแห่งชาติบรูไน ในฐานะประธาน AIPA เป็นประธานการประชุม

ภารกิจสำคัญของที่ประชุม ได้แก่ ๑) การนำเสนอและรับรองรายงานการประชุมคณะกรรมการด้านต่าง ๆ ๒) การลงนามในแถลงการณ์ร่วม ๓) พิธีมอบรางวัล AIPA Distinguished Service Award และ ๔) ประกาศวันและสถานที่จัดการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๓

ทั้งนี้ ที่ประชุมได้พิจารณาและรับรองแถลงการณ์ร่วม (Joint Communique) ซึ่งฝ่ายเลขานุการการประชุมได้จัดทำขึ้น เอกสารดังกล่าวแบ่งออกเป็น ๑๒ ส่วน โดยสรุปได้ ดังนี้

๑. บทนำ กล่าวถึงการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒ ระหว่างวันที่ ๒๓-๒๕ สิงหาคม ๒๕๖๔ ณ บันดาร์เสรีเบกาวัน เนการาบรูไนดารุสซาลาม ภายใต้แนวคิดหลัก “Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion Towards ASEAN Community 2025” โดย His Excellency Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib ประธานสภานิติบัญญัติแห่งชาติบรูไน ในฐานะประธาน AIPA เป็นประธานการประชุม

๒. คณะผู้แทน ระบุถึงรัฐสภาสมาชิก รัฐสภาผู้สังเกตการณ์และแขกรับเชิญของเจ้าภาพ พร้อมรายชื่อหัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนที่ส่งคณะผู้แทนมาเข้าร่วมการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒

๓. พิธีเปิด กล่าวถึงพิธีเปิดการประชุมเมื่อวันที่ ๒๓ สิงหาคม ๒๕๖๔ เวลา ๐๙.๐๐ นาฬิกา และถ้อยแถลงโดยสรุปของประธาน AIPA และพระราชดำรัสโดยสมเด็จพระราชาธิบดีฮัจญี ฮัสซานัล โบลเกียห์ มูฮิซซัดดิน วัดเดาละห์ (สุลต่านและยังดีเปอร์ตวนแห่งบรูไน)

๔. การแต่งตั้งรองประธานการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒ ระบุว่า ที่ประชุมได้เลือกหัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาสมาชิก AIPA ที่มาเข้าร่วม เป็นรองประธานการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒ ตามธรรมเนียม AIPA ข้อ ๑๐

๕. ถ้อยแถลงโดยหัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาสมาชิก AIPA เป็นการสรุปสาระสำคัญของถ้อยแถลงของหัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนฯ ที่มาเข้าร่วมทั้ง ๙ ประเทศ

๖. ถ้อยแถลงโดยสำนักงานเลขาธิการ AIPA และสำนักงานเลขาธิการอาเซียน โดยไม่มีการสรุปสาระสำคัญ

๗. ถ้อยแถลงโดยหัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาผู้สังเกตการณ์ AIPA โดยไม่มีการสรุปสาระสำคัญ

๘. ถ้อยแถลงโดยหัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนแขกรับเชิญของเจ้าภาพ โดยไม่มีการสรุปสาระสำคัญ

๙. ถ้อยแถลงโดยผู้นำประเทศสมาชิกอาเซียน ระบุถึง รายชื่อประเทศสมาชิก AIPA ที่นำส่งถ้อยแถลงดังกล่าว โดยไม่มีการสรุปสาระสำคัญ

๑๐. การประชุมคณะกรรมการ คณะกรรมการ และการประชุมอื่น ๆ ที่เกี่ยวข้อง แบ่งออกเป็น ๖ ส่วนย่อย ดังนี้

๑) คณะกรรมการบริหาร เป็นการสรุปกิจกรรมของคณะกรรมการบริหาร ซึ่งใช้วิธีแจ้งเวียนเอกสารทางไปรษณีย์อิเล็กทรอนิกส์ไปยังประเทศสมาชิกเพื่อพิจารณาเห็นชอบ

๒) คณะกรรมการด้านกิจการสตรีของสมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน สรุปสาระสำคัญของข้อมติที่มีการรับรองจำนวน ๑ ฉบับ

๓) คณะกรรมการด้านการเมือง สรุปสาระสำคัญของข้อมติที่มีการรับรองจำนวน ๔ ฉบับ และได้มีการหารืออย่างกว้างขวางต่อร่างข้อมติว่าด้วยการสนับสนุนของรัฐสภาต่อสถานการณ์ในเมียนมา เสนอโดยรัฐสภาอินโดนีเซียโดยมิได้มีการพิจารณาและให้ความเห็นชอบต่อร่างข้อมติดังกล่าว

๔) คณะกรรมการด้านเศรษฐกิจ สรุปสาระสำคัญของข้อมติที่มีการรับรองจำนวน ๒ ฉบับ

๕) คณะกรรมการด้านสังคม สรุปสาระสำคัญของข้อมติที่มีการรับรองจำนวน ๓ ฉบับ และให้เลื่อนการพิจารณาร่างข้อมติว่าด้วยเทคโนโลยีเพื่อส่งเสริมการมีส่วนร่วมในการเลือกตั้ง ไปในการประชุมครั้งถัดไป

๖) คณะกรรมการด้านกิจการสมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน สรุปสาระสำคัญของข้อมติที่มีการรับรองจำนวน ๑๕ ฉบับ

๑๑. การประชุมใหญ่สมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๓ ระบุว่า ราชอาณาจักรกัมพูชาจะเป็นเจ้าภาพการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๓ ในปี พ.ศ. ๒๕๖๕

๑๒. การแสดงความขอบคุณต่อเจ้าภาพจัดการประชุม ระบุว่า คณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาที่เข้าร่วมต่างแสดงความซาบซึ้งต่อรัฐบาลและสภานิติบัญญัติแห่งชาติบรูไน สำหรับการจัดการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒ ทั้งนี้ การประชุมใหญ่สมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียนครั้งนี้จัดขึ้นโดยจิตวิญญาณแห่งความเป็นอาเซียนอันประกอบด้วย มิตรภาพ ภราดรภาพ ความร่วมมือ เพื่อการเป็นประชาคมอาเซียนที่แน่นแฟ้นและตอบสนอง

พิธีปิด

His Excellency Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib ประธานสหภาพนิติบัญญัติแห่งชาติบรูไน ในฐานะประธาน AIPA กล่าวปิดการประชุม ต่อจากนั้นเป็นพิธีการส่งมอบตำแหน่งประธาน AIPA ครั้งที่ ๔๓ และรับชมวีดิทัศน์นำเสนอของราชอาณาจักรกัมพูชา ต่อจากนั้น ประธาน AIPA ครั้งที่ ๔๓ ได้กล่าวรับมอบตำแหน่ง และประธานการประชุมได้ปิดการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒ อย่างเป็นทางการ



นายชวน หลีกภัย ประธานรัฐสภา ในฐานะหัวหน้าคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย



นายชวน หลีกภัย ประธานรัฐสภา พร้อมด้วยคณะผู้แทนรัฐสภาไทย เข้าร่วมการประชุมเต็มคณะของการประชุมใหญ่สมัชชารัฐสภาอาเซียน ครั้งที่ ๔๒ และพิธีปิดการประชุมฯ

ภาคผนวก



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**REPORT OF
THE 42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
(AIPA)**



42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021

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- (iv) *Resolution on Secretariat's Annual Report 2020-2021*
- (v) *Resolution on Accrediting the Parliament of Ukraine as an Observer of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA)*
- (vi) *Resolution on Accrediting the Parliament of Pakistan as an Observer of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA)*
- (vii) *Resolution on the Amendments of AIPA Statutes*
- (viii) *Resolution on Guiding Rules and Procedures for the Hosting of the AIPA General Assembly*
- (ix) *Resolution on Guidelines and Procedures of the AIPA-ASEAN Hearing*
- (x) *Resolution on Rules and Procedures of the Meeting of the Young Parliamentarians of AIPA*
- (xi) *Resolution on Establishment of the AIPA-EP Dialogue*
- (xii) *Resolution on AIPA Distinguished Service Award to H.E. Post. Dr. Kittisethabindit Cheam Yeap (Cambodia)*
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**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**SUMMARY REPORT OF
THE FORTY-SECOND (42ND) GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (AIPA)**

I. INTRODUCTION

The Forty-Second (42nd) General Assembly of the ASEAN inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) was held via video conference on 23-25 August 2021 hosted by the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam in Bandar Seri Begawan.

II. DELEGATIONS

1. Delegates from the AIPA Member Parliaments, Observer Parliaments, the AIPA and ASEAN Secretariats, Guest of the Host, and AIPA Partners participated in the 42nd General Assembly.
2. For the AIPA Member delegations, **Brunei Darussalam** was led by Hon. Pehin Dato Haji Hasrin Haji Sabtu, Member of Legislative Council; **Cambodia** was led by Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin, President of the National Assembly; **Indonesia** was led by H.E. Puan Maharani, Speaker of the House of Representatives; **Lao People's Democratic Republic** was led by H.E. Xaysomphone Phomvihane, President of the National Assembly; **Malaysia** was led by H.E. Datuk Azhar Azizan Harun, Speaker of the House of Representatives; **Philippines** was led by H.E. Mr. Lord Allan Jay Q. Velasco, Speaker of the House of Representatives; **Singapore** was led by H.E. Mr. Tan Chuan-Jin, Speaker of Parliament; **Thailand** was led by H.E. Mr. Chuan Leekpai, President of the National Assembly and **Vietnam** was led by H.E. Vuong Dinh Hue, President of the National Assembly.
3. For the Observer delegations, **Australia** was led by Senator Hon. David Fawcett; **Belarus** was led by H.E. Mr. Vladimir Andreichenko; **Canada** was led by Senator Hon. Paul Massicotte; **People's Republic of China** was led by Hon. Ms. Duo Liu; **European Parliaments** was led by Hon. Mr. Daniel Caspary; **India** was led by Hon. Dr. Satya Pal Singh; **Republic of Korea** was led by Hon. Mr. Kim Gi-hyeon; **Morocco** was led by H.E. Habib El Malki; **Norway** was led by Hon. Mrs. Elin Rooum Agoestein; and the **Russian Federation** was led by H.E. Konstantin Kosachev.
4. The delegation from **AIPA Secretariat** was led by Hon. Nguyen Tuong Van, Secretary-General of AIPA.

5. The delegation from **ASEAN Secretariat** was led by H.E. Dato Lim Jock Hoi, Secretary-General of ASEAN.
6. For the delegation of Guests of the Host, **The Representative of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar** was led by Hon. Attorney General Dr. Thida Oo; **Inter-Parliamentary Union** was led by Hon. Mr. Martin Chungong; **Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum** was led by H.E. Tony Smith;
7. For the delegation of AIPA Partners, the **Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)** was led by Hon. Mr. Hidetoshi Nishimura; **Parliamentary Centre Asia (PCAsia)** by Mr. Dararith Kim-Yeat.
8. The complete list of delegates is appended as **Annex A**.

III. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

9. The Executive Committee Meeting was convened via email communication from 3 August 2021 – 13 August 2021 to prepare the programme, agenda and other relevant matters pertaining to the General Assembly. The meeting was presided by H.E. Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Taib, President of AIPA, Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam. The Executive Committee endorsed Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin, the President of National Assembly of Cambodia as the vice-chair of the meeting.
10. The Executive Committee received a proposal of an emergency item from Indonesia in the form of Draft Resolution on “*Parliamentary Support on the Situation in Myanmar*”. In this regard, the Agenda Items of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly were updated subsequently, and it was decided that further discussion on this matter shall take place in the Committee Meeting of Political Matters.
11. The Executive Committee agreed to adjust the meeting of the Political Committee on Tuesday, 24 August 2021, and the Second Plenary Session on Wednesday, 25 August 2021. The meeting of the Political Committee on 24 August 2021 shall now begin at 9:30 am (GMT+8), and the Second Plenary on 25 August 2021 shall commence at 2:30 pm (GMT+8).
12. Members of the Executive Committee approved the nomination of H.E. Post. Dr. Kittisethabindit Cheam Yeap from Cambodia, and Hon. Dr. Fadli Zon from Indonesia, for the AIPA Distinguished Service Award. Further discussion on this matter will take place in the Organizational Committee Meeting.
13. The Executive Committee took note of the views received from AIPA Members with regards to the observer applications. Discussion on the Accreditation of the applicants shall take place at the Meeting on Organizational Matters, and the accreditation shall then be granted upon the adoption of the relevant resolutions at the AIPA General Assembly.
14. It was noted by the Executive Committee that the National Assembly of Cambodia agreed to accept the AIPA Presidency and host the 43rd AIPA General Assembly. The date and venue will later be announced.

15. The AIPA President Letter on the Results of the Executive Committee Meeting is appended as **Annex B**.

IV. WRITTEN MESSAGES FROM HEADS OF STATE/GOVERNMENT

16. Written Messages were received from the following Heads of State/Government of AIPA Member Countries:

<i>Head of State/Government</i>	<i>AIPA Member Country</i>
His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah	Brunei Darussalam
His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni	Cambodia
H.E. Mr. Joko Widodo	Indonesia
H.E. Mr. Thongloun Sisoulith	Lao PDR
H.E. Dato' Sri Ismail Sabri bin Yaakob	Malaysia
H.E. Mr. Rodrigo Roa Durtete	Philippines
H.E. Mme. Halimah Yacob	Singapore
H.E. General Prayut Chan-o-cha (Ret.)	Thailand
H.E. Mr. Nguyen Xuan Phuc	Viet Nam

17. The Written Messages are appended as **Annex C**.

V. OPENING CEREMONY OF 42nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

18. The Opening Ceremony of the 42nd General Assembly of AIPA was held virtually on Monday, 23 August 2021, commencing at 10.00 am GMT +8. His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was the guest of honor.

Welcoming Address by H.E. Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Taib, President of AIPA, Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam

19. In his welcoming address, His Excellency Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib, President of 42nd AIPA and Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam, warmly welcomed all delegates of AIPA Member Parliaments, Observers, Guests, and Partners. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, by taking advantage of technology, he was pleased to see the prevailing spirit of friendship and cooperation allowed the 42nd AIPA General Assembly to convene virtually.
20. Referring to the theme of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly: "Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025", he stated that

ensuring inclusive digital transformation shall be put a priority in order to build resilience and better prepare the current and future generations for a post-pandemic era. He explained that the theme was chosen not only to embrace, promote and enable digital inclusion as a means to further strengthen parliamentary cooperation amidst the pandemic, but also to highlight the important role of parliamentarians in supporting ASEAN Vision 2025 for a community that is “politically cohesive, economically integrated and socially responsible”.

21. He also highlighted noteworthy issues such as women empowerment, climate change, cyber security and strengthening economic integration were included in the agenda of this year's AIPA General Assembly. Thus, it is important for AIPA Parliamentarians to power through this current climate united in resolve and purpose to ensure alignment in the collective intention.
22. The Welcoming Address by H.E. Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Taib, President of AIPA, President of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam is appended as **Annex D**.

Royal Speech of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam

23. His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, delivered Royal Speech at the opening ceremony of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly. His Majesty warmly welcomed all Delegates to the virtual 42nd AIPA General Assembly. Referring to the theme of Brunei Darussalam's ASEAN Chairmanship 2021: “We Care, We Prepare, We Prosper”, His Majesty noted the continuing efforts of ASEAN to respond rapidly in providing care for its peoples amidst the uncertainty.
24. His Majesty acknowledged the theme of 42nd AIPA General Assembly which reassert the commitment of AIPA Member Parliaments in building ASEAN as a leading digital community and economy bloc through harmonizing regulations, standardizing policies and legislations across ASEAN. His Majesty highlighted the persistence of parliamentarians in making AIPA the key organization and platform that enhances multilateral cooperation in order to realize the collective desire of ASEAN which is to see its present and future generations continue to enjoy sustainable peace, security, prosperity, and economic growth.
25. His Majesty was confident that the discussions during the 42nd AIPA General Assembly will generate new ways on how AIPA and ASEAN can work together to effectively respond to regional and global challenges. His Majesty also called upon ASEAN parliamentarians to continue cooperation with fellow parliamentarians of AIPA Observers. His Majesty concluded His Royal Speech by wishing the 42nd AIPA General Assembly and its delegates much success in their deliberations.
26. The Royal Speech by His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien is appended as **Annex E**.

VI. FIRST PLENARY SESSION

27. The First Plenary Session of the 42nd General Assembly of AIPA was held on Monday, 23 August 2021 at 11.30 am. It was presided over by H.E. Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Taib, President of AIPA, Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam who called the session to order and invited delegates to introduce themselves.

Nomination of the Vice-Presidents of 42nd General Assembly

28. Pursuant to Article 10 of the Statutes of AIPA, the General Assembly elected the Heads of Delegations of the AIPA Member Parliaments as Vice-Presidents of the 42nd General Assembly of AIPA.

Discussion and Adoption of Items in Order of Business

29. The General Assembly then proceeded to consider and adopt the following items in the Order of Business:
 - a) Programme of Activities for the 42nd General Assembly (**Annex F**);
 - b) Agenda Items of the General Assembly (**Annex G**); and
 - c) Composition of Committees (**Annex H**).

Statements by Heads of Delegations of AIPA Member Parliaments

30. The Heads of Delegations of the AIPA Member Parliaments then delivered their respective statements at the session.

Cambodia

31. Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin, President of the National Assembly of Cambodia opened his remarks by congratulating the Legislative Council of Brunei for the wonderful arrangement of the virtual 42nd AIPA General Assembly. In his statement, he expressed his strong support to the chosen theme of Promoting Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025, as it reflects the need to achieve a more inclusive ASEAN Community with leading digital connectivity ensuring high security and sustainability. He highlighted the concrete plans introduced by ASEAN to achieve the ASEAN Vision 2025, including the ASEAN Digital Master Plan 2025, which is an important driving force in promoting resilient economic growth, pushing economic diversification and enhancing productivity and competitiveness. He stated that it is important to ensure that digitalization is inclusive and that multilateral cooperation on digital governance and rules is strengthened.
32. He emphasized that our world is now growing more complex, highly competitive, and facing drastic changes in balances of economic power and competition in trade. These require all of us to be more internationally united and to embrace multilateralism, an important policy choice for resolving problems based on the principles of international law.
33. Samdech Heng Samrin shared that the Royal Government of Cambodia recently launched the “Digital Economic and Social Policy Framework 2021-2035” to build a vibrant digital economy and society aimed at promoting digital adoption and

transformation. This policy will play a critical role in economic recovery plans after the Covid-19 crisis through the development of digital infrastructure and the promotion of trust and confidence in digital systems, digital citizens, digital government and digital business. He emphasized, however, that numerous issues overshadow the process of digital transformation such as digital development gaps, digital illiteracy and cybersecurity which are critical challenges for developing countries whose resources and capabilities are constrained. Therefore, ASEAN countries need to invest and allocate more resources to promote digital literacy and people's capacity.

34. In this regard, he called for parliamentary cooperation to build inclusive and safe digital infrastructure by sharing cybersecurity information and regulations, and by promoting public-private cooperation, digital capacity building and cybersecurity awareness as well as strengthening cybersecurity management. At the same time, he underscored peace as an important foundation for development as the world is facing instability and growing multiple threats to peace that have not been seen in decades. Hence, peace and development must go hand in hand. He closed his statement by stressing the importance of maintaining peace and striving to promote sustainable development so people can live in prosperity and progress.

Indonesia

35. The Head of the Indonesian Delegation, Speaker of the Indonesian House of Representatives, YM. Puan Maharani, expressed her appreciation to AIPA for its resilience in maintaining its role amidst the pandemic. There are various cooperation that ASEAN member countries can do to curb the pandemic, among others, cooperation in exchanging information to overcome the spread of the virus, and cooperation in providing vaccines, medical equipment and medicines, including research.
36. In regard to this year's theme, she conveyed that it reflects the Parliament's desire to cooperate in helping to improve digital connectivity among ASEAN member countries. In the present day, the COVID-19 pandemic has contributed to the acceleration of the use of digital technology which has brought disruption in many areas.
37. In this regard, she stressed that the ASEAN member countries should continue to increase cooperation and exchange information in order to take greater benefits from digital technology. *First*, cooperation in increasing the availability of affordable internet access for the community. This is also related to the efforts to increase internet access, especially in remote and rural areas. *Second*, cooperation to improve human resources related to literacy and skills, not only to take advantage of the digital technology itself, but also to prevent hoaxes and disinformation. *Third*, cooperation in formulating policies that support digital connectivity and also to ensure the security of digital activities, such as cybersecurity, personal data protection, and consumer protection. *Fourth*, cooperation to improve innovation, education, and research in digital technology. In line with efforts to utilize digital technology for economic growth, it is necessary to always pay attention to digital inclusion through the expansion of internet access for all.
38. Furthermore, in an effort to effectively deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, ASEAN must continue to maintain its political stability and security, as well as support the development of democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights. The political crisis in Myanmar has caused its own challenges for ASEAN. Therefore, a peaceful resolution to the political crisis in Myanmar must be started immediately through an

inclusive dialogue process. For this reason, the Five-Point Consensus jointly developed by the ASEAN Leaders Summit must be immediately followed up, and the ASEAN Special Envoy must be given access to meet various parties in Myanmar.

Lao's People Democratic Republic

39. H.E. Dr. Xaysomphone Phomvihane, President of the National Assembly of Lao PDR congratulated the President of AIPA for the excellent arrangement of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly. He also expressed his appreciation and support for the theme of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly: “Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025”.
40. As the world is facing a number of challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic and natural disasters which have posed serious impact to public health, socio-economic development, regional and global stability and security, Lao PDR in this regard highly appreciated the timely measures that have been undertaken by ASEAN member countries.
41. He emphasized that Lao PDR acknowledges the importance of digital inclusion to economic growth and social development. In this regard, He shared that Lao PDR has developed a National Strategy on Science and Technology Development (2013-2020) and Vision 2030, and integrated them into the 9th Five-Year National Socio-Economic Development Plan (2021-2025). Lao PDR is also currently drafting a Digital Economic Development Strategy for 2021-2025 that aims to improve the national economy, which hopefully will facilitate the transition of Lao PDR from Least Developed Country to become a Developed Country while promoting industrial modernization.
42. To make sure the digital inclusion is achieved, H.E. Dr. Xaysomphone Phomvihane shared that Lao PDR integrated ICT into tertiary education curricula, and ensured that access to technology is also available to people living in remote areas, including the most disadvantaged groups, so as to improve people's livelihoods and narrow the development gap between urban and rural areas. Such measures were taken also to support the MSMEs and Start-Ups, so they can engage in online platforms and create an enabling environment for businesses to get access to domestic, regional and global markets in an equitable manner.
43. As an effort to realize a resilient and innovative ASEAN Community, H.E. Dr. Xaysomphone Phomvihane called on AIPA Member Parliaments to strengthen cooperation in Science and Technology, as well as research and development, and enhance the coordination, to ensure an equitable access to digital technologies and promote public-and-private participation with their respective national policies and legislation.

Malaysia

44. His Excellency Datuk Azhar Azizan Harun, Speaker of the House of Representatives in the Parliament of Malaysia started his address to the 42nd ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) General Assembly by expressing his support for this year's AIPA General Assembly's theme. His address illustrated the impact of second waves of the pandemic COVID-19 to the legislative branch. Following that, many parliaments have had to resort to electronic means of business as a temporary stop-gap solution, including the consideration of a hybrid or virtual parliamentary sitting. In addition, Parliaments

have started reforming previously rigid and embedded attitudes towards novel ways of working.

45. Further to that, he also highlighted the importance of transparency and the accuracy of information. For instance, while accurate data and information related to pandemics are fundamental for an effective response to the crisis, social media, however, presents a challenge whereby the platforms have been misused by some to spread dangerous misinformation.
46. The address was concluded with a call to action for the region to strive for greater regional representation through better interstate cooperation and committed participation to realize the ASEAN vision.

Philippines

47. In the statement of Speaker Lord Allan Jay Velasco, he highlighted that the pressing call to leverage the digital economy has become more compelling as the region grapples with the nature of the “new normal”. As a result, digitalization has led the region to adopt a nimble and adaptive response to disruptive conditions. Digital platforms have enabled the ASEAN people to stay connected and engaged, and for some businesses to operate amid the lockdown.
48. Further he mentioned in his statement the fact that digital transformation is now a major strategic focus for ASEAN to drive economic recovery and build back better. But what many may not realize is the extent to which COVID-19 has accelerated this shift that was already underway. Unfortunately, not all countries are able to leverage digital technologies to their full potential. There are gaps between countries in the region in basic access to the internet, along with speed and cost. In this regard, he emphasized that digital inclusion is crucial for digital platforms to reach all member states and all levels of society. The key, he said, is to invest in digital infrastructure and connectivity to broaden physical access to mobile and internet networks. This will also enhance access to education, markets, and other economic opportunities.
49. Given the scale of the pandemic, ASEAN and AIPA also saw the need to change the way they conduct business from traditional interface platforms to online interactions. These institutions have utilized digital diplomacy, with all of its meetings across all sectors, including those with Dialogue Partners. Going forward, he stated that there are good reasons for ASEAN and AIPA to use digital platforms beyond COVID-19, especially for technical discussions and emergency response.

Singapore

50. H.E. Mr. Tan Chuan-Jin, Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Singapore opened his speech by noting that the COVID-19 pandemic has been the defining crisis of our generation. He was heartened that the strength and resilience of ASEAN has shone through, with ASEAN Member states rising to the occasion to support one another. In this vein, he highlighted the adoption of the Hanoi Plan of Action on Strengthening ASEAN Economic Cooperation and Supply Chain Connectivity in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic in April 2020, as well as the creation of the COVID-19 ASEAN Response Fund and the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework and its Implementation Plan that were launched later that year.

51. Mr. Tan noted that the governments of AIPA members are working hard to mitigate the pandemic's effects on public health and livelihoods. In this regard, he was heartened that AIPA members have redoubled their joint efforts under Brunei's ASEAN Chairmanship theme of "We Care, We Prepare, and We Prosper", with an eye towards positioning ASEAN for a COVID-19 endemic world.
52. Mr. Tan pointed out that the pandemic has also accelerated the digitalization of society, which is rapidly transforming the way we all live, work and play. In this vein, he expressed that this year's ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly theme of "Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion Towards ASEAN Community 2025" was especially pertinent, and urged AIPA members to continue to support and advocate for inclusive policies that help ensure that technology remains accessible for everyone.
53. Concluding his statement, Mr. Tan reiterated the importance of ASEAN's cohesiveness and unity that has helped ASEAN Member States weather the many setbacks and challenges through the years. In this regard, he urged ASEAN Member States to continue using platforms such as AIPA to communicate the importance of supporting a more integrated, digital, and forward-looking ASEAN Community.

Thailand

54. H.E. Mr. Chuan Leekpai, President of the National Assembly of Thailand, expressed his view on the COVID-19 situation that in order to live in a new normal reality, people have to adjust their daily routines, for example, utilizing digital technology; teleconferencing, and working from home. Nonetheless, he pointed out that not all citizens of ASEAN have opportunity to have digital access and showed his support to the theme of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly, "Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025", which will bring about legislative resolutions to bridge a digital gap through good regulations, harmonization of laws, and constructive dialogue between AIPA and ASEAN.
55. H.E. Mr. Chuan Leekpai also supported the implementation of ASEAN Digital Master Plan 2025 and showed his strong belief that AIPA has to enhance its role as a center of alignment through which strategies, policies, plans and roadmaps can be coordinated to support ASEAN. Consequently, he suggested that any legislation must address both short-term needs and long-term objectives as well as encouraged Members of Parliaments to consider at least three crucial issues before passing any regulation: "First, is what we're asking necessary and effective? Second, are the compromises worth the benefits? Third, whether our measures have limits, so they will neither last forever nor expand beyond our intentions?"
56. The President of the National Assembly of Thailand also touched upon a concept of parliamentary diplomacy which is a significant instrument to achieve any reconciliation.
57. In conclusion, H.E. Mr. Chuan Leekpai was confident that AIPA Member Countries shall overcome any challenging issues that occurred during Committee Meetings through exchange of perspectives and considerations.

Viet Nam

58. H.E. Vuong Dinh Hue, Head of Vietnamese Delegation, President of the National Assembly of Viet Nam, highlighted the significant impact to the economic growth and exacerbated social inequality, including digital inequality and social welfare

tremendous challenges, posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has emphasized the urgency of state governance, adjustments of policies and development goals as well as digitalization and the development of the digital economy, to respond to the pandemic in a timely manner and sustain socio-economic development.

59. The complex and unpredictable shift in this pandemic time have also occurred in the regional and international geo-political landscape, for which H.E. Vuong Dinh Hue was pleased to note that the ASEAN Community continues to maintain solidarity, unity and self-reliance, and uphold its stern resolve and centrality. Further, the pandemic has also proven that in the face of tempestuous challenges, the close bonds and mutual sharing among ASEAN members and the peoples are further bolstered. He mentioned concrete evidence that ASEAN members have worked closely together to strengthen responsiveness of each country to gradually contain the pandemic such as the ASEAN COVID-19 Response Fund, the Regional Reserve of Medical Supplies, the Standard Operating Procedures for public health emergencies, and particularly the ASEAN Vaccine Security and Self-Reliance initiative.
60. H.E. Vuong Dinh Hue pointed out the need to further build on the vital role of AIPA Member Parliaments in accelerating digitalization and called on AIPA Member Parliaments to remove barriers through appropriate legal framework, improve the quality of online public services for the development of e-Government, to facilitate equitable access to digital services for society and business, to increase digital literacy for vulnerable groups, to offer fair, equitable and affordable digital services, and to promote the development of the digital economy and society. He also called AIPA Member Parliaments to encourage the Governments of ASEAN members to carry out concrete programs, action plans and strategies pertaining to digital development, particularly strengthening digital connectivity, narrowing the digital gap among countries and regions, boosting digital literacy in less-developed areas including sub-regions to ensure equitable and sustainable development in ASEAN.
61. Further, he emphasized the need to mobilize social resources to develop a digital ecosystem via public - private partnership and create incubators to develop digital corporations and start-ups; improve policies, legal frameworks and support initiatives in the cooperation within ASEAN and between ASEAN and its partners on cyber security, information privacy, data protection and confidence building in the digital sphere also shall be put as priority. Lastly, he called on further cooperation and experience sharing, especially the application of science and technology to control Covid-19 effectively. He suggested strengthening cooperation in research and development, equitable distribution of vaccines, medicine and equipment for preventing and fighting Covid-19. He encouraged parliamentary action to give more power to the Governments to actively, flexibly and effectively respond to the pandemic, minimize the socio-economic impacts and enable quick socio-economic recovery in the post pandemic context.
62. He also appreciated endeavors of ASEAN and active support of AIPA Member Parliaments in promoting dialogue, cooperation and confidence building, upholding respect for international law, preventing and reducing risks to stability, which contribute to enduring peace, security, stability and fostering recovery and development in the region, including the South China Sea, in compliance with international law and the 1982 UNCLOS, refraining from activities that further complicate the situation, observing the DOC and soon concluding the Code of Conduct for South China Sea (COC). He informed that Viet Nam has successfully held the elections for the 15th National Assembly, and the People's Councils at all levels for the 2021-2026 tenure in

May 2021, amidst the pandemic. In July, Viet Nam has also successfully convened the first session of the 15th National Assembly to elect the key leaderships of the State, National Assembly and Government, and outlined the national development goals in the coming time.

Brunei Darussalam

63. On behalf of the Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam, the Head of Delegation of Brunei Darussalam, Hon. Pehin Orang Kaya Pendikar Alam Dato Paduka Seri Awang Haji Hasrin Bin Dato Paduka Awang Haji Sabtu welcomed all Delegates to the virtual 42nd AIPA General Assembly.
64. The theme of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly: “*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion Towards ASEAN Community 2025*”, reflects the importance of digital inclusion to fill connectivity gaps in internet access and affordability. Hon. Pehin highlighted the instrumental role of AIPA in not only realizing digital inclusion in ASEAN, but also ensuring the cybersecurity in the region, by aligning regulations and standardizing policies across ASEAN with appropriate laws that are coherent with the ASEAN Community Blueprint 2025.
65. Hon. Pehin also mentioned in his statement, the role of MSMEs in accelerating ASEAN economic growth. Hon. Pehin called on the AIPA Member Parliaments for collaboration, as well as to encourage ASEAN Member States to prioritize connectivity, regional integration and narrowing development gaps among ASEAN member countries in a coordinated approach to achieve the goals of the fourth industrial revolution, and closer sectoral integration.
66. Hon. Pehin also highlighted the gravity of enabling technology to promote women empowerment, which will be discussed at the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians of AIPA (WAIPA). This is in line with the theme of ASEAN Chairmanship Brunei Darussalam 2021 “We Care, We Prepare, We Prosper” which aims to ensure the welfare and livelihoods of the community, to adapt and overcome any future challenges in achieving a sustainable ASEAN Community.
67. Finally, Hon. Pehin hoped that the spirit of brotherhood of ASEAN will bring the 42nd AIPA General Assembly a success.
68. The Statements by Heads of Delegations of AIPA Member Parliaments are appended as **Annex I**.

Statement by Secretary General of AIPA

69. Hon. Nguyen Tuong Van, the Secretary-General of AIPA, opened the remarks by expressing sincere appreciation for the efforts, determination and cooperation of AIPA Member Parliaments to attend the 42nd General Assembly as a proof of cohesiveness and responsiveness of AIPA to overcome challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and promote cooperation and development of the ASEAN Community. The 42nd AIPA General Assembly takes place at a special time when ASEAN is facing multiple challenges and adjustment is required to adapt to the new circumstances. Nevertheless, task of building the ASEAN Community is still progressing and the awareness of ASEAN’s values are further strengthened.

70. The recently-adopted ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2025 prioritize ASEAN's recovery from COVID-19, connect businesses and facilitate cross-border trade and build a digitally inclusive society, among other goals, making the group a leading digital community and economic bloc powered by secure and transformative digital services, technologies and ecosystem.
71. Secretary-General of AIPA showed the support for the 42nd AIPA theme "*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital inclusion toward ASEAN Community 2025*", which showcased the AIPA's and Member Parliaments' consensus to support ASEAN Governments in overcoming difficulties, promote solidarity, cooperation, for an ASEAN Community of prosperity and sustainable development. She emphasized that through this year's AIPA General Assembly, AIPA contributes to realizing the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and chartering orientations for cooperation in the post-2025 period and effective response to regional and international complexities and unprecedented challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The common goals of development of ASEAN Community to 2025 and beyond set tasks for parliamentarians to further unite, cooperate, and jointly emphasise a sense of responsibility, empathy and sharing in AIPA.
72. Secretary-General of AIPA closed the remarks by stating that the AIPA Secretariat is committed to serve as the hub of communication and information among Member Parliaments and support AIPA Member Parliaments to fulfil their functions, including their instrumental roles in familiarizing the peoples of Southeast Asia with policies aimed at accelerating the realization of an ASEAN Community in 2025.
73. The Statement by the Secretary General of AIPA is appended as **Annex J**.

Statement by Secretary General of ASEAN

74. H. E. Dato Lim Jock Hoi expressed his appreciation to the Host and extended a 'Happy ASEAN Day' greeting to the Assembly. Regardless of the unprecedented challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and being physically separated, ASEAN as a community shares a strong bond and continues to consolidate itself to become more inclusive and resilient.
75. The ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework (ACRF) and its Implementation Plan that was adopted during the 37th ASEAN Summit, and also the early operationalisation of the ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (ACPHEED) and the Regional Reserve of Medical Supplies (RRMS) for Public Health Emergencies (PHE) are results of prompt and decisive actions to mitigate impacts of the pandemic by ASEAN.
76. He added that ASEAN has also introduced the ASEAN Travel Corridor Arrangement Framework (ATCAF) and the COVID-19 ASEAN Response Fund to accelerate regional recovery.
77. As ASEAN is committed to build back better through Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and strives towards ensuring it's inclusive and effective implementation, he urged AIPA Member Parliaments to complete their respective ratification process of RCEP.

78. He mentioned that we are now embarking on the Fourth Industrial Revolution where the pace of digital technology adoption and the prevalence of digital solutions in the region have picked up during the pandemic, thus the theme of this year's General Assembly, 'Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025', is highly relevant.
79. With the regard that ASEAN must amplify efforts in narrowing the digital divide in infrastructures, regulations and skills, currently the Bandar Seri Begawan Roadmap on Digital Transformation and Recovery is being developed to leverage on the ongoing digital transformation happening in the region. He also informed that ASEAN's digital integration agenda will also be further cemented through the Consolidated Strategy on the Fourth Industrial Revolution which presents a unified outlook and direction that will characterise the Digital ASEAN Community.
80. H. E. Dato Lim Jock Hoi also stated that AIPA has significantly contributed to cooperation and development across the three community pillars of ASEAN and plays a key role in transposing regional commitments to national laws, expediting the ratification of ASEAN agreements, aligning domestic laws with regional priorities, as well as monitoring law implementations across the region.
81. He then commended AIPA for the good work undertaken and expressed his appreciation and confidence in the continued support for ASEAN's community building endeavours.
82. The Statement by the Secretary General of ASEAN is appended as **Annex K**.

Statements by Heads of Delegations of Observer Parliaments

83. The Heads of Delegations of the Observer Parliaments from Australia, Belarus, Canada, People's Republic of China, European Parliament, India, Republic of Korea, Morocco, Norway, and Russian Federation presented their statements at the First Plenary Session of the General Assembly.

Australia

84. Hon. Mr. David Fawcett opened his statement by thanking AIPA for organizing the 42nd AIPA General Assembly and pleased to attend the conference despite the pandemic. He noted the value of strong relationships between Australia with the people and parliamentarians of ASEAN.
85. He informed that ASEAN and Australia are developing new mechanisms of cooperative response to this shared crisis. He made comments on how digital engagements, interactions and commerce have been boosted in response to COVID-19 pandemic. He highlighted the great power of the digital economy to transform the ASEAN region and super-charge regional growth.
86. Hon. Mr. David Fawcett also announced in his statement that Australia is currently in cooperation with ASEAN to ensure cyber security and digital trade, through the ASEAN-Australia Digital Trade Standards Initiative. He acknowledged that ASEAN is a critical partner for Australia and shared the same vision of prosperous, secure, vibrant societies, working to advance sustainable and inclusive development. He also mentioned the agreement between ASEAN and Australia to hold annual summits, marking a new chapter in the Strategic Partnership.

87. Concluding his remark, Hon. Mr. David Fawcett expressed his gratitude for joining the 42nd AIPA General Assembly, and emphasized the role of parliamentarians to encourage and influence public debate on important issues.

Belarus

88. H. E. Mr. Vladimir Andreichenko, Chairman of the House of Representatives of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus, opened his statement by expressing his gratitude to the Parliament of Brunei Darussalam for organizing the 42nd General Assembly. The statement continued by noting that The “Code of Conduct” of the ASEAN countries is consonant with the foreign policy of Belarus and provides a good basis for the joint solution of many vital tasks. He believed that ASEAN and Belarus had special emphasis on mutually beneficial projects.
89. The statement further discussed the cooperation in the field of creating common digital ecosystems and a digital good-neighborhood belt. He also stated that The Commonwealth of Independent States Inter-Parliamentary Assembly is working on information and legal support for the digital development of society and is open for interaction with fellow parliamentarians from AIPA on these and other topics.
90. Concluding his statement, he proposed to hold an ASEAN—Belarus inter-parliamentary forum in Minsk and suggested consolidating the results of this event in the final declaration on “International Information Ecosystems and the Creation of a Digital Good-Neighborhood Belt”. In his opinion, holding such a forum will serve as joint contribution to the implementation of the tasks of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

Canada

91. The 42nd AIPA General Assembly marked the 10th time that the Parliament of Canada had participated as an observer delegation since 2009. The Parliament thanked Brunei Darussalam for organizing this year’s assembly, and recalled our past bilateral visits. Next year, Canada will celebrate 45 years of dialogue relations with ASEAN, and our Minister of Foreign Affairs recently highlighted the importance of Canada’s relationships with ASEAN and Southeast Asia. We have all grappled with the COVID-19 pandemic for more than a year, and the Government of Canada has pledged the equivalent of 2 billion U.S. dollars to support international efforts to fight the pandemic.
92. As more and more aspects of life have taken place online, ASEAN and Canada must ensure that everyone has adequate Internet connectivity. In Canada, significant progress has been made, but there is still much to do. Hon. Mr. Paul Massicotte was pleased to learned that the Government of Canada has contributed funding to support the development and enhancement of small and medium enterprises in ASEAN countries.
93. Hon. Mr. Paul Massicotte stated that he continued to follow the developments relating to a potential free trade agreement between Canada and ASEAN. In March of this year, Global Affairs Canada released a study showing that such an agreement could increase ASEAN’s exports to Canada by 4.81 billion U.S. dollars, and increase Canada’s exports to ASEAN by 2.67 billion U.S. dollars. ASEAN and the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly are essential forums for building cooperation not only within the region itself, but between Southeast Asia and other countries around the world. He stated that he is hopeful that Member Parliaments of ASEAN and Canada will be able to meet in person at next year’s General Assembly.

China

94. Hon. Lin Duo opened his statement by thanking the AIPA Secretariat for the invitation. He noted that the world today is experiencing a larger and deeper revolution and industrial transformation. He also stated that China has developed an action plan to drive changes in the way they produce, live and govern through digital transformation.
95. The statement continued by noting three aspects. First, cyber security and data protection. He explained that the Chinese government attaches great importance to cyber and data security. He further announced in 2017, the Chinese government introduced the Cyber Security Law, which is the first fundamental law in China to regulate the behaviors in the cyberspace and also introduced the Data Security Law, which aimed to improve the data security legal system and clarify the basic system of data security management.
96. Second, promoting the digitalization of SMEs. He informed that China amended the SME Promotion Law. Further, Hon. Lin Duo drew attention to the outbreak of the COVID-19 and explained that China has carried out the special SME digital empowerment and transformation partnership actions with the aim to build a digital ecosystem, and help SMEs prevent and control the pandemic, resume work and production through digitalization. Last but not least, strengthening digital cooperation to address climate change. He informed that China is committed to green development and has announced the Carbon Peak and Neutrality targets at the United Nations and working on the implementation plans.
97. To close his statement, he highlighted the long history of friendly relations between China and ASEAN. He further stated that China is ready to deepen cooperation with ASEAN countries in the field of digital convergence, strengthen exchanges and mutual learning, to jointly address the risks and challenges, and promote the prosperous development of the global digital economy.

European Parliament

98. Hon. Daniel Caspary stated that enhanced digitalisation processes are part of increased globalisation over the last decades. The Covid-19 pandemic has forced us to accelerate implementing these processes. The key question remained how to integrate digitalisation processes in our daily social, economic and political lives, including our parliamentary work.
99. He expressed that despite some problematic aspects of the open digital world for societies, such as lies and fake news, digitalisation can facilitate EU-ASEAN work as parliamentarians. Certainly, virtual meetings can never replace personal contacts between human beings. Nevertheless, meetings in a digital format constitute an additional means to facilitate parliamentary work. This concerns not only the internal work in the parliaments, but also the intra-ASEAN relations at inter-ministerial and inter-parliamentary level as well as regular contacts in the context of parliamentary diplomacy with third partners, such as the EP-AIPA Dialogue in the context of the overall EU-ASEAN relations.
100. The respect for human rights and the ideals of democracy and the rule of law lie at the core of the European Union, notably of the European Parliament. Regarding the situation in Myanmar, the European Parliament welcomed the appointment of the ASEAN Special Envoy on Myanmar, Brunei's Foreign Minister Erywan Yusof, and

supported ASEAN's efforts for a peaceful solution to the current crisis by implementing the five-point consensus. This comprised a meaningful political dialogue with all stakeholders, including the Committee Representing the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (CRPH), the National Unity Government (NUG), ethnic groups and other pro-democracy forces. The European Parliament expected the military authorities to release those detained in connection with the coup, to end the violence across the country and to ensure rapid, safe and unhindered access to humanitarian aid. The European Union stands firmly with the people of Myanmar and is ready to assist the Special Envoy in helping Myanmar to find a way back towards democracy.

101. The upgrading of the EU-ASEAN relations to a Strategic Partnership on 1 December 2020 offered the potential for greater engagement with global impact. Everyone in the European Parliament believed that enhanced inter-parliamentary relations between the European Parliament and the ASEAN Parliaments through AIPA should reflect this future agenda of broader and deeper EU-ASEAN relations.
102. The European Parliament was glad that they kicked off this process by conducting an EP-AIPA Parliamentary Dialogue on 22 June 2021. The European Parliament is looking forward to continuing this process and to convene regularly in this format with the aim to discuss issues of joint interest and concern. Therefore, the European Parliament was particularly pleased that AIPA's Organizational Committee has put the establishment of the AIPA-EP Dialogue on its agenda.

India

103. Dr. Satya Pal Singh, Head of Delegation of Lok Sabha; House of the People of India, highlighted the position of ASEAN as a key pillar of its foreign policy and the foundation of its Act East Policy, which is focused on Connectivity, Commerce and Culture to achieve greater ASEAN-India cooperation. He explained that a cohesive, responsive and prosperous ASEAN is at the core of India's 'Indo-Pacific Vision' and contributes to the 'Security and Growth for All in the Region' (SAGAR).
104. He stated the importance of strengthening connectivity between ASEAN and India. In this context, he shared the efforts of India to not only improve the relationship but also to enable Sustainable Development towards a shared future. Further on this issue, he highlighted the vision of a 'Digital India' that is embedded in the goal of complete Digital Inclusion, in the era where the digital economy has a major share of contribution to the development of the world economy. He also shared how technology plays an important role in supporting the Indian legislative branch, Lok Sabha, in performing legislative and public responsibilities during the pandemic. Technology indeed ensured that we remain connected.
105. He believed that developing joint initiatives in digital collaboration can go a long way in Forging Parliamentary Cooperation on Digital Inclusion, which will further support ASEAN Member States in accelerating digital integration through effective prioritization and coordination.

Republic of Korea

106. Hon. Kim Gi-hyeon, Head of Delegation of the Republic of Korea, began his statement by expressing his deep gratitude to the Legislative Council of Brunei for organizing the virtual 42nd AIPA General Assembly. He emphasized the fact that the acceleration of digital transformation contributed by the pandemic, plays a part in widening the digital

gap by gender, region, income and age, which potentially to grow wider post pandemic. He stated, therefore, that digital inclusion is a crucial to narrow this gap and to ensure that all members of society benefit from digital technology without exclusion or discrimination. He was confident that the 42nd AIPA General Assembly will play a major role in realizing ASEAN's vision as a leading digital community by strengthening cooperation among ASEAN Member States.

107. Further in his statement, he recognized the importance of collaboration and solidarity between countries in coping with the pandemic. In this view, Hon. Kim Gi-hyeon informed that despite the difficult circumstances due to the pandemic, Korea continued to maintain and strengthen the level of cooperation. This can be seen from the number of Korea-ASEAN bilateral trade which reached US\$ 142.2 billion, as well as Korean investment in ASEAN which was recorded at US\$ 9.15 billion. He also explained that the Republic of Korea has also shared its pandemic response experiences with its neighboring countries, playing an active role not only in offering medical equipment assistance but also ensuring universal access to vaccines.

Morocco

108. His Excellency Mr. Habib El Malki opened the remarks by expressing his gratitude to participate in the 42nd AIPA General Assembly in the capacity of an Observer of AIPA. His Excellency stated that the digitization of parliamentary work has become a key element in inter-institutional cooperation that contributes to building bridges between countries and peoples, thus giving a parliamentary dimension to international governance and consolidating peace. It has become a prominent aspect of international cooperation and of democratic consolidation.
109. Digital inclusion fosters continuous communications between national parliaments and favours exchange of practices and expertise, and understanding among countries' political elites. Digital programs developed into communication channels that facilitate and keep pace with the evolution of relations between states, especially on issues and cases where it is difficult to communicate officially, particularly in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, where functions, practices, and working methods of national parliaments need to be adapted accordingly.
110. His Excellency highlighted that the House of Representatives of Morocco prioritizes digital programming within a comprehensive strategic vision and approach that aims to achieve digital justice and establish the pivotal position of voters that aspire to consolidate democratic values which guarantees sustainability, clarity, and transparency within legislative institutions to reduce the digital gap.
111. His Excellency Mr. Habib El Malki closed the statement by hoping that Morocco, in the capacity as an Observer of AIPA, will bring added value in bridging Asia and Africa in exchanging expertises and best practices.

Norway

112. Ms Elin Agdestein, Head of the Asia Delegation of the Storting, the Norwegian Parliament, expressed her gratitude for attending the AIPA General Assembly as an observer parliament for the first time. Hon. Agdestain said that the Norwegian Parliament intends to use this cooperation to strengthen the cooperation in areas of common values and interests, such as the multilateral world order, the UN Sustainable Goals, and digital inclusion, as it was highlighted in the theme for this General

Assembly. Looking at the post-pandemic recovery especially, she hoped that the huge digital leaps taken during the pandemic, will help to achieve this [digital inclusion].

113. The second issue touched in her address was the COVID 19 pandemic. She highlighted the importance of global cooperation to cope with the global health crisis. She claimed that Norway's work with COVAX and other global networks reflects its commitment for more equitable global access to vaccines. She wished that global health cooperation will be the pilot key topic for the parliamentary dialogue between AIPA and the Storting, as ensuring broader health cooperation and a sustainable and digital recovery are crucial.
114. From a societal point of view, she mentioned the significance of supporting the development of digital solutions that can make critical infrastructure more secure and more efficient. Further, she emphasized that all has to happen in a way that upholds and preserves democracy, which is especially important in the face of pandemic, where tough restrictions in personal freedom are enforced. In this perspective, she stated that parliaments have to take responsibility in upholding democracy, rule of law and human rights, to hold the governments accountable.
115. She hoped that the inter-parliamentary dialogue between AIPA and the Storting will continue to contribute positively to peace and stability in ASEAN. On that note, she thanked AIPA for giving the floor and wished all the best for the General Assembly.

Russian Federation

116. Hon. Mr. Konstantin Kosachev, the Deputy Speaker of the Federation Council of the Russian Federation, emphasized the importance of ASEAN in Russian foreign policy for the past thirty years. Aside from the Russia-ASEAN Dialogue and the adoption of a comprehensive action plan 2021-2025, Russia provides ASEAN with the necessary advisory and practical assistance by sending epidemiologists, test systems, medicines, and supplying vaccines to combat the coronavirus pandemic.
117. Given that the AIPA General Assemblies have not included dialogue meetings with observers for the second year in a row and the importance of direct dialogue between parliamentarians to discuss main areas of cooperation, he suggested in his statement to organize on-line dialogue meetings with observers.
118. Hon. Mr. Konstantin Kosachev shared that 3.7% of Russian GDP has been allocated for the development of the digital economy and Russia is in 9th place in the world for the availability of the internet, considered one of the global leaders in the field. By 2025, Russia plans to create a digital Russia with a single digital environment and ecosystem of services. Russia is ready to share the experience in area of digital transformation, including the implementation of digital solutions tested within the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), including the mobile application "Travel without COVID-19" and the unified search system "Work without borders" and to borrow the experience to the ASEAN colleagues.
119. The Russian representatives actively participate in conferences of the ASEAN Smart Cities Network. A number of joint projects are underway or in preparation to promote e-commerce, create a professional network for women entrepreneurs, apply innovation in the agricultural sector, and digitalize small and medium-sized businesses as part of

the ASEAN Integration Initiative, which show the real contributions of Russia to the ASEAN Digital Community.

120. Hon. Mr. Konstantin Kosachev closed his statement by anticipating the active participation of the female representatives of ASEAN countries in the Third Eurasian Women's Forum on October 13-15 and welcoming the parliamentarians to the World Conference on inter-cultural and inter-faith dialogue in St-Petersburg on 16-18 May, 2022.
121. The Statements by Heads of Delegations of Observer Parliaments are appended as **Annex L**.

Statements of Guests of the Host

122. The representative of Guests of the Host from Myanmar, Inter-Parliamentary Union, United Nations, and Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum delivered their statements at the First Plenary Session of the General Assembly.

Myanmar

123. H. E. Dr. Thida Oo conveyed their warmest greetings and expressed gratitude to the Honorable President of AIPA and the Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam for his warm invitation to the Myanmar Delegation.
124. She stated that as a Member of ASEAN, Myanmar has been working hand-in-hand with ASEAN Members. Myanmar remains firmly committed to work with ASEAN and its peoples to ensure a successful ASEAN Community building and regional integration. It will continue to maintain friendly relations with countries of the world. Also, Myanmar has actively participated in the activities of AIPA.
125. She explained briefly about the current situation of Myanmar, from the perspective of the current ruling government. According to Section 417 of the 2008 Constitution, a State of Emergency was declared to prevent taking over the sovereignty of the Union by wrongful forcible means as more than 11 million voter lists irregularities across the nation happened in the previous General Election held in 2020. Then, Section 418 (a) of the Constitution mandates that 'Legislative, Judicial and Executive Powers' are being transferred to the Commander-in-Chief of the Defense Services who has been serving such a mandate through the State Administration Council and the Provisional Government. The Chairman authorized and assigned her to engage and participate in the 42nd AIPA General Assembly.
126. She then reiterated that Myanmar maintains its cooperation with AIPA to the full and effective implementation of the ASEAN Community.

Inter-Parliamentary Union

127. H. E. Martin Chungong stated that one of the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic is how global and regional organizations can continue to function and play their important role in international cooperation, when it is no longer possible to meet in person. He mentioned that like AIPA, IPU also looks forward to the time when they can resume their in-person activities, and both organizations have proved how resilient they are and able to use the current technologies to continue to do their business at times of crisis.

128. He highlighted that progress towards the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is underpinned by digital technology, so is it with democracy. He added therefore the shared responsibility to ensure two very fundamental requirements:
1. Inclusion, in which not only infrastructure is essential, but also educating people in digital literacy from the earliest age. He underscored that digital literacy is also important for parliamentarians. Parliamentarians need a good basic understanding of the Internet in order to fully grasp the issues that are at stake when they talk of internet governance and the major technological choices that a country makes.
 2. Safety in the digital environment, in which cybersecurity and ensuring that digital infrastructure is protected against criminal activity are the concerns. He also expressed that he is mindful of the need to protect people's fundamental online rights, so that everyone can express their views freely, so that there are clear and strong protections for their personal data, and so on.
129. He closed his remarks by reiterating the IPU's commitment to support parliaments in their efforts to ensure that no-one is left behind in the new digital world.

Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum

130. Hon. Tony Smith, the President of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum, expressed his appreciation to the AIPA President and felt honoured to address parliamentary colleagues participating in this week's AIPA General Assembly. Many of you are also members of the APPF and I look forward to our discussions at the 29th Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum hosted by the Republic of Korea later this year.
131. Every country in the world would be, and continues to be, affected by the Coronavirus pandemic. Hon. Tony Smith stated that he is well aware that within the international community all of us are experiencing different levels of hardship, and added that Parliamentary forums such as AIPA provide a vital means for us to recognise that we can face these challenges together and continue to build regional cohesion, understanding and cooperation.
132. He commended Brunei for its commitment and determination to deliver the 42nd AIPA Assembly. There has been a tremendous upheaval in the way our communities live, work and socialise in the last year, hence measures such as social distancing, working from home and even virtual parliaments have become our new normal. Digital engagement has enabled us to stay connected and digital trade continues to grow exponentially.
133. He highlighted that digital inclusion has never been more important and mentioned how Brunei is truly showcasing 'Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion' by hosting a virtual event to bring together representatives from over 20 different national parliaments. Lastly, he encouraged all colleagues to reflect on their role as legislatures in supporting digital inclusion for our communities.
134. The Statements by Heads of Delegations of Guests of the Host are appended as **Annex M**.

VII. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

135. The Committees proceeded with their meetings from 23 to 25 August 2021 to consider the agenda assigned by the General Assembly.
136. The Reports of the Committees are appended as:
- **Annex N** - Report of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians of AIPA (WAIPA)
 - **Annex O** - Report of the Committee on Political Matters
 - **Annex P** - Report of the Committee on Economic Matters
 - **Annex Q** - Report of the Committee on Social Matters
 - **Annex R** - Report of the Committee on Organizational Matters

Presentation and Adoption of Committee Reports

137. The Chairpersons of the Committees on Political Matters, Economic Matters, Social Matters, Organizational Matters, WAIPA, presented their respective reports. The Reports were approved by the General Assembly.

Presentation of the AIPA Distinguished Service Award

138. The AIPA General Assembly agreed to confer the AIPA Distinguished Service Award to H.E. Post. Dr. Kittisethabindit Cheam Yeap of Cambodia and Hon. Dr. Fadli Zon of Indonesia as recognition of their meritorious services to AIPA.

Signing of the Joint Communiqué

139. H.E. Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Taib, President of AIPA, Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam, signed the Joint Communiqué.
140. The Joint Communiqué of the 42nd General Assembly of AIPA is appended as **Annex S**.

Date and Venue of the 43rd General Assembly of AIPA

141. It was agreed that the 43rd General Assembly of AIPA will be held in Cambodia from 12 to 16 September 2022.

VIII. CLOSING CEREMONY

142. The Closing Ceremony of the 42nd General Assembly of AIPA was held on Wednesday, 25 August 2021 immediately after the Second Plenary session.

Closing Speech by H.E. Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Taib, President of AIPA, President of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam

143. In his closing remarks, H.E. Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman Bin Dato Setia Haji Moh. Taib, the outgoing AIPA President, Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam, extended his sincere appreciation to all Delegates for the active participation and valuable contributions in making the 42nd AIPA General Assembly a success.

144. He highlighted the Joint Communique and the Resolutions that have been adopted which records pertinent and overarching issues and reflect not only the importance of parliamentary cooperation but also the commitment of AIPA Member Parliaments in the ASEAN Community Development process, to achieve sustainable peace, security, stability and prosperity.
145. Next in his remarks, he extended his warmly welcome to two new AIPA Observers; the Parliament of Ukraine and the National Assembly of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. He was confident that these new accreditations will help expand AIPA's network and collaboration and demonstrate its continued involvement in the regional and international arena. In order to enhance parliamentary diplomacy, he affirmed the support of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam for AIPA's future initiatives.
146. He wished President of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia, Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin, every success as the new incoming President of AIPA.
147. Lastly, he extended his appreciation to the AIPA Secretary General, for her guidance and to the AIPA Secretariat for the steadfast assistance throughout Brunei Darussalam's AIPA Presidency.
148. The Closing Speech by H.E. Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Taib, President of AIPA, President of the National Assembly of Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam is appended as **Annex T**.

Transfer of Office of the AIPA President

149. H.E. Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Taib, outgoing President of AIPA, handed over the AIPA gravel and the signed Instrument of Transfer document to incoming President of AIPA and President of the National Assembly of Cambodia, Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin.
150. The Instrument of Transfer is appended as **Annex U**.

Acceptance Speech by Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin, Incoming President of AIPA, President of the National Assembly of Cambodia.

151. The incoming AIPA President for period 2021-2022 and concurrently the President of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia, Hon. Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin, began his acceptance speech by congratulating the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam for successfully hosting the virtual 42nd AIPA General Assembly despite the Covid-19 pandemic. He expressed his honour for accepting the responsibility from the outgoing AIPA President, H.E. Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Taib, Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam. He also expressed his deepest appreciation to the outgoing AIPA President for his efforts and dedication during his tenure in promoting parliamentary cooperation in digital inclusion towards achieving the ASEAN Community Vision 2025.
152. Next in his acceptance speech, Hon. Samdech Heng Samrin recalled the urgent needs to promote digitalization, by further enhancing the regional cooperation in digital connectivity, cross-border digital trade, safe and security data flows, cybersecurity and inclusive digitalization, in order to ensure economic recovery and improve social

welfare. He stated that strengthening partnerships within the AIPA framework and with regional and international dialogue partners is even more important in these difficult times. As the incoming AIPA President, he expressed his hope to be able to work with all members of parliament, the AIPA Secretariat and dialogue partners to continue strengthening the good cooperation to ensure and achieve the vision and aspirations of ASEAN, especially in working towards the realization of a truly people-driven and people-centered ASEAN Community.

153. With regard to the 43rd AIPA General Assembly, he advised that the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia will host the meeting from 12 to 16 September 2022. Amidst the uncertainty of the Covid-19 crisis, he said that the 43rd AIPA General Assembly is expected to meet in person, in any way possible, after the pandemic is well controlled. He concluded his acceptance speech by wishing the honourable Speakers and Members of Parliament good health and success in all their endeavours.
154. The Acceptance Speech by Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin, Incoming President of AIPA and President of the National Assembly of Cambodia is appended as **Annex V**.
155. With the conclusion of the Acceptance Speech, the 42nd General Assembly of AIPA was officially concluded.

ANNEX A

LIST OF DELEGATES



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

LIST OF DELEGATES

AIPA MEMBER DELEGATIONS

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

- | | | |
|----|--|---|
| 1 | H.E. Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Taib | President of the 42nd AIPA, Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam |
| 2 | Hon. Pehin Dato Haji Hasrin Haji Sabtu | Head of Delegation,
Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam |
| 3 | Hon. Pehin Dato Haji Judin Haji Asar | Member of Delegation,
Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam |
| 4 | Hon. Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Ghani Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Rahim | Member of Delegation,
Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam |
| 5 | Hon. Mr. Haji Umarali Esung | Member of Delegation,
Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam |
| 6 | Hon. Mr. Haji Abdul Hamid Arsad | Member of Delegation,
Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam |
| 7 | Hon. Mr. Ong Tiong Oh | Member of Delegation,
Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam |
| 8 | Hon. Ms. Siti Rozaimeriyanty Dato Haji Abdul Rahman | Member of Delegation,
Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam |
| 9 | Hon. Ms. Nik Hafimi Abdul Haadii | Member of Delegation,
Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam |
| 10 | Hon. Ms. Khairunnisa Haji Ash'ari | Member of Delegation,
Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam |

11	Hon. Mr. Iswandy Ahmad	Member of Delegation, Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam
12	Hon. Mr. Pengiran Haji Ali Pengiran Maon	Member of Delegation, Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam
13	Hon. Mr. Naim Haji Kamis	Member of Delegation, Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam
14	Hon. Mr. Haji Tahamit Haji Nudin	Member of Delegation, Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam
15	Hon. Mr. Haji Mohimin Haji Johari	Member of Delegation, Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam
16	Hon. Mr. Pengiran Haji Mohamed Pengiran Haji Osman	Member of Delegation, Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam
17	Hon. Mr. Haji Abdul Hamid Haji Mumin	Member of Delegation, Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam
18	Hon. Mr. Awang Hanapi Bin Mohd Siput	Member of Delegation, Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam
19	Hon. Mr. Haji Abdul Wahab Apong	Member of Delegation, Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam
20	Hon. Mr. Haji Ramli Haji Lahit	Member of Delegation, Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam
21	Hon. Mr. Haji Emran Haji Sabtu	Member of Delegation, Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam
22	Ms. Rose Aminah Ismail	Delegation Secretary
23	Mr. Mahmud Masri	Delegation Secretary
24	Ms. Zaidah Petra	Delegation Secretary
25	Ms. Ajeerah Najib	Delegation Secretary
26	Mr. Faiq Yassin	Delegation Secretary
27	Mr. Amalul Muttaqin Ismail	Delegation Secretary
28	Ms. Haslinda Hidup	Delegation Secretary
29	Ms. Nurul Nazurah binti Jaya	Delegation Secretary
30	Mr. Mohd Aizul Hakim Pehin Dato Haji Suyoi	Delegation Secretary
31	Ms. Dk Hjh Ena Suraya Pengiran Haji Mohammad	Delegation Secretary
32	Ms. Siti Maslina Hj Md Said	Delegation Secretary
33	Ms. Siti Maszuraimah Hj Mahmud	Delegation Secretary

34	Ms. Dayangku Siti Sajidah Pengiran Hj Baharuddin	Delegation Secretary
35	Ms. Salinah Haji Mohd Salleh	Delegation Secretary
36	Ms. Noor Dina Zharina Hj Yahya	Delegation Secretary
37	Ms. Amalina Haji Awang Tengah	Delegation Secretary

CAMBODIA

1	Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin	Head of Delegation, President of the National Assembly of Cambodia
2	Hon. Kittisanghakbindit Khuon Sudary	Member of Delegation, Second Vice-President of the National Assembly
3	Hon. Post. Dr. Kittisethabindit Cheam Yeap	Member of Delegation, Chairperson of Commission on Economy, Finance, Banking and Audit
4	Hon. Mr. Chheang Vun	Member of Delegation, Chairperson of Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, Information and Media
5	Hon. Mrs. Nin Saphon	Member of Delegation, Chairperson of Commission on Public Works, Transport, Telecommunications, Posts, Industry, Mines, Energy, Commerce, Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction
6	Hon. Mr. Hun Many	Member of Delegation, Chairperson of Commission on Education, Youths, Cult, Sports, Religious Affairs, Culture and Tourism
7	Hon. Mr. Yang Sem	Member of Delegation, Chairperson of Human Rights, Reception of Complaints, Investigation and National Assembly- Senate Relation (Senator)
8	Hon. Mrs. Mean Som An	Member of Delegation, Chairperson of Commission on Public Health, Social Work, Veterans, Youth, Rehabilitation, Labor, Vocational Training and Women's Affairs (Senator)
9	Hon. Mrs. Lork Kheng	Member of Delegation, Chairperson of Commission on Public Health, Social Work, Veterans, Youth,

10	Hon. Mr. Mam Bunneang	Rehabilitation, Labor, Vocational Training and Women's Affairs Member of Delegation, Chairperson of Commission on Investigation and Anti-Corruption (Senator)
11	Hon. Mr. Loy Sophath	Member of Delegation, Chairperson of Commission on Planning, Investment, Agriculture, Rural Development, Environment and Water Resources
12	Hon. Mr. Chhit Kim Yeat	Member of Delegation, Vice-Chairperson of Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, Information and Media (Senator)
13	Hon. Mr. Hou Sry	Member of Delegation, Vice-Chairperson of Commission on Planning, Investment, Agriculture, Rural Development, Environment and Water Resources
14	Hon. Mr. Kep Chuktema	Member of Delegation, Vice-Chairperson of Public Works, Transport, Telecommunications, Posts, Industry, Mines, Energy, Commerce, Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction
15	Hon. Mr. Ai Khan	Member of Delegation, Vice-Chairperson of Commission on Legislation and Justice (Senator)
16	Hon. Mr. Chay Borin	Member of Delegation, Vice-Chairperson of Commission on Economy, Finance, Banking and Audit
17	Hon. Mr. Keo Piseth	Member of Delegation, Secretary of Commission on Legislation and Justice
18	Hon. Mrs. Un Sokunthea	Member of Delegation, Secretary of Commission on Interior, National Defense and Civil Service
19	Hon. Mr. Nim Chantara	Member of Delegation, Secretary of Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, Information and Media
20	Hon. Mr. Kheav Phearith	Member of Delegation,

- 21 Hon. Mr. Ty Sokun Secretary of Commission on Education, Youths, Cult, Sports, Religious Affairs, Culture and Tourism
Member of Delegation,
Member of Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, Information and Media
- 22 Hon. Mrs. Khoun Khundy **Member of Delegation,**
Member of Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, Information and Media (Senator)
- 23 Hon. Mrs. Mak Vansitha **Member of Delegation,**
Member of Commission on Public Health, Social Work, Veterans, Youth, Rehabilitation, Labor, Vocational Training and Women's Affairs
- 24 Hon. Mr. Ouk Damry **Member of Delegation,**
Member of Commission on Investigation and Anti-Corruption
- 25 Hon. Mr. Long Bunny **Member of Delegation,**
Member of Commission on Interior, National Defense and Civil Service
- 26 Hon. Dr. Ly Chheng **Member of Delegation,**
Member of Commission on Legislation and Justice
- 27 Hon. Mr. Pich Chivorn **Member of Delegation,**
Member of Commission on Public Health, Social Work, Veterans, Youth, Rehabilitation, Labor, Vocational Training and Women's Affairs
- 28 Hon. Mr. Tak Vantha **Member of Delegation,**
Member of Commission on Public Works, Transport, Telecommunications, Posts, Industry, Mines, Energy, Commerce, Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction
- 29 Mr. Leng Peng Long **Delegation Secretary,**
Secretary General of the National Assembly
- 30 Mr. Srun Dara **Delegation Secretary,**
Deputy Secretary General of the National Assembly
- 31 Mr. Prom Virak **Delegation Secretary,**

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| 32 | Mr. Chhim Sothkun | Director General of International Relations, Protocol and Information
Delegation Secretary,
Director General of International Relations, Protocol and Information (Senate) |
| 33 | Mr. Kim Sochetra | Delegation Secretary,
Deputy Director General of Research (Senate) |
| 34 | Mr. Heang Thul | Delegation Secretary,
Director of International Relations Department |
| 35 | Mr. Koy Malayvireak | Delegation Secretary,
Director of International Relations Department (Senate) |
| 36 | Mr. Klang Oudom | Delegation Secretary,
Deputy Director of International Relations Department |
| 37 | Mr. Ly Mengtyth | Delegation Secretary,
Chief of ASEAN-AIPA Office, International Relations Department |
| 38 | Mrs. Nhim Dalin | Delegation Secretary,
Deputy Chief of ASEAN-AIPA Office, International Relations Department |

INDONESIA

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1 | H.E. Dr (HC). Puan Maharani | Speaker/Head of Delegation |
| 2 | H.E. Dr. Azis Syamsudin | Member of Delegation,
Vice Speaker |
| 3 | Hon. Dr. Fadli Zon | Member of Delegation,
Chairperson of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation & Commission I |
| 4 | Hon. Mr. Putu Supadma Rudana | Member of Delegation,
Vice Chairperson of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation & Commission VI |
| 5 | Hon. Dr. Mardani Ali Sera | Member of Delegation,
Vice Chairperson of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation & Commission II |
| 6 | Hon. Mr. Hafisz Tohir | Member of Delegation,
Vice Chairperson of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation & Commission XI |
| 7 | Hon. Mr. I Gusti Agung Rai Wirajaya | Member of Delegation, |

8	Hon. Ms. Irine Yusiana Roba Putri	Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation & Commission XI
9	Hon. Mrs. Himmatul Aliyah	Member of Delegation, Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation & Commission X
10	Hon. Mr. Ichsan Firdaus	Member of Delegation, Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation & Commission IV
11	Hon. Mrs. Arzeti Bilbina	Member of Delegation, Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation & Commission IX
12	Hon. Mr. Arkananta Akram	Member of Delegation, Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation & Commission VII
13	Hon. Mr. Syahrul Aidi Maazat	Member of Delegation, Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation & Commission V
14	Hon. Mr. Muslim	Member of Delegation, Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation & Commission IV
15	Hon. Dr. Andi Yuliani Paris	Member of Delegation, Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation & Commission VII
16	Ms. Endah Tjahjani Dwirini Retnoastuti	Delegation Secretary Head Bureau of Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation & International Organization
17	Ms. Warsiti Alfiah	Delegation Secretary Head Division of the Regional Cooperation
18	Ms. Anne Widyana	Delegation Secretary Head Sub-Division of Meeting of the Regional Cooperation
19	Mr. Rifan Safari Andalas	Delegation Secretary Head Sub-Division of Administration of the Regional Cooperation
20	Ms. Andam Perwitasari	Delegation Secretary Staff of the Regional Cooperation
21	Mr. Ahmadi	Delegation Secretary Staff of the Regional Cooperation
22	Ms. Amelia Tresna Wijayanti	Advisor to Delegation Expert Staff Coordinator of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary

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| 23 | Mr. Tide Aji Pratama | Cooperation & International
Organization
Advisor to Delegation Advisor to
 Delegation
Expert Staff of the Committee for
Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation &
International Organization |
| 24 | Mr. Mochamad Ilyas | Advisor to Delegation
Expert Staff of the Committee for
Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation &
International Organization |
| 25 | Ms. Masyithoh Annisa Ramadhani | Advisor to Delegation
Expert Staff of the Committee for
Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation &
International Organization |
| 26 | Mr. Isep Parid Yahya | Advisor to Delegation
Expert Staff of the Committee for
Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation &
International Organization |
| 27 | Mr. Chilman Arisman | Advisor to Delegation
Senior Official for the Directorate of
ASEAN Political Security
Cooperation, MoFA Indonesia |
| 28 | Mr. Mohammad David | Advisor to Delegation
First Secretary for the Directorate of
ASEAN Political Security
Cooperation, MoFA Indonesia |
| 29 | Ms. Melati Sosrowidjojo | Advisor to Delegation
Second Secretary for the Directorate
of ASEAN Political Security
Cooperation, MoFA Indonesia |

LAO'S PEOPLE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | H.E. Dr Xaysomphone Phomvihane | Head of Delegation,
President of the National Assembly of
Lao PDR |
| 2 | Hon. Mr. Sanya Praseuth | Member of Delegation,
Chairman of Foreign Affairs
Committee |
| 3 | Hon. Assoc. Prof. Dr Linkham Douangsavanh | Member of Delegation,
Chairman of Economic, Technology
and Environment Committee |
| 4 | Hon. Mrs. Thoummaly Vongphachanh | Member of Delegation,
Chairperson of Cultural and Social
Affairs Committee |
| 5 | Hon. Mrs. Pingkham Lasasimma | Member of Delegation,
Secretary General of the National
Assembly of Lao PDR |
| 6 | Hon. Mr. Thanta Kongphaly | Member of Delegation, |

7	Hon. Mr. Amphay Chitmanonh	Vice Chairman of Planning, Finance and Audit Committee Member of Delegation, Vice Chairman of Law Committee
8	Hon. Mrs. Vandy Bouthsavong	Member of Delegation, Vice Chairperson of Foreign Affairs Committee
9	Hon. Mr. Bounelome Keoubouahome	Member of Delegation, Vice Chairperson of Cultural and Social Affairs Committee
10	Hon. Dr. Bouthanh Bounvilay	Member of Delegation, Deputy Secretary General of the National Assembly of Lao PDR
11	Mr. Khemphone Anothay	Delegation Secretary
12	Assoc. Prof. Dr Lamphong Volady	Delegation Secretary
13	Mr. Phosy Themmerath	Delegation Secretary
14	Mr. Somphet Chittavanh	Delegation Secretary
15	Mrs. Kaysone Keomanykhot	Delegation Secretary
16	Mr. Khamsamai Sammavong	Delegation Secretary
17	Mr. Soutsakhone Anantha	Delegation Secretary
18	Mrs. Siriphone Southammavong	Delegation Secretary
19	Mrs. Saliphone Outhachack	Delegation Secretary
20	Mr. Somchit Phomthavong	Delegation Secretary
21	Mr. Phoutsady Sysomphone	Delegation Secretary
22	Ms. Sivaly Savathdy	Delegation Secretary
23	Mr. Chanthone Louangphane	Delegation Secretary
24	Mr. Xaypanya Phomvihane	Delegation Secretary
25	Mrs. Vilaysak Phandanouvong	Delegation Secretary
26	Mr. Nikon Vonmanychanh	Delegation Secretary
27	Ms. Dalany Inthathirath	Delegation Secretary
28	Ms. Annia Keosavang	Delegation Secretary

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3	Hon. Dato' Mohd Rashid Hasnon	Member of Delegation, Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, Malaysia
4	Hon. Dato'Sri Hajah Rohani Abdul Karim	Member of Delegation, Member of the House of Representative, Malaysia

5	Hon. Dato'Seri Dr. Shahidan Kassim	Member of Delegation, Member of the House of Representative, Malaysia
6	Hon. Datuk Hasanuddin Mohd Yunus	Member of Delegation, Member of the House of Representative, Malaysia
7	Hon. Datuk Zakaria Mohd Edris	Member of Delegation, Member of the House of Representative, Malaysia
8	Hon. Mrs. Natrah Ismail	Member of Delegation, Member of the House of Representative, Malaysia
9	Hon. Mr. Yusuf Abdul Wahab	Member of Delegation, Member of the House of Representative, Malaysia
10	Hon. Mr. Wong Chen	Member of Delegation, Member of the House of Representative, Malaysia
11	Hon. Mr. Ahmad Fadhli Shaari	Member of Delegation, Member of the House of Representative, Malaysia
12	Hon. Mr. Ahmad Hassan	Member of Delegation, Member of the House of Representative, Malaysia
13	Mr. Azri Norfikri Aziz	Delegation Secretary
14	Mrs. Nurul Fadhilah Ibharam	Delegation Secretary
15	Mr. Augustin Leonard Jen	Delegation Secretary
16	Mr. Klaus Julias Louis	Delegation Secretary
17	Mr. Mohsin Abdul Malek	Delegation Secretary
18	Mr. Muhammad Iزارul Kayat	Delegation Secretary
19	Mrs. Amy Tam Lay Choon	Delegation Secretary
20	Mrs. Siti Fahlizah Padlee	Delegation Secretary

PHILIPPINES

1	H.E. Lord Allan Jay Q. Velasco	Head of Delegation, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Philippines
2	Hon. Mr. Paulino Salvador "Doy" C. Leachon	Member of Delegation, Deputy Speaker of the House of Representative, Philippines
3	Hon. Mr. Rufus B. Rodriguez	Member of Delegation, Deputy Speaker of the House of Representative, Philippines
4	Hon. Ms. Rose Marie "Baby" J. Arenas	Member of Delegation,

5	Hon. Ms. Ann K. Hofer	Deputy Speaker of the House of Representative, Philippines Member of Delegation, Chairperson, Committee on Foreign Affairs
6	Hon. Ms. Sandra Y. Eriguel, M.D.	Member of Delegation, Chairperson, Committee on Inter-Parliamentary Relations and Diplomacy
7	Hon. Ms. Maria Lourdes Acosta-Alba	Member of Delegation, Chairperson, Committee on Women and Gender Equality
8	Hon. Ms. Sharon S. Garin	Member of Delegation, Chairperson, Committee on Economic Affairs
9	Mr. Novel V. Bangsal	Delegation Secretary
10	Ms. Imelda F. Apostol	Delegation Secretary
11	Ms. Glendale J. Cornelio	Delegation Secretary
12	Mr. Joe Anthony P. Ramos	Delegation Secretary
13	Ms. Joy Elena C. Piccio	Delegation Secretary

SINGAPORE

1	H.E. Mr. Tan Chuan-Jin	Leader of Delegation, Speaker of Parliament
2	Hon. Mr. Christopher De Souza	Deputy Leader of Delegation, Deputy Speaker of Parliament
3	Hon. Mr. Lim Biow Chuan	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
4	Hon. Mr. Sitoh Yih Pin	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
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6	Hon. Ms. Cheryl Chan	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
7	Hon. Mr. Saktiandi Supaat	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
8	Hon. Ms. He Ting Ru	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
9	Hon. Mr. Shawn Huang	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
10	Hon. Ms. Nadia Ahmad Samdin	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
11	Hon. Ms. Ng Ling Ling	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament

12	Hon. Ms. Raeesah Khan	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
13	Hon. Ms. Hany Soh	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
14	Hon. Mr. Don Wee	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
15	Hon. Ms. Yeo Wan Ling	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
16	Hon. Mr. Yip Hon Weng	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
17	Hon. Mr. Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
20	Ms. Chua Lin Hwee	Delegation Secretary
21	Mr. Cedric Sun	Delegation Secretary
22	Ms. Joey Chua	Delegation Secretary
23	Mr. Jeff Tan	Delegation Secretary

THAILAND

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2	H.E. Prof. Pornpetch Wichitcholchai	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
3	Hon. Mr. Suchart Tonjaroen	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
4	Hon. Gen. Singsuk Singpai	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
5	Hon. Mr. Suphachai Phosu	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
6	Hon. Mr. Supachai Somcharoen	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
7	Hon. Mr. Sompong Amornvivat	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
8	Hon. Mr. Sarawut Phetpanomporn	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
9	Hon. Mrs. Pikulkeaw Krairiksh	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
10	Hon. Mr. Krisda Tanterdtit	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
11	Hon. Prof. Kanchanaratt Leevirojana	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
12	Hon. Mr. Kitti Wasinondh	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
13	Hon. Mr. Chakkrapan Pornnimit	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament

14	Hon. Mr. Jetn Sirathranont	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
15	Hon. Gen. Thawip Netniyom	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
16	Hon. Ms. Phetchompoo Kijburana	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
17	Hon. Ms. Pechdau Tohmeena	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
18	Hon. Mr. Manoon Sivapiromrat	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
19	Hon. Assoc. Prof. Rong Boonsuaykhwan	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
20	Hon. Mr. Virasakdi Futrakul	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
21	Hon. Mr. Akradech Wongpituchroj	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
22	Hon. Mr. Ekkachai Songamartcharoen	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
23	Hon. Mr. Ekkapob Pianpises	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
24	Hon. Mr. Anusart Suwanmongkol	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
25	Hon. Mr. Issara Sereewatthanawut	Member of Delegation, Member of Parliament
26	Mr. Wiwat Mungkarndee	Delegation Secretary
27	Mrs. Pornpith Phetchareon	Delegation Secretary
28	Mr. Kunnavuti Tuntrakul	Delegation Secretary
29	Ms. Steejit Taipiboonsuk	Delegation Secretary
30	Mrs. Boontarika Junhanandana	Delegation Secretary
31	Mr. Natee Chiamcharoen	Delegation Secretary
32	Mr. Paradorn Arawan	Delegation Secretary
33	Ms. Utumporn Meecharoen	Delegation Secretary
34	Ms. Supisra Kankaew	Delegation Secretary
35	Ms. Piraporn Napuksornchainant	Delegation Secretary
36	Ms. Jirapan Jakkaew	Delegation Secretary

VIETNAM

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2	Hon. Vu Hai Ha	Member of Delegation, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee
3	Hon. Nguyen Thuy Anh	Member of Delegation, Chairwoman of the Social Committee
4	Hon. Bui Van Cuong	Member of Delegation,

- 5 Hon. Don Tuan Phong Secretary General of the National Assembly, Chair of the National Assembly Office
Member of Delegation,
Vice-Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee
- 6 Hon. Dinh Cong Sy **Member of Delegation,**
Vice-Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee
- 7 Hon. Dinh Thi Phuong Lan **Member of Delegation,**
Vice-Chair of the Council of Ethnic Minorities
- 8 Hon. Nguyen Tuan Anh **Member of Delegation,**
Vice-chair of the Committee for Science, Technology and Environment
- 9 Major General Nguyen Minh Du **Member of Delegation,**
Vice-Chair of the Committee for National Defence and Security
- 10 Hon. Vu Thi Luu Mai **Member of Delegation,**
Vice-Chair of the Finance and Budget Committee
- 11 Hon. Mr. Nguyen Hoang Mai **Member of Delegation,**
Vice-Chair of Social Affairs Committee
- 12 Hon. Le Thu H **Member of Delegation,**
Standing Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee
- 13 Hon. Pham Phu Binh **Member of Delegation,**
Standing Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee
- 14 Hon. Thai Quynh Mai Dung **Member of Delegation,**
Standing Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee
- 15 Hon. Pham Thi Hong Yen **Member of Delegation,**
Standing Member of the Economic Committee
- 16 Hon. Bui Hoai Son **Member of Delegation,**
Standing Member of the Culture and Education Committee

AIPA SECRETARIAT

1	H.E. Mrs. Nguyen Tuong Van	Secretary General of AIPA
2	Mr. Mario Pandu Dewono	Deputy Secretary General of AIPA
3	Mr. Adi Witjaksono	Director of Finance and Administration
4	Ms. Putri Maha Lima	Director of Committees
5	Ms. Putri Gita Lubis	Secretary to Secretary General
6	Ms. Royyan Hadela Isnanda	Staff of Directorate of Stakeholders Engagements and Resource Mobilization
7	Mr. Sandi Nursahamdani	Staff of Directorate of Committees
8	Ms. Saphira Pradita	Intern of AIPA Secretariat

ASEAN SECRETARIAT

1	H.E. Dato Paduka Lim Jock Hoi	Secretary General of ASEAN
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AIPA OBSERVER COUNTRY DELEGATIONS

AUSTRALIA

- 1 Senator the Hon. David Fawcett
- 2 Hon. Ms. Maria Vamvakinou MP
- 3 Ms. Natalie Cooke

Head of Delegation
Member of Delegation
Delegation Secretary

THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

- 1 H.E Vladimir Andreichenko

- 2 Hon. Mr. Sergei Syrankov

Head of Delegation,
Chairman of the House of
Representatives of the National
Assembly of the Republic of Belarus
Member of Delegation,
Member of the Standing Commission
on International Affairs

CANADA

- 1 The Hon. Senator Paul Massicotte
- 2 Mr. Ariel Shapiro

- 3 Ms. Shannon Petry

Head of Delegation
Delegation Secretary,
Analyst
Delegation Secretary,
Association Secretary

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

- 1 Hon. Ms. Liu Duo

Head of Delegation,
Member of the National People's
Congress (NPC) of China

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

- 1 Mr. Daniel Caspary

- 2 Mrs. Marianne Vind

- 3 Mrs. Heidi Hautala

Head of Delegation,
Chair of the Delegation of the
European Parliament for relations with
the countries of South East Asia and
ASEAN, Member of the European
Parliament
Member of Delegation,
Vice-Chair of the Delegation of the
European Parliament for relations with
the countries of South East Asia and
ASEAN
Member of Delegation,
Vice-President of the European
Parliament, Member of the Delegation
of the European Parliament for

4 H.E. Mr. Igor Driesmans

5 Mr. David Milliot

6 Mr. Markus Arens

7 Mr. Antoine Ripoll

8 Mr. Andreas Striegnitz

relations with the countries of South
East Asia and ASEAN,

Member of Delegation,
Ambassador to ASEAN

Member of Delegation,
Political Advisor

Delegation Secretary,
EPP Adviser ASEAN Delegation

Delegation Secretary,
Head of EP Liaison Office Jakarta
(Director)

Delegation Secretary,
Desk Officer ASEAN

INDIA

1 Hon. Dr. Satya Pal Singh

Head of Delegation,
Member of Lok Sabha (House of
People), Parliament of India

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

1 Hon. Mr. Kim Gi-hyeon

Head of Delegation,
Member of Parliament, People Power
Party

KINGDOM OF MOROCCO

1 H.E. Mr. Habib El Malki

Head of Delegation,
Speaker of the House of
Representatives

NORWAY

1 Hon. Mrs. Elin Rodum Agdestein

Head of Delegation

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

1 Hon. Konstantin Kosachev

Head of Delegation,
Deputy Speaker of the Federation
Council

2 Hon. Andrey Klimov

Member of Delegation,
Member of Federation Council,
Committee on Foreign Affairs

3 Mrs. Irina Zolotareva

Secretary of the Delegation to AIPA

GUEST OF THE HOST AND AIPA PARTNERS

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR

- | | | |
|---|---------------------|---|
| 1 | H.E. Dr. Thida Oo | Head of Delegation,
Attorney General of the Union |
| 2 | Mr. Kyaw Kyaw Naing | Member of Delegation,
Deputy Director General |
| 3 | Mr. Bhone Kyi Aung | Member of Delegation,
Deputy Director General |
| 4 | Mr. Sunn Linn | Member of Delegation |
| 5 | Dr. Kyaw Thu Hein | Member of Delegation, |

INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

- | | | |
|---|---------------------|--|
| 1 | Mr. Martin Chungong | Head of Delegation,
Secretary General of Inter-
Parliamentary Union |
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ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM

- | | | |
|---|--------------------|---|
| 1 | Hon. Tony Smith MP | Head of Delegation,
President of APPF |
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ERIA

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------|---|
| 1 | Prof. Hidetoshi Nishimura | Head of Delegation,
President of ERIA |
|---|---------------------------|---|

PCASIA

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------|--|
| 1 | Mr. Dararith Kim Yeat | Head of Delegation,
Executive Director Parliamentary
Centre of Asia, PCAsia |
| 2 | Mrs. Kunthea Kong | Member of Delegation,
Institutional Development Manager |
| 3 | Mr. Sonya Heng | Member of Delegation,
Instructor |

ANNEX B

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING



سڤيكر
مجلس مشواراة نكارا

Speaker

Majlis Mesyuarat Negara
Legislative Council
Negara Brunei Darussalam
BB3910

Rujukan Kami :

JMM/YDP/R13/III

Our Reference :

17 August 2021

**Speakers/Presidents of AIPA Member Parliaments
AIPA Executive Committee Members**

Your Excellencies,

As a follow-up to the letter dated 3rd August 2021 which sought for the approval of the relevant documents of the 42nd General Assembly of AIPA from members of the AIPA Executive Committee, I wish to bring to Your Excellency's attention regarding the results of the Executive Committee meeting as follows:

1. The AIPA Executive Committee received the submission of an emergency item of a **Draft Resolution on Parliamentary Support on the Situation in Myanmar**, proposed by Indonesia. The Draft Agenda of the Executive Committee Meeting and the Draft Agenda Items of the 42nd General Assembly of AIPA were subsequently updated to include this item and circulated on 11th August 2021 for the approval of the AIPA Executive Committee members.
2. As the Chair of the AIPA Executive Committee meeting, I acknowledged receiving feedbacks from the AIPA Executive Committee members regarding this matter. It is therefore kindly requested that further discussions shall take place in the meeting of the Committee on Political Matters of the 42nd General Assembly of AIPA.
3. With regards to the Programme of Activities of the 42nd General Assembly of AIPA, the AIPA Executive Committee received a proposal to adjust the time of the meeting for the Committee on Political Matters on Tuesday, 24th August 2021 and the Second Plenary Session on Wednesday, 25th August 2021.



After much consideration, the meeting of the Committee on Political Matters on Tuesday, 24th August 2021 shall now begin at 9:30 AM (GMT +8), while the Second Plenary Session on Wednesday, 25th August 2021 shall begin at 2:30 PM (GMT +8).

4. The AIPA Executive Committee endorsed the nomination of the President of the National Assembly of Cambodia, the incoming AIPA President as the Vice-Chairperson of the Executive Committee meeting.

5. The Composition of Committees of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly shall be sent via email by AIPA Member Parliaments to the AIPA Brunei National Secretariat.

6. Members of the AIPA Executive Committee approved the nomination of H.E. Post. Dr. Kittisethabindit Cheam Yeap, Chairman of the Commission on Economy, Finance, Banking, and Audit & Chairman of Cambodian Parliament AIPA National Group; and Hon. Dr. Fadli Zon, Chairperson of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation of the House of Representatives of Indonesia for the AIPA Distinguished Service Award. These items will be discussed further at the Meeting on Organisational Matters.

7. With regards to the Admission of Observers, the AIPA Executive Committee took note on the views received from the AIPA Members. The discussion on the Accreditation of the applicants shall take place at the Meeting on Organisational Matters, and the accreditation shall then be granted upon the adoption of the relevant resolutions at the upcoming AIPA General Assembly.

8. The National Assembly of Cambodia agreed to accept the AIPA Presidency and host the 43rd General Assembly of AIPA. The date and venue of the 43rd General Assembly of AIPA will be announced later.



In this regard, please find attached the updated Draft Agenda and Programme of Activities of the 42nd General Assembly of AIPA for Your Excellency's perusal.

I wish to express my sincerest gratitude for your kind support and cooperation to ensure the success of the 42nd General Assembly of AIPA.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration and my best wishes for good health and success.

Yours sincerely

(ABDUL RAHMAN TAIB)
Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela
President of AIPA
Speaker of the Legislative Council
Brunei Darussalam

Copy to:

- AIPA Secretary General

ANNEX C

WRITTEN MESSAGES



ROYAL MESSAGE
BY
HIS MAJESTY PREAH BAT SAMDECH PREAH BOROMNEATH
NORODOM SIHAMONI, THE KING OF CAMBODIA
ON THE OCCASION OF THE 42nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ASEAN
INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

AUGUST 23-25, 2021, BRUNIE DARUSSALAM

On behalf of the people and government of the Kingdom of Cambodia, I congratulate H.E. Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Taib, Speaker of the legislative council Brunei Darussalam, for hosting the 42nd AIPA General Assembly. I wish to convey my warm greetings and regards to Honorable Speakers of AIPA members and distinguished delegates.

On this occasion, I would like to personally praise His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassnal Bolkiah Mu'izzadin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam for effectively containing the Covid-19 pandemic.

The pandemic poses severe threats to people's lives, livelihoods, and dignity. The resurgence of infections along with new variants is affecting the pace of recovery. Although challenges are mounting, I am still confident that we could beat the virus together and build back better and stronger together, based on the spirit of ASEAN community. Meanwhile, we must enhance international solidarity to advance vaccine multilateralism and equity to reduce the immunization gap.

To recover from the pandemic-induced economic recession, we need to continuously strengthen an open, inclusive, and rules-based multilateral economic system and invest more resources in social protection and green technology. Moreover, the pandemic has derailed the progress towards the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals. Hence, we are compelled to mobilize more resources from both the public and private sectors to achieve the SDGs. In this regard, the parliaments have a critical role to play in SDGs budgeting.

ASEAN has initiated and carried out several regional mechanisms to support regional recovery, including creating the COVID-19 ASEAN Response Fund. ASEAN stays committed to open to international trade while maintaining a relatively stable, open regional supply chain. The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) implementation will add a new catalyst to regional integration and development.

We have noticed that the pandemic has accelerated digital transformation. However, we have also seen the gap and inequality in accessing digital technology between different groups. Therefore, it is necessary to promote an "inclusive digital economy" and reduce the digital gap within the region. Strengthening women digital entrepreneurship and promoting digital literacy are some of the key policy intervention measures. I hope the General Assembly will come up with practical, holistic approach towards inclusive digitalisation.

I wish the 42nd AIPA Generally Assembly great success with substantial progress towards the realization of an inclusive, sustainable, and resilient people-centred ASEAN. Together we could navigate ASEAN through uncertain and dangerous times ahead. Together we could build an ASEAN Community based on the vision of "leaving no one behind".

NORODOM SIHAMONI

Phnom Penh, July 19, 2021

**WRITTEN MESSAGE
BY
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
H.E. JOKO WIDODO

TO THE 42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (AIPA)**

Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Negara Brunei Darussalam, His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah,

Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Taib,

Honourable Members of the Parliaments of the ASEAN Member States,

Distinguished Participants of the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA),

We have been combating the pandemic for over 18 months which has impacted all aspects of our peoples' lives.

It is certain that this tremendous challenge cannot be addressed in isolation. The Governments and Parliaments must join forces to fight against COVID-19.

Together we continue to strengthen vaccine cooperation. Parliaments have the ability to bring in regulatory environment that enables and supports ASEAN cooperation. We also need to strengthen our preparedness to provide mutual assistance in this trying situation.

I am of the view that it is the right time to show that ASEAN delivers its promise to its peoples. No one is safe until everyone is safe.

The pandemic has also affected the regional economy. The global economic downturn in the recent years has been further aggravated by the COVID-19 outbreaks.

Nevertheless, the pandemic has also compelled ASEAN to accelerate whole-community digital transformation. Inclusive digital transformation is one of the key factors in the post-pandemic recovery in the region.

Therefore, the theme of this year's AIPA General Assembly, namely "Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025" is indeed timely. The theme is in line with the ASEAN's priority to create a digitally connected community as reflected in the ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2025 and the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework.

The objective to "Leave no one behind" should be our main common priority to create an inclusive ASEAN digital community.

I believe that synergy and collaboration between ASEAN Governments and Parliaments are of utmost importance. Our synergy and collaboration will build a conducive and inclusive digital ecosystem for the creation of the ASEAN digital community.

To achieve the goal, the Governments and Parliaments must join hands to fulfill two main priorities, namely:

First, digital technology to provide equal opportunities and build an ecosystem that supports the use of information technology to strengthen and accelerate economic recovery, particularly for MSMEs.

Second, digital technology to improve our peoples' well-being and public services.

We must seize this momentum of digital technology transformation to ensure greater access to health care services, especially for those who live in remote areas or with limited mobility.

Honourable Members of the Parliaments of the ASEAN Member States,

Distinguished Participants of the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA),

I observed with deep concern the latest developments in the region that pose a threat to the values of democracy, constitutional governance, freedoms, and human rights.

I sincerely hope that the political crises in Myanmar can be soon resolved. It is important to undertake an inclusive dialogue to restore democracy amidst the lives of the people of Myanmar.

The time has come for us to immediately implement the Five-Point Consensus as the outcome of the ASEAN Leaders' Meeting in Jakarta on 24 April 2021.

To conclude, it is my fervent hope that the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) will generate a productive and fruitful discussion as an integral part in our common endeavours to realize the ASEAN Community Vision 2025.

Stay united and stay healthy.

I thank you.

Jakarta, August 2021

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA,

Sgd.

JOKO WIDODO

**Message of
H.E. Thongloun SISOULITH,
President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on the Occasion of the
42nd ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) General Assembly**

Via Videoconference

**Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam
23-25 August 2021**

- **H.E. Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Mohamed Taib, Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam, President of AIPA,**
- **Esteemed Delegations,**

On behalf of the Government and all multi-ethnic people of the Lao PDR, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to H.E. Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Mohamed Taib, Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam and President of AIPA, as well as to all delegations on the convening of the 42nd ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) General Assembly via videoconference under the Chairmanship of Brunei Darussalam.

I would also like to take this auspicious opportunity to convey my warmest greetings, sincere congratulations and wishes to all delegations of AIPA attending this important Meeting.

The 42nd AIPA General Assembly is taken place in a virtual format at the time when the world and ASEAN region as a whole are facing major COVID-19 pandemic and natural disasters posing enormous impact to public health, socio-economic development, stability and security. Against this backdrop, I highly appreciate the joint collaboration within ASEAN, and between ASEAN and its Dialogue Partners in setting out comprehensive measures to prevent, address and recover in the post-COVID-19. The Lao PDR supports and stands ready to fully cooperate in this endeavour.

I highly value the theme of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly: *"Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025"*, which is of great importance to promote the role of parliament in encouraging and complementing the collective commitment to realising the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the ASEAN Digital Master Plan 2025 with a view to building a resilient and modern community, narrowing the digital divide and leaving no one behind.

I am confident that the 42nd AIPA General Assembly will provide the Representatives of AIPA Member Parliaments with a good opportunity to exchange views on issues of mutual interest in view of maintaining and promoting solidarity and unity in diversity and Centrality of ASEAN so as to contribute to building a

resilient and prosperous ASEAN Community that ensures tangible benefits for all the peoples of ASEAN Member States.

I wish to extend my best wishes to His Excellency Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Mohamed Taib, Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam, President of AIPA and all delegations good health and wish the 42nd AIPA General Assembly a great success.

Vientiane, August 2021

Thongloun Sisoulith
President
Lao People's Democratic Republic



MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

MESSAGE

My warmest greetings to the Heads of Delegations and participants of the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA).

The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the adoption of digital technologies in our day-to-day lives, while exposing the gaping digital divide between the rich and the poor across our region.

Under the new normal, information and communications technologies have become lifelines facilitating access to basic services, creating new economic opportunities, and connecting peoples. Promoting digital inclusion is therefore imperative to achieving comprehensive recovery where no one is left behind.

Accelerating digital transformation in governance, the economy, and security is indeed key to building a more resilient, prosperous, and inclusive ASEAN Community.

I call on AIPA, the region's premier inter-parliamentary organization, to intensify cooperation in ensuring the equitable access of the peoples of ASEAN, including the most vulnerable, to vital digital technologies.

Coordination between the executive and legislative branches must likewise be strengthened so we can create policy frameworks that support e-governance and the digital economy, strengthen cybersecurity, and advance the region's agenda on the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

We count on AIPA as a partner in achieving the ASEAN Community Vision 2025, paving the way for ASEAN becoming a leading digital community and the most vibrant economic bloc in the Indo-Pacific region.

Mabuhay!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rodrigo Roa Duterte".

RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE

MANILA
23 August 2021

MDM PRESIDENT HALIMAH YACOB'S MESSAGE
FOR THE
42nd ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (AIPA)
GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 23 TO 25 AUGUST 2021

1 Since its establishment 54 years ago, ASEAN has been a catalyst for peace, prosperity and mutual cooperation in the region. Its open, inclusive and rules-based nature has underpinned the development of ASEAN into a highly integrated regional grouping with strong links to the rest of the world. The region's young workforce and growing middle class put ASEAN in good stead for further growth and development.

2 ASEAN has weathered many serious challenges over the years, including the geopolitical uncertainties arising from the end of the Cold War, the 1997 Asian Financial Crisis and the 2008 Global Financial Crisis. Harnessing the region's qualities of pragmatism, resoluteness and cooperation, ASEAN has joined hands to fight the COVID-19 pandemic since early 2020. The pandemic has disrupted the way we live, work and travel, and none of us have been spared from its effects.

3 During Vietnam's ASEAN Chairmanship in 2020, ASEAN Member States (AMS) worked together tirelessly to mitigate the public health challenge posed by the pandemic, as well as its socio-economic effects. At the onset of the pandemic, all AMS quickly rose to the occasion to support one another in the repatriation and provision of consular assistance to one another's citizens. We also agreed to facilitate timely sharing of information for any trade-related measures on goods like food and medical supplies, so as to ensure local needs are met, and to protect public health. To preserve supply chain connectivity for

essentials and medical supplies, ASEAN Leaders adopted the Hanoi Plan of Action on Strengthening ASEAN Economic Cooperation and Supply Chain Connectivity in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic in April 2020. ASEAN Leaders also launched the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework and its Implementation Plan in November 2020. Beyond enhancing health systems, the Implementation Plan also addresses steps that the region must take to strengthen human security, improve economic integration, accelerate digital transformation, while working towards a more sustainable and resilient future.

4 Under Brunei's ASEAN Chairmanship theme of "We Care, We Prepare, and We Prosper", the AMS have continued the fight against the pandemic. First, to address the public health challenge, ASEAN has agreed to use the COVID-19 Response Fund to purchase vaccines for ASEAN Member States and the ASEAN Secretariat. Singapore announced its contribution of USD 100,000 to the COVID-19 ASEAN Response Fund at the 37th ASEAN Summit in November last year. Singapore has agreed to donate our share of COVID-19 vaccines under the COVAX initiative to other ASEAN countries which might need it more. We hope that this will further contribute to the global vaccination effort.

5 Second, AMS have continued to support one another's containment efforts through the provision of medical equipment and supplies. Some of Singapore's neighbors had offered Singapore Personal Protective Equipment during the first few months of the pandemic. Singapore has also donated COVID-19 diagnostic tests kits, ventilators oxygen supplies and other medical equipment to several ASEAN neighbours.

6 Third, to position our economies to bounce back after the pandemic, AMS have worked to further liberalise trade. To this end, it is important for parliamentarians in the various RCEP Participating Countries to support the swift domestic ratification of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership agreement (RCEP). As an early ratifier of the RCEP, Singapore hopes that other AMS can do so likewise soon, so that it can come into force by January 2022 as planned.

7 Last, we are working to progressively re-open our economies in a safe and calibrated manner. To facilitate travel resumption across the region, ASEAN is looking to develop interoperable digital solutions. It is also heartening that ASEAN has established an ASEAN Travel Corridor Arrangement Framework, which will allow for the safe and gradual resumption of travel within the region.

8 The pandemic has also accelerated the digitalisation of society. Many businesses are going online, consumers are increasingly turning to e-commerce platforms as well as e-payment solutions, and families are keeping in touch through digital tools. To address these trends, ASEAN has adopted the ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2025, aimed at developing our peoples' digital abilities, harnessing the powerful potential of the digital economy and enhancing our cybersecurity capabilities. AMS have also strengthened cooperation under mechanisms like the ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN) to exchange ideas, share technologies, as well as build a more sustainable future together. These efforts collectively build a strong foundation for ASEAN Member States to transition to a COVID-19 resilient future.

9 Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic is not the only challenge ASEAN faces. Singapore remains gravely concerned over the situation in Myanmar, which has significant implications for regional stability. ASEAN's response to this situation has profound implications for the unity and credibility of ASEAN. Singapore joins the rest of ASEAN and our partners in supporting the swift implementation of ASEAN's Five-Point Consensus. Singapore welcomes the appointment of the ASEAN Chair's Special Envoy to facilitate dialogue among the stakeholders in Myanmar. Meanwhile, ASEAN Leaders have directed the ASEAN Centre for Humanitarian Assistance (AHA Centre) to launch an effort to provide much needed humanitarian assistance to the Myanmar people. Singapore recognises that there are no quick solutions for the situation in Myanmar. The process of political resolution is a complex one, and its solution ultimately lies in the hands of the Myanmar people.

10 The importance of ASEAN's cohesiveness and unity cannot be overstated in these challenging times. Even as we work together on regional recovery efforts, we do so while looking out for the most vulnerable segments of society. We should develop strategies to help our youth, whose education and mental health have been deeply affected, our elderly, who have been penned up in lockdowns and shorn of their community of support for so long, and our citizens, who have endured unprecedented economic and social hardships. In this regard, the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) plays an important role in reflecting the views, interests, and aspirations of ASEAN citizens to the governments, while also communicating the importance of supporting a more integrated, digital and forward-looking ASEAN Community to our citizens.

11 Congratulations to Brunei on its able chairmanship of ASEAN this year, as well as to AIPA on the convening of the 42nd Inter-Parliamentary Assembly.



**Message
from
His Excellency General Prayut Chan-o-cha (Ret.)
Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand**

.....

On behalf of the Royal Thai Government and people of the Kingdom of Thailand, I am pleased to extend our full support for Brunei Darussalam's ASEAN Chairmanship priorities and deliverables under the theme of "We Care, We Prepare, We Prosper". I would also like to convey my gratitude and appreciation to Brunei Darussalam for hosting the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA), and take this opportunity to extend my cordial greetings and best wishes to all AIPA delegations.

The theme for this meeting entitled, "Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025", effectively highlights the intention of AIPA to enhance cooperation within ASEAN in building an ASEAN Community that will contribute to a more competitive, resilient, and well-connected region through digital innovations. In particular, as advancements in digitalization increasingly shape our approach to global issues, it is vital for all countries and societies to embrace and harness digital technologies in order to effectively respond to complex global challenges, such as the current COVID-19 pandemic.

The COVID-19 pandemic is a sobering reminder that no-one is safe until we are all safe, thus warranting greater cooperation within ASEAN to support each other on a host of issues, such as sharing information on epidemiology trends, outbreak containment mechanisms, and preparing for the post-pandemic era. In this regard, digital innovations can be important tools for promoting the well-being of our societies and for our region's social and economic recovery in a post-COVID-19 world.

On this occasion, I wish to reiterate my confidence in the long history of cooperation in ASEAN and the strong role of AIPA in building a resilient ASEAN Community. In light of the many challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for progress and development in ASEAN, I wish this meeting every success and look forward to its fruitful outcomes.

General  (Ret.)

(Prayut Chan-o-cha)
Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand

**Summary of Message from
His Excellency General Prayut Chan-o-cha (Ret.)
Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand**

On behalf of the Royal Thai Government and people of the Kingdom of Thailand, I am pleased to extend our full support for Brunei Darussalam's ASEAN Chairmanship priorities and deliverables under the theme of "We Care, We Prepare, We Prosper". I would also like to convey my gratitude and appreciation to Brunei Darussalam for hosting the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA), and take this opportunity to extend my cordial greetings and best wishes to all AIPA delegations. The theme for this meeting entitled, "Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025", effectively highlights the intention of AIPA to enhance cooperation within ASEAN in building an ASEAN Community that will contribute to a more competitive, resilient, and well-connected region through digital innovations. On this occasion, I wish to reiterate my confidence in the long history of cooperation in ASEAN and the strong role of AIPA in building a resilient ASEAN Community. In light of the many challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for progress and development in ASEAN, I wish this meeting every success and look forward to its fruitful outcomes.

**MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS
OF H.E. PRESIDENT NGUYEN XUAN PHUC
TO THE 42nd AIPA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Yours Excellency Abdul Rahman Taib Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela, Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam, President of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly, President of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly,

On behalf of the State and people of Viet Nam, I would like to extend my warmest greetings to you, Speakers and Heads of Delegations of Member Parliaments and all delegates attending the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly organized by the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam in virtual format.

The 42nd AIPA General Assembly this year takes place amid severe impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic faced by the region and the world. The pandemic has seriously affected the socio-economic development and livelihood of the people in many countries. These, coupled with traditional and non-traditional challenges, are threatening the security and stability in our region. Now, more than ever, it is necessary for the ASEAN Community to adopt a suitable vision, strengthen its unity, and uphold its resilience to overcome all challenges and “forge ahead together.” The legislative bodies, represented by AIPA and its Member Parliaments, have played a key role throughout the path of development of the ASEAN Community. I warmly welcome AIPA’s close cooperation and robust development over the past decades, and AIPA Member Parliaments’ continued support for the Governments of ASEAN member states in maintaining the environment of peace, security and stability in the region, fostering people-oriented and people-centred cooperation for sustainable development, and joining hands to control the COVID-19 pandemic and tailor socio-economic recovery plans.

In this spirit, I highly commend the AIPA General Assembly’s theme this year: “*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025.*” The theme, which is of immediate relevance, sets out practical requirements for ASEAN parliamentary cooperation and the need for the legislative branch to support its executive counterpart in expediting digital transformation, towards building a digital economy, narrowing the digital gap and digital inequality, to achieve digital inclusion in the ASEAN Community. In these trying times, I wish to underscore the significant role of ASEAN countries’ legislative bodies, via AIPA and its Member Parliaments, in effectively cooperating with and complementing the efforts of their Governments. This would bolster ASEAN’s synergy to overcome all hardships and fulfill its Community-building goals.

Given such confidence, I reaffirm that Viet Nam remains committed to making proactive, active and responsible contributions under multilateral cooperation frameworks, and in both legislative and executive dimensions. I am confident that the Vietnamese National Assembly will make every effort to promote AIPA’s cooperation

and development, and strengthen the growth and longevity of the ASEAN Community - a shared 'home' for over 650 million people from fraternal nations in our region.

It is my firm belief that under your presidency, with the thorough preparation of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam and the close coordination of Member Parliaments and the AIPA Secretariat, the 42nd AIPA General Assembly will be a resounding success.

Once again, I would like to convey my warm greetings and best wishes to you and all delegates of the General Assembly.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed)

NGUYỄN XUÂN PHÚC

ANNEX D

**WELCOMING ADDRESS BY
PRESIDENT OF AIPA**

H.E. PEHIN DATO ABDUL RAHMAN TAIB



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**WELCOMING ADDRESS BY
H.E. PEHIN ORANG KAYA SERI LELA DATO SERI SETIA AWANG
HAJI ABDUL RAHMAN BIN DATO SETIA HAJI MOHAMED TAIB,
PRESIDENT OF AIPA, ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

BISMILLAH-HIR-RAHMANNIR RAHIM,

Your Excellency Speakers and Presidents of AIPA Member Parliaments,

*Honourable Parliamentarians of AIPA Member Parliaments and AIPA Observer delegations,
Secretary-General of AIPA,*

Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh and Good Morning.

First of all, it gives me great pleasure to be here at the Opening Ceremony of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly, which is the second AIPA Meeting hosted by the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam during our AIPA presidency. As President of the 42nd AIPA, I would like to extend my warmest welcome to all AIPA parliamentarians as well as delegates of AIPA Observers, Guests and Partners at this virtual meeting as we look to discuss important issues of mutual concern.

Ideally, we would have been pleased to welcome Your Excellencies and all delegates to attend this year's AIPA General Assembly in Bandar Seri Begawan. But understandably, given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, I am pleased to see that our spirit of friendship and cooperation still prevails to allow us to convene this meeting in a virtual format and take advantage of technology to bring us together. May I also take this opportunity to congratulate Viet Nam for successfully convening last year's AIPA General Assembly virtually, which in turn has set the stage for us to host this year's AIPA General Assembly in a similar format.

Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and gentlemen,

As we work towards responding to and recovering from this pandemic collectively, it is high time that we ensure inclusive digital transformation in order to build resilience and better prepare the current and future generations for a post pandemic era. The rapid digital transformation and adoption brought about by the pandemic underscores just how important digitalisation is in today's IT-driven world, especially as we navigate through these challenging times together.

With this in mind, the theme for the 42nd AIPA General Assembly this year, which is “*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025*”, has been thoughtfully chosen to centre around digitalisation. As such, it is vital that we embrace, promote and enable digital inclusion as a means to further strengthen our parliamentary cooperation amidst the pandemic. The theme also highlights the important role of parliamentarians in supporting ASEAN’s vision for a community that is “politically cohesive, economically integrated and socially responsible” as we work together towards ASEAN 2025.

Issues such as women empowerment, climate change, cybersecurity and strengthening economic integration remain noteworthy and are all included in the agenda of this year’s AIPA General Assembly. Thus, it is important that we power through this current climate united in our resolve and purpose, to ensure that we remain aligned in our collective intention as AIPA parliamentarians.

Finally, in the spirit of solidarity, friendship and cooperation, I would like to once again welcome all distinguished delegates and wish the 42nd AIPA General Assembly much success. I look forward to your active participation and contribution in the discussions over the next few days.

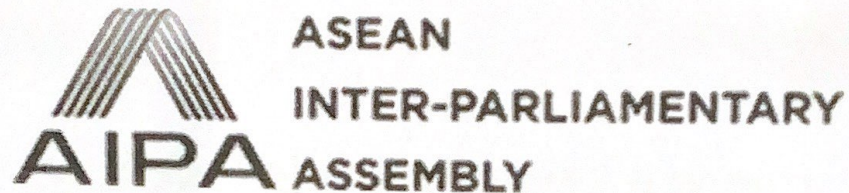
Thank you.

Wabillahi Taufique Walhidayah Wassalammualikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.

ANNEX E

**ROYAL SPEECH (TITAH) OF HIS
MAJESTY SULTAN HAJI HASSANAL
BOLKIAH MU'IZZADDIN WADDAULAH
IBNI AL-MARHUM SULTAN HAJI OMAR
'ALI SAIFUDDIEN SA'ADUL KHAIRI
WADDIEN, SULTAN AND YANG DI-
PERTUAN OF BRUNEI DARUSSALAM**

As of 7 August 2021



**PRE-RECORDED TITAH OF HIS MAJESTY
SULTAN HAJI HASSANAL BOLKIAH
MU'IZZADDIN WADDAULAH,
SULTAN AND YANG DI-PERTUAN
OF BRUNEI DARUSSALAM**

**for the official opening of 42nd General
Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-
Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA)
hosted by the Legislative Council of
Brunei Darussalam**

Monday, 23 August 2021



استان نورالایمان

نکارا بروني دارالسلام

Istana Nurul Iman

Negara Brunei Darussalam

Bismillahir Rahmanir Raheem.

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullaahi
Wabarakaatuh.

Your Excellencies, Distinguished
Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome all of you to the official opening of 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly hosted by the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam. The ongoing coronavirus pandemic has again made it necessary for us to hold this general assembly by video conference instead of in-person.



استان نورالایمان

نکارا بروني دارالسلام

Istana Nurul Iman

Negara Brunei Darussalam

The theme for Brunei Darussalam's ASEAN Chairmanship for the year 2021 is **“We Care, We Prepare, We Prosper”**. True to this year's theme, it is important to note that ASEAN has continued to respond rapidly amidst uncertainty in providing care for its people, preparing its community towards development.

In this regard, AIPA has strengthened its collaboration with ASEAN to work towards a more integrated and successful regional community.



استان نورالایمان

نکارا بروني دارالسلام

Istana Nurul Iman

Negara Brunei Darussalam

I am pleased to acknowledge the 42nd AIPA General Assembly theme **"Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025"**, which further contributes to reassert AIPA Member Parliaments' commitment in building ASEAN as a leading digital community and economy bloc. Through AIPA, we strive to promote awareness in harmonising regulations, standardising policies and appropriate legislations across ASEAN to protect grassroots and remain equitable on all fronts.



استان نورالایمان

نکارا بروني دارالسلام

Istana Nurul Iman

Negara Brunei Darussalam

Ladies and Gentlemen,

ASEAN's collective desire is to see our present and future generations continue to enjoy sustainable peace, security, prosperity and economic growth. Therefore, it is vital for parliamentarians concerned to persist in making AIPA the key organisation and platform that enhances multilateral cooperation.



استان نورالایمان

نکارا بروني دارالسلام

Istana Nurul Iman

Negara Brunei Darussalam

It is appropriate that the agenda for the 42nd AIPA General Assembly this year continues to touch on issues of common concern. I am confident that your discussions will generate new ways on how AIPA and ASEAN can work together to effectively respond to regional and global challenges during this difficult time.



استان نورالایمان

نکارا بروني دارالسلام

Istana Nurul Iman

Negara Brunei Darussalam

In the spirit of friendship and cooperation, I call upon ASEAN parliamentarians to continue to promote better understanding and to widen the network with fellow parliamentarians from AIPA Observer countries to ensure peaceful, harmonious and prosperous communities in our respective regions. Finally, I wish the 42nd AIPA General Assembly and its delegates much success in their deliberations.



استان نورالایمان

نکارا بروني دارالسلام

Istana Nurul Iman

Negara Brunei Darussalam

With the *Kalimah* "***Bismillahir
Rahmanir Raheem***", I am pleased to
declare the 42nd AIPA General Assembly
officially open.

Thank you.

ANNEX F

PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES
(BRUNEI DARUSSALAM TIME – GMT+8)**

MONDAY, 23 AUGUST 2021 (DAY ONE)

**9:00 AM PREPARE ONLINE MEETING SYSTEM –
CONNECTION TESTING**

**10:00 AM – 11:15 AM OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 42ND AIPA
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

- The AIPA Song (Pre-recorded)
- Welcoming Address by His Excellency Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib, the President of 42nd AIPA and Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam
- The National Anthem of Brunei Darussalam (Pre-recorded)
- Royal Speech (Titah) of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam

COFFEE BREAK (15 MINS)

11:30 AM – 12:45 PM

FIRST PLENARY SESSION

- Nomination of Vice-Presidents of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly
- Introduction of Delegations
- Discussion and Approval of:
 - Program of Activities for the 42nd AIPA General Assembly
 - Agenda for the 42nd AIPA General Assembly
 - Composition of 42nd AIPA Committee
 - Consideration of the Host of the 13th AIPA

Caucus

- Consideration of the Host of the 5th AIPACODD
- Date and Venue of the 43rd General Assembly of AIPA
- Other matters.

LUNCH BREAK

2:00 PM – 4:45 PM

STATEMENTS OF HEADS OF AIPA MEMBER DELEGATIONS (EACH DOES NOT EXCEED 7 MINS)

- Cambodia
- Republic Of Indonesia
- Lao People’s Democratic Republic
- Malaysia
- Republic Of the Philippines
- Republic Of Singapore
- Kingdom Of Thailand
- Socialist Republic of Viet Nam
- Brunei Darussalam

STATEMENT BY AIPA SECRETARY GENERAL

(Each does not exceed 5 mins)

STATEMENT BY ASEAN SECRETARY GENERAL

(Each does not exceed 5 mins)

STATEMENTS BY LEADERS OF OBSERVER DELEGATIONS

(Pre-recorded, each does not exceed 3 mins)

- Australia
- The Republic of Belarus
- Canada
- People’s Republic of China
- European Parliament
- India
- Republic of Korea
- Kingdom of Morocco
- Norway
- Russian Federation

STATEMENTS BY GUESTS OF THE HOST

(Pre-recorded, each does not exceed 3 mins)

- Representative of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
- Inter-Parliamentary Union

- Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum

COFFEE BREAK (15 MINUTES)

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM **MEETING OF THE WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS OF AIPA (WAIPA)**

TUESDAY, 24 AUGUST 2021 (DAY TWO)

9:00 AM **PREPARE ONLINE MEETING SYSTEM – CONNECTION TESTING**

9:30 AM – 12:00 PM **COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL MATTERS**

LUNCH BREAK

1:15 PM – 3:15 PM **COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC MATTERS**

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM **COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL MATTERS**

WEDNESDAY, 25 AUGUST 2021 (DAY THREE)

9:00AM **PREPARE ONLINE MEETING SYSTEM – CONNECTION TESTING**

10:00AM – 12:30PM **COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

LUNCH BREAK

2:30PM – 5:15PM **SECOND PLENARY**

PRESENTATION AND ADOPTION OF REPORTS:

- Women Parliamentarians of AIPA (WAIPA)
- Committee on Political Matters
- Committee on Economic Matters
- Committee on Social Matters
- Committee on Organizational Matters

SIGNING OF THE JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ

COFFEE BREAK (15 MINS)

PRESENTATION OF THE AIPA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DATE AND VENUE OF 43RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AIPA

CLOSING CEREMONY

- Closing Remarks by His Excellency Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib, the President of the 42nd AIPA and Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam
- Transfer of AIPA Presidency for 2022
- Presentation of Video Clip from the National Assembly of Cambodia
- Acceptance Speech by the President of the 43rd General Assembly of AIPA

ANNEX G

AGENDA ITEMS



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

AGENDA ITEMS

A. WAIPA

1. Promoting Women's Economic Empowerment in The Future of Work and Post Pandemic Recovery Through Digital and Financial Inclusion (*Proposed by Brunei Darussalam*)

B. Political Committee

1. Report of the 12th AIPA Caucus
2. Enhancing Cybersecurity and Data Protection Towards a Resilient Cyberspace in ASEAN (*Proposed by Brunei Darussalam*)
3. Fostering Human Security in Digital Inclusion for ASEAN (*Proposed by Malaysia*)
4. Promoting Parliamentary Diplomacy to move forward the ASEAN Community (*Proposed by Thailand*)
5. Parliamentary Support on the Situation in Myanmar (*Proposed by Indonesia*)

C. Economic Committee

1. Promoting Inclusive Digital ASEAN to Empower MSMEs and Strengthen the ASEAN Economic Integration (*Jointly proposed by Brunei Darussalam and Malaysia*)
2. Post-COVID-19 Economic Recovery: Tourism Cooperation in ASEAN (*Proposed by Thailand*)

D. Social Committee

1. Report of the 4th AIPACODD Meeting
2. Strengthening Cooperation and Enhancing Digital Inclusion to Reduce Climate Change Impacts (*Proposed by Brunei Darussalam*)
3. Technology to Facilitate Greater Election Participation (*Proposed by Malaysia*)
4. Localising the SDG for Effective National Implementation (*Proposed by Malaysia*)

E. Organizational Committee

1. Financial Report 2020-2021
2. Draft Resolution on Granting Permission to Use Special Funds for the Payment of Cost-Sharing of the New Premises of AIPA Secretariat and for the Minor Adjustment in the Salary of the Locally Recruited Staff of the AIPA Secretariat
3. Budget Estimation 2021-2022
4. Secretariat's Annual Report 2020-2021

5. Accrediting the Parliament of Ukraine as an Observer of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA)
6. Accrediting the Parliament of Pakistan as an Observer of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA)
7. Accrediting the Parliament of Georgia as an Observer of Asean Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA)
8. Amendment to the AIPA Statutes
9. Guiding Rules and Procedures for the Hosting of the AIPA General Assembly
10. Guidelines and Procedures of the AIPA-ASEAN Dialogue
11. Rules and Procedures of the Meeting of the Young Parliamentarians of AIPA
12. Establishment of the AIPA-EP Dialogue
13. AIPA Distinguished Service Award to H.E. Post. Dr. Kittisethabindit Cheam Yeap (Cambodia)
14. AIPA Distinguished Service Award to Hon. Dr. Fadli Zon (Indonesia)
15. Appreciation of the President of AIPA
16. Date and Venue of the 43rd AIPA GA

ANNEX H

COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23 - 25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion Towards ASEAN
Community 2025*

COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES

COMMITTEES

WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS OF AIPA (WAIPA)

Chairperson: Honorable Ms. Siti Rozaimeriyanty Dato Seri Laila Jasa Haji Abdul Rahman

Brunei Darussalam

- a) Hon. Ms. Khairunnisa Haji Ash 'ari
- b) Hon. Pehin Dato Haji Judin Haji Asar
- c) Hon. Ms. Nik Hafimi Abdul Haadii
- d) Hon. Mr. Haji Mohimin Haji Johari

Cambodia

- a) Hon. Mrs. Nin Saphon
- b) Hon. Mrs. Mean Som An
- c) Hon. Mrs. Lork Kheng
- d) Hon. Mrs. Un Sokunthea
- e) Hon. Mrs. Khoun Khundy
- f) Hon. Mrs. Mak Vansitha

Indonesia

- a) Hon. Mrs. Himmatul Aliyah
- b) Hon. Mrs. Arzeti Bilbina

Lao PDR

- a) Hon. Mrs. Thoummaly Vongphachanh
- b) Hon. Mrs. Vandy Bouthsavong

Malaysia

- a) Hon. Mrs. Dato' Sri Rohani Abdul Karim
- b) Hon. Mrs. Natrah Ismail

Philippines

- a) Hon. Mrs. Maria Lourdes Acosta-Alba
- b) Hon. Deputy Speaker Rose Marie J. Arenas
- c) Hon. Ann K. Hofer
- d) Hon. Sandra Y. Eriquel, M.D.
- e) Hon. Sharon S. Garin

Singapore

- a) Hon. Ms. Cheryl Chan
- b) Hon. Ms. He Ting Ru
- c) Hon. Ms. Nadia Ahmad Samdin

Thailand

- a) Hon. Mrs. Pikulkeaw Krairiksh
- b) Hon. Mr. Ekkapob Pianpises
- c) Hon. Ms. Phetchompoo Kijburana

Vietnam

- a) Hon. Nguyen Thuy Anh
 - b) Hon. Dinh Thi Phuong Lan
 - c) Hon. Le Thu Ha
 - d) Hon. Thai Quynh Mai Dung
 - e) Hon. Vu Thi Luu Mai
 - f) Hon. Pham Thi Hong Yen
-

COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL MATTERS

Chairperson: Honorable Ms. Nik Hafimi Abdul Haadii

Brunei Darussalam

- a) Hon. Ms. Khairunnisa Haji Ash'ari
- b) Hon. Pehin Dato Haji Judin Haji Asar
- c) Hon. Mr. Haji Umarali Esung
- d) Hon. Mr. Haji Abdul Hamid Arsad
- e) Hon. Ms. Siti Rozaimeriyanty Dato Haji Abdul Rahman
- f) Hon. Mr. Iswandy Ahmad
- g) Hon. Mr. Naim Haji Kamis
- h) Hon. Mr. Pengiran Haji Mohamed Pengiran Haji Osman

Cambodia

- a) Hon. Mr. Chheang Vun
- b) Hon. Mr. Mam Bunneang
- c) Hon. Mr. Loy Sophath
- d) Hon. Mr. Kep Chuktema
- e) Hon. Nim Chantara

Indonesia

- a) Hon. Dr. Fadli Zon
- b) Hon. Mr. Ichsan Firdaus
- c) Hon. Mr. Muslim

Lao PDR

- a) Hon. Mr. Sanya Praseuth
- b) Hon. Mr. Amphay Chitmanonh

Malaysia

- a) Hon. Mr. Dato' Mohd Rashid Bin Hasnon
- b) Hon. Mr. Dato' Seri Shahidan Kassim
- c) Hon. Mr. Yusuf Abd Wahab
- d) Hon. Mr. Wong Chen
- e) Hon. Mr. Datuk Hasanuddin Mohd Yunus

Philippines

- a) Hon. Deputy Speaker Rufus B. Rodriguez
- b) Hon. Ann K. Hofer

Singapore

- a) Hon. Mr. Lim Biow Chuan
- b) Hon. Ms. Raeesah Khan
- c) Hon. Mr. Zhulkamain Abdul Rahim

Thailand

- a) Hon. Mr. Kitti Wasinondh
- b) Hon. Gen. Thawip Netniyom
- c) Hon. Assoc. Prof. Rong Boonsuaykhwan

Vietnam

- a) Hon. Vu Hai Ha
 - b) Hon. Don Tuan Phong
 - c) Major General Nguyen Minh Duc
 - d) Hon. Pham Phu Binh
-

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC MATTERS

Chairperson: Honorable Ms. Siti Rozaimeryanty Dato Seri Laila Jasa Haji Abdul Rahman

Brunei Darussalam

- a) Hon. Ms. Nik Hafimi Abdul Haadii
- b) Hon. Pehin Dato Haji Judin Haji Asar
- c) Hon. Mr. Pengiran Haji Ali Pengiran Maon
- d) Hon. Mr. Haji Mohimin Haji Johari
- e) Hon. Mr. Awang Hanapi Bin Mohd Siput

Cambodia

- a) Hon. Mr. Ty Sokun
- b) Hon. Mr. Ai Khan
- c) Hon. Mr. Chay Borin
- d) Hon. Mr. Kheav Phearith
- e) Hon. Mr. Ouk Damry

Indonesia

- a) Hon. Mr. Hafisz Tohir
- b) Hon. Mr. I Gusti Agung Rai Wirajaya

Lao PDR

- a) Hon. Assoc. Prof. Dr Linkham Douangsavanh
- b) Hon. Mr. Thanta Kongphaly

Malaysia

- a) Hon. Mr. Ahmad Fadhli Shaari
- b) Hon. Mr. Datuk Zakaria Mohd Edris

Philippines

- a) Hon. Sharon S. Garin

Singapore

- a) Hon. Mr. Saktiandi Supaat
- b) Hon. Mr. Shawn Huang
- c) Hon. Ms. Ng Ling Ling

Thailand

- a) Hon. Mr. Manoon Sivapiromrat
- b) Hon. Mrs. Pikulkeaw Krairiksh

c) Hon. Mr. Krisda Tanterdtit

Vietnam

- a) Hon. Pham Thi Hong Yen
 - b) Hon. Vu Thi Luu Mai
 - c) Hon Thai Quynh Mai Dung
 - d) Hon. Bui Hoai Son
-

COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL MATTERS

Chairperson: Honorable Ms. Khairunnisa Haji Ash'ari

Brunei Darussalam

- a) Hon. Mr. Ong Tiong Oh
- b) Hon. Pehin Dato Haji Judin Haji Asar
- c) Hon. Mr. Iswandy Ahmad
- d) Hon. Mr. Haji Tahamit Haji Nudin
- e) Hon. Mr. Haji Abdul Wahab Apong
- f) Hon. Mr. Haji Emran Haji Sabtu

Cambodia

- a) Hon. Mr. Yang Sem
- b) Hon. Mrs. Nin Saphon
- c) Hon. Mrs. Lork Kheng
- d) Hon. Mrs. Un Sokunthea
- e) Hon. Mrs. Mak Vansitha
- f) Hon. Mr. Long Bunny

Indonesia

- a) Hon. Mr. Putu Supadma Rudana
- b) Hon. Mr. Arkananta Akram

Lao PDR

- a) Hon. Mrs. Thoummaly Vongphachanh
- b) Hon. Mr. Bounelome Keobouahome

Malaysia

- a) Hon. Mrs. Dato' Sri Hajah Rohani Abdul Karim
- b) Hon. Mr. Wong Chen
- c) Hon. Mr. Ahmad Fadhli Shaari

Philippines

- a) Hon. Ms. Rose Marie "Baby" J. Arenas

Singapore

- a) Hon. Mr. Sitoh Yih Pin
- b) Hon. Ms. Hany Soh
- c) Hon. Mr. Don Wee

Thailand

- a) Hon. Mr. Jetn Sirathranont
- b) Hon. Mr. Chakkrapan Pornnimit
- c) Hon. Ms. Pechdau Tohmeena

Vietnam

- a) Hon. Mr. Nguyen Tuan Anh
 - b) Hon. Mr. Nguyen Hoang Mai
 - c) Hon. Mr. Dinh Cong Sy
 - d) Hon. Mr. Pham Phu Binh
-

COMMITTEE ON ORGANISATIONAL MATTERS

Chairperson: Honorable Mr. Haji Abdul Hamid Sabli Haji Arshad

Brunei Darussalam

- a) Hon. Pehin Dato Haji Hasrin Haji Sabtu
- b) Hon. Pehin Dato Haji Judin Haji Asar
- c) Hon. Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Ghani Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Rahim
- d) Hon. Nik Hafimi Abdul Haadi
- e) Hon. Mr. Haji Abdul Hamid Haji Mumin
- f) Hon. Mr. Haji Ramli Haji Lahit

Cambodia

- a) Hon. Mr. Chhit Kim Yeat
- b) Hon. Mr. Hou Sry
- c) Hon. Dr. Ly Chheng
- d) Hon. Mr. Pich Chivorn
- e) Hon. Mr. Tak Vantha

Indonesia

- a) Hon. Dr. Mardani Ali Sera
- b) Hon. Dr. Andi Yuliani Paris

Lao PDR

- a) Hon. Mrs. Pingsham Lasasimma
- b) Hon. Mr. Thanta Kongphaly
- c) Hon. Dr. Bouthanh Bounvilay

Malaysia

- a) Hon. Mr. Datuk Hasanuddin Mohd Yunus
- b) Hon. Mr. Ahmad Hassan

Philippines

- a) Hon. Ms. Sandra Y. Eriguel, M.D.

Singapore

- a) Hon. Ms. Tin Pei Ling
- b) Hon. Ms. Yeo Wan Ling
- c) Hon. Mr. Yip Hon Weng

Thailand

- a) Hon. Mr. Anusart Suwanmongkol
- b) Hon. Prof. Kanchanaratt Leevirojana
- c) Hon. Mr. Ekkachai Songamnantcharon
- d) Hon. Mr. Issara Sereewatthanawut

Viet Nam

- a) Hon. Mrs. Le Thu Ha
 - b) Hon. Mr. Dinh Cong Sy
 - c) Hon. Mrs. Dinh Thi Phuong Lan
 - d) Hon. Mr. Pham Phu Binh
-

ANNEX I

STATEMENTS BY HEADS OF DELEGATIONS OF AIPA MEMBER PARLIAMENTS



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**STATEMENT BY
HON. PEHIN ORANG KAYA PENDIKAR ALAM DATO PADUKA SERI
AWANG HAJI HASRIN BIN DATO PADUKA AWANG HAJI SABTU
HEAD OF DELEGATION OF BRUNEI DARUSSALAM
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh
Bismillahir Rahmannir Raheem and a very Good Afternoon

Your Excellency,
President of the 42nd ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly,
Excellency Speakers of AIPA Member Parliaments and Members of AIPA Parliamentary
Delegates,
Secretary General of AIPA,
Secretary General of ASEAN,
Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.

On behalf of the Speaker of Legislative Council, of Brunei Darussalam, it is with great pleasure to welcome all of you to the virtual meeting of the Forty Second General Assembly of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly hosted by Brunei Darussalam.

Today we are confronted with an unprecedented crisis the world has never experienced before. The COVID-19 pandemic has intensified and expanded in terms of its global reach, with huge impacts on public health. However, with a spirit of solidarity, the virtual gathering today of Parliamentarians from all ASEAN, observer countries and guests of the Host are made possible though in a different atmosphere.

The theme of the Forty Second General Assembly of AIPA is “*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion Towards ASEAN Community 2025*”. Digital inclusion is a prime agenda across ASEAN Member States that takes challenges in order to fulfill connectivity gaps in internet access and affordability.

Your Excellencies,

AIPA plays an instrumental role in realising digital inclusion in ASEAN through the people or grassroots with appropriate legislation and community that promote awareness of the value of digital services to the society. Therefore, in harmonising regulation and standardising the

policies across ASEAN, AIPA can be a sounding board for ASEAN Member States to align and assimilate strategies, policies, action plans, and roadmaps across all sectors while considering utilising digital technology as an effective enabling tool.

Meanwhile, we are also facing challenges on the issue of Cybersecurity and Data Protection. the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Blueprint 2025 called for the establishment of a coherent and comprehensive framework for personal data protection. Therefore, it is a role of AIPA Member Parliaments to ensure cybersecurity in the region, in accordance with the domestic laws, policies and regulations of ASEAN Member States.

The ASEAN Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2016 - 2025, must be supported to avoid negative impact on MSMEs businesses that could further hinder the growth of ASEAN economy. Therefore, AIPA Member Parliaments should encourage ASEAN member states to prioritize connectivity, regional integration and narrowing the development gap among ASEAN members state in a coordinated approach to achieve the objectives of the fourth industrial revolution and closer sectoral integration;

The price of pollution is difficult to determine and it is a cross-cutting issue. It is important for AIPA Member Parliaments to collaborate and provide guidance within ASEAN in utilising available resources towards integrating digital technology for climate resilience and adaptation. We all have a role to play in our global recovery and transformation to create a safer and a more resilient world.

Sustainable Development on achieving gender equality and empower all women and girls is highlighted in Women Parliamentarian Meeting to emphasize the use of enabling technology, particularly information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women. This is in line with the theme of Brunei Darussalam 2021

ASEAN Chairmanship “We Care, We Prepare, We Prosper” to ensure the well-being and livelihood of the people, to adapt and to overcome any future challenges in achieving a sustainable ASEAN Community.

Your Excellencies,

Over the years, AIPA has bloomed and thrived and has adapted to the challenges and most importantly the needs of ASEAN. The Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam once again has the honour to host and chair the Forty Second General Assembly of AIPA alongside with the chairmanship of Brunei Darussalam to ASEAN for the year 2021. AIPA supports ASEAN’s emphasis on the role of our government in looking after our people.

Finally, may I, once again, welcome all delegates to the virtual meeting of the Forty Second General Assembly of AIPA and I am wishing all delegates a good health, successes in their tasks, wishing for their safety and happiness. I hope and pray with the spirit of comradeship, the Forty Second AIPA General Assembly, Insha Allah will be a success.

Thank you and wabillahitaufik wal hidayah wassalammualaikum warrahmatullahi wabrakatuh.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**STATEMENT BY
SAMDECH AKKA MOHA PONCHEA CHAKREI HENG SAMRIN,
HEAD OF DELEGATION OF CAMBODIA
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

Honorable Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Taib, President of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly,
Honorable Speakers and Members of Parliament of AIPA Member Countries,
Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and thank the Legislative Council of Brunei for its great efforts and wonderful arrangements for the 42nd AIPA General Assembly via teleconference.

I would also like to express my deepest condolences for the tragic loss of lives caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

I strongly support the chosen theme of **Promoting Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025** as highly appropriate, reflecting the need to achieve a more inclusive ASEAN Community with leading digital connectivity ensuring high security and sustainability.

Our world is now growing more complex, highly competitive, and facing drastic changes in balances of economic power and competition in trade. These require all of us to be more internationally united and to embrace multilateralism, an important policy choice for resolving problems based on the principles of international law. *Honorable Speakers and Members of Parliament,*

In the contemporary world in the context of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, science and technology are growing and evolving rapidly. This has created new economic models and changed production processes, consumption, distribution of goods and services, and means of communicating in our society which requires us to strengthen capacity and competitiveness across the region and the world.

ASEAN has introduced concrete plans to achieve the ASEAN Vision 2025, including the ASEAN Digital Master Plan 2025, which is an important driving force in promoting resilient economic growth, pushing economic diversification and enhancing productivity and competitiveness. But we need to also ensure that digitalization is inclusive and that multilateral cooperation on digital governance and rules is strengthened.

The Royal Government of Cambodia recently launched the “Digital Economic and Social Policy Framework 2021-2035” to build a vibrant digital economy and society aimed at promoting digital adoption and transformation. This policy will play a critical role in economic recovery plans after the Covid-19 crisis through the development of digital infrastructure and the promotion of trust and confidence in digital systems, digital citizens, digital government and digital business. *Honorable Speakers and Members of Parliament,*

In these circumstances, digital technology will play an increasingly important role in spurring economic recovery after the Covid-19 crisis as well as promoting a new, sustainable and more resilient economy.

Moving towards digitalization, however, we face numerous issues such as digital development gaps, digital illiteracy and cybersecurity which are critical challenges, especially, for developing countries whose resources and capabilities are constrained. We therefore need to invest and allocate more resources to promote digital literacy and the capacities of our people.

In this regard, I would like to call for parliamentary cooperation to build inclusive and safe digital infrastructure by sharing cybersecurity information and regulations, and by promoting public-private cooperation, digital capacity building and cybersecurity awareness as well as strengthening cybersecurity management.

At the same time, the world is facing instability and growing multiple threats to peace that we have not seen in decades. We need peace as an important foundation for development. Peace and development must go hand in hand. It is therefore necessary to maintain peace and strive to promote sustainable development so our people can live in prosperity and progress.

Honorable Speakers and Members of Parliament,

Towards the end of this year, Cambodia will host the Thirteenth Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM13) and the Eleventh Asia-Europe Parliamentary Meeting (ASEP11). I would like to take this opportunity to invite all AIPA member parliaments and delegations to take part in these upcoming meetings.

Finally, I wish to express my appreciation to Brunei Darussalam for its leadership in organizing this 42nd AIPA General Assembly and wish the various AIPA committee meetings success.

Thank you.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**STATEMENT BY
H.E. DR. (H.C) PUAN MAHARANI
HEAD OF DELEGATION OF INDONESIA
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

Your Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam

His Excellency Mr. Abdul Rahman Taib, Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam

Excellencies, Speakers of AIPA Member Parliaments

Honorable AIPA Secretary General

Distinguished delegates,

On behalf of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia, I would like to convey my utmost appreciation to the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam for hosting the 42nd General Assembly of AIPA amid this COVID-19 pandemic situation.

This meeting proves that AIPA still continues to play its role to strengthen ASEAN's cooperation even in the midst of the pandemic.

Nowadays, we are facing a challenge from the ongoing mutation of Corona virus variants that no single country can face it alone.

It opens our eyes to the importance of international cooperation to cope with various global challenges.

COVID-19 pandemic is a test to ASEAN Member States' solidity, and whether ASEAN can go through this pandemic and grow stronger in the post pandemic time.

There are a vast number of cooperation that ASEAN Member States can do to curb the pandemic:

- Cooperation on sharing of information to deal with the spread of the virus
- Cooperation to fulfil supply of vaccine, medical equipments and drugs, including researches
- Cooperation to ensure that the flow of people and goods remains open, while maintaining health and safety aspects

This pandemic has given the ASEAN Member States a lesson to be more anticipative and to strengthen our resilience and our preparedness in facing any pandemics that may occur in the future.

The pandemic can also be a momentum for ASEAN Member States to carry out more inclusive, and greener development in the post-pandemic period.

- That is to achieve not only strong, but also quality of economic growth, that addresses inequality in the community and a fair distribution of the result of development.

Distinguished delegates,

This year's conference represents the hope that parliamentary cooperation may help improve digital connectivity among ASEAN Member States.

Today, the COVID-19 pandemic has contributed to the acceleration of the use of digital technology that has brought disruption in many areas.

Some community groups can adapt faster to this disruption, but some others need to put more effort to adapt, and sometimes need help from the State.

In this regard, ASEAN Member States need to promote cooperation and exchange of information in order to gain greater benefits from digital technology.

First, cooperation in increasing the availability of affordable internet access to everyone. It is related to the effort of improving internet access in remote and rural areas, and therefore it reduces the digital divide.

Second, cooperation in reinforcing human resources in literacy and skills to make the most out of digital technology, including literacy to counter hoaxes and disinformation.

Third, cooperation in formulating policies underpinning digital connectivity and ensuring digital activity security such as cybersecurity, personal data protection, and consumer protection.

Fourth, cooperation in fostering innovation, training, and research on digital technology, so that the youths in Southeast Asia can play their roles to affect the advancement of digital technology.

Along with the efforts to make the most out of digital technology to gain economic growth, we also need to pay attention to digital inclusion by expanding internet access for all.

Digital technology should be utilized to help alleviate all dimensions of poverty, and improving economic equality.

The use of digital technology should also need to be promoted to facilitate access of youths to education, and of poor community to health facilities.

Together with the government, the AIPA Member Parliaments have to ensure that digital inclusion can contribute to achieve the 2025 ASEAN Community.

Distinguished delegates,

Amid the effort to cope with the COVID-19 pandemic effectively, we need a stable and conducive situation in Southeast Asia region, that is supportive to the development of democracy, rule of law, and the respect for human rights. In this regard, the political crisis in Myanmar has posed some specific challenges to ASEAN.

- A peaceful settlement of the political crisis in Myanmar needs to be carried out immediately through an inclusive dialogue process, including the release of all political prisoners.
- Therefore, the Five-Point Consensus brought about by the ASEAN Leaders Meeting should be followed up soon, including the delivery of humanitarian aid through the assistance of AHA Centre.
- And ASEAN's Special Envoy should be given access to meet all parties in Myanmar.
- The Indonesian AIPA Delegation has proposed a draft resolution on the situation in Myanmar, and I hope that AIPA can give its endorsement.

To conclude, we need to reaffirm that during this uncertain situation, parliament still has to work effectively amid the pandemic. Parliamentary role becomes even more crucial to help ensure the development of democracy.

Let's go through this pandemic together in order to create ASEAN Community that is resilient and be prepared to face challenges in the future.

Thank you very much



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**STATEMENT BY
H.E. DR. XAYSOMPHONE PHOMVIHAN
HEAD OF DELEGATION OF LAO PDR
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam

H.E. Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Mohamed Taib, Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam, President of AIPA,

Honourable Speakers, Heads of Delegation of AIPA Member Parliaments, Heads of Delegation of Observer Parliaments,

Fellow AIPA Parliamentarians,

Secretary-General of AIPA,

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the National Assembly of Lao PDR and on my own behalf, I am deeply pleased to participate in the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN InterParliamentary Assembly (AIPA) today. At the outset, allow me to congratulate and commend H.E. Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Taib, Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam, President of AIPA, for the excellent arrangements made for this Meeting and I am confident that under Your Excellency's leadership, the Meeting will be a great success.

Mr. President,

The Lao National Assembly highly values and supports the theme of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly: ***“Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025”***, which will further contribute to the implementation of the ASEAN Digital Master Plan 2025 and ASEAN Plan of Action on Science, Technology and Innovation (APSTI) 2016-2025, including the outcomes of the 11th Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science, Technology and Innovation held in June 2021.

This year, the ASEAN region and the world as a whole are currently facing many challenges, namely the COVID-19 pandemic, persistent natural disasters and others, which have posed serious impact to public health, socio-economic development, regional and global stability and security. In this context, I highly appreciate the timely measures undertaken by ASEAN, notably, the convening of the ASEAN Leaders' Meeting held in April 2021 in Jakarta, Indonesia, during which the ASEAN Leaders reaffirmed their commitment to respond to the pandemic in a timely and effective manner.

Mr. President,

In this modern era, Information and Communication Technology is one of the fastest growing fields in innovative technological development, which plays an important role and serve as an essential tool for effective and efficient governance, socio-economic development, international relations and others. It has also contributed to the joint effort of narrowing the development gap between developing and least developed countries.

The Lao PDR attaches great importance to the development of science and technology. To this end, we developed a National Strategy on Scientific and Technological Development (2013-2020) and Vision 2030, and integrated them into the 9th Five-Year National Socio-Economic Development Plan (2021-2026). At the same time, the Government is concurrently working on the drafting of a Digital Economy Development Strategy for 2021-2025 that aims to alleviate poverty, creating economic equilibrium and enabling the country to integrate into regional and global economy. Such endeavour will also contribute to socio-economic development of the Lao PDR and create environment conducive to facilitate a transition from the Least Development Country Status (LDCs) by 2026 while promoting industrial modernization.

The Lao PDR has also put in place National Policy on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) that aims to encourage organisation and sectoral bodies within society to apply advanced technologies to improve the efficiency of governance, public service and economic growth. Furthermore, the Lao PDR also adopted a number of laws on ICT, namely, *Law on e-Transaction* and *Law on Preventing Cyber Crime*, among other, in order to accommodate and support such endeavours.

Furthermore, the Lao PDR continue to emphasize on the importance of human resource development in the field of ICT by integrating ICT into tertiary education curriculum, creating a conducive condition for the people living in remote areas, including the least advantaged group of people in society to get access to ICT, thereby improving the livelihoods of the people and narrowing development gap between the city and rural area. The Lao Government has also placed a strong emphasis on infrastructure development, telecommunication connectivity and high-speed internet, which be applied and utilized in the work of the Government, education institute and economy. Such application will further transform the operation of public services and businesses into a reliable, modern and efficient one, as well as facilitate and encourage Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSMEs) and StartUps to engage in online platform and create an enabling environment for businesses to get access to domestic, regional and global markets in an equitable manner.

The Lao National Assembly supports the application of ICT in governance and public service by introducing legislation and disseminating essential legal information, policy and national development strategy to the public, while closely monitoring and promoting compliance with the law and policy on the application of ICT.

Mr. President,

In realising a resilient and innovative ASEAN Community, we – as the AIPA Member Parliaments – must strengthen cooperation in science and technology research and development, and enhance coordination amongst AIPA Member Parliaments with a view to ensuring an equitable access to digital technologies for all in our society and promoting public-and-private participation in this important endeavour. Importantly, we must encourage AIPA Member Parliaments to implement and synergise the ASEAN Digital Master Plan 2025 and ASEAN Plan of Action on Science, Technology and Innovation (APSTI) 2016-2025 with their respective national policies and legislation.

Lastly, I would like to extend my best wishes to the President of AIPA, Heads of Delegation of AIPA Member Parliaments and distinguished guests for good health, prosperity and greater success in your noblest tasks.

(I thank you.)



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ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**STATEMENT BY
H.E. DATUK AZHAR AZIZAN HARUN
HEAD OF DELEGATION OF MALAYSIA
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim.

Assalamu'alaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh.

[Salutations]

His Excellency Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib, The President of AIPA

Speakers and Presidents of Parliament and National Assembly,

Madam Nguyễn Tuong Van, Secretary General of AIPA

Honourable Members of Parliament and Distinguished Guests.

A very good afternoon to all.

It is my great honour and esteemed privilege to have the opportunity to address this 42nd AIPA General Assembly today, despite these difficult pandemic times. Hence, it is with humility that I approach the issue at hand today: “Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025”.

Undeniably, the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic and the consequent physical closure of parliamentary buildings in early 2020 meant that many parliaments have had to resort to electronic means of business as a temporary stop-gap solution, including the consideration of a hybrid or virtual parliamentary sitting. Now more than ever, digital inclusion has become essential for parliaments.

Across the globe, parliaments have recognised this need and have experienced an increase in political and administrative interests in harnessing digital tools and reforming previously rigid and embedded attitudes towards novel ways of working. This newfound amenability presents a window of opportunity to make meaningful progress in both parliamentary and digital development.

However, it is important to note that there are many challenges that exist when it comes to digital technology that then translates to new forms of inequality. In example, while certain people have relevant skills to utilise these technologies and access their infrastructure, there exist others who will remain excluded due the lack thereof. The COVID-19 pandemic has glaringly exposed these disparities and disproportionately deepened this divide whilst exacerbating the resulting inequalities.

Digital equality should be at the forefront of our consideration now because it helps mitigate some of the deep social inequalities derived from being associated with disenfranchised groups of society who may be of low income, poor health, limited skills or disabilities.

In addressing these challenges, the 2016 World Development Report on ‘Digital Dividends’ explores ways of utilising digital technology to empower citizens, reduce poverty and increase income levels around the world. It is suggested that this can be achieved in 3 ways, namely through:

- **Inclusion** – overcoming physical barriers and accessing remote communities
- **Efficiency** – automating processes to help reduce the cost of transactions and services
- **Innovation** – developing digital platforms rapidly, at minimal cost.

With that in mind, parliaments can apply these suggestions to improve and integrate digital inclusion within its institution, to limit and prevent eventual inequalities.

In the case for the Parliament of Malaysia, we recognise that digital inclusion is applicable in various forms within our democratic practice. Holding upon the understanding that modernising and digitalising activities could have significant positive impacts on institutional transparency and accountability, the potential leverage on greater public interests and engagement in the legislative process is exciting, to say the least.

During the Parliament of Malaysia’s special sitting from July 26th to August 2nd, 2021, a number of digital initiatives have been adopted. These digital initiatives came with a common objective to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus and the will to embrace technology, in accordance with the urgency of its time.

Since members of the press and the public have been affected by physical restrictions to enter parliamentary premises, as a resolve, a hybrid press conference was made possible, with links provided to the press for an opportunity to conduct Q&A’s with Members of Parliament through Zoom application. Secondly, a virtual interactive interview session was independently arranged in efforts to encourage MPs to be interviewed by the press through Zoom.

These initiatives aim to support good internal digital practices, and provide more participative, informative, and integrated communications between Members of Parliament and the media.

Now more than ever, it is imperative that transparency and accuracy of information are carefully protected.

For instance, in June 2020, the United Nations’ Secretary-General Report on the ‘Roadmap for Digital Cooperation’ have highlighted (on the response) that ‘While accurate data and information related to the (COVID-19) pandemic are fundamental for an effective response to the crisis, social media however, presents a challenge whereby the platforms have been misused by some to spread dangerous misinformation and fuel discrimination, xenophobia and racism.’ Therefore, it is imperative for parliaments to ensure that the right ‘balance has to be struck between the use of technology and tracing applications to combat the spread of the virus and the safeguarding of privacy and individual rights.

It is essential that we respond to these challenges robustly, with inclusiveness and in collaboration, so as to move our parliamentary institutions to its highest visionary ideals and distinction.

Therefore, it is imperative that greater regional solidarity and cooperation is not only instilled but also cultivated within the fabrics of our governance. What each of our proud nations have

endured and overcome during these times of great extremes are nothing short of a testament to our individual strengths and excellence. Let that not distract us from the pursuit of a stronger and greater regional representation in ASEAN, built upon the riches in diversity and the commonality of developing our brilliant part of the world that we call home.

On behalf of the Parliament of Malaysia, we are ready to provide our undivided support of the remarkable efforts by our fellow AIPA members towards the realisation and collaboration of a greater ASEAN. I look forward to strengthening the relationships of our institutions.

Terima kasih and thank you.



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*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**STATEMENT BY
H.E. LORD ALLAN JAY Q. VELASCO
HEAD OF DELEGATION OF PHILIPPINES
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

Your Excellency Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Taib, President of AIPA and Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam;

Heads of AIPA Member Delegations and Secretaries-General of ASEAN and AIPA;

Heads and Members of Observer Delegations;

Heads and Members of Guests of the Host Parliament;

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my distinct privilege to deliver a statement on behalf of the Philippine delegation during this 42nd AIPA General Assembly. I wish to express my appreciation to our host, the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam, for its dedication and steadfast commitment to conduct this meeting amid the continuing COVID-19 pandemic.

We convene at a time when the region is still reeling from the effects of the pandemic. The costs on public health and economic activity have been truly painful. But at the same time, the pandemic has accelerated digitalization—which is transforming the way we communicate, work, learn, and live. It is fitting that this year’s theme focuses on ASEAN parliamentary cooperation on digital connectivity and inclusion that will lay the groundwork for a resilient economic recovery. The call to leverage the digital economy has become more compelling as the region grapples with the nature of the “new normal”.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

Digitalization has led the path for a nimble and more adaptive response to disruptive conditions. Digital platforms have enabled our people to stay connected and engaged, and for many businesses to operate amid the lockdown. With mobility restrictions, the use of these technologies supports work-from-home arrangements, remote learning, and offsite service delivery.

Digital transformation is now a major strategic focus for ASEAN to drive economic recovery and build back better. The transition to a digital economy will make the region more resilient to future external shocks. COVID-19 has accelerated this shift that was already underway. Consider these facts: 40 million people from the ASEAN-6 countries came online for the first time in 2020. This brings the total number of internet users in the region to 400 million, up from 250 million in 2015. At the same time, the size of the region’s internet economy in 2020 exceeded \$100 billion for the first time, and if current trends hold, is set to triple by 2025.

Unfortunately, not all countries are able to leverage digital technologies to their full potential. There are gaps between countries in the region in basic access to the internet, along with speed and cost. There also gaps in internet access within countries, especially in remote and marginalized areas. Finally, there are significant gaps in the policy and regulatory infrastructure to unlock further growth in the digital economy.

Everyone must have equitable access to opportunities the digital economy has to offer. Greater efforts should be made to narrow the digital divide within the specific context of each member state and community. The key is to invest in sufficient infrastructure and connectivity to broaden physical access to mobile and internet networks which will also enhance access to education, markets, and other economic opportunities.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

In the Philippine context, we have taken steps to reduce the digital divide by lowering regulatory and other barriers to market entry. The House of Representatives has approved legislative measures that allow a more diverse set of providers to enter and operate in the market, which includes:

- *Open Access in Data Transmission Act* - that aims to establish a strong and independent regulatory system and body to ensure fair competition in the data transmission industry; and,
- *Amendments to the Public Service Act* - that provides a clear distinction between how a public service and public utility is defined, in effect relaxing foreign participation in public utilities.

We have also helped foster a conducive environment to minimize inherent risks in a digital economy. Issues such as misuse of private information, personal security breaches and unsafe access deter producers and consumers from embracing digital solutions. To build trust and protect consumers, we have taken actions on:

- *Internet Transactions Act* - that seeks to regulate all business-to-business and business-to-consumer commercial transactions over the internet, including those related to internet retail, online travel services, digital media providers, ride-hailing services, and digital financial services.

To date, only four ASEAN member states have data protection laws, namely: the Philippines, Singapore, Malaysia, and Thailand, while other states in the region such as Indonesia are in various stages of developing their own data protection and data privacy laws.

Given the scale of the pandemic, ASEAN and AIPA have utilized digital diplomacy, with all of its meetings across all sectors held online, including those with Dialogue Partners. Digital diplomacy has indeed helped ASEAN member states continue their dialogue and coordination, and mobilize regional mechanisms to tackle the public health crisis.

Going forward, there are good reasons for ASEAN and AIPA to use digital platforms beyond COVID-19, especially for technical discussions and emergency response. I anticipate that virtual meetings will be further embedded in the AIPA system as a readily available platform for regional consultation and capacity-building. At the same time, traditional face-to-face diplomacy which puts premium on building trust and solidarity, remains essential, especially at summit levels where member states' political commitment to ASEAN agreements must be demonstrated and sustained. A hybrid combination therefore can provide us with the flexibility to promote operational efficiency, while preserving the venue for parliamentary diplomacy.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

More than about achieving growth, our continuing work in AIPA strive towards a "people-oriented and people-centered ASEAN community" where our citizens are able to enjoy the fruits of democracy, good governance and economic development. Our pursuit of a resilient and innovative ASEAN Community in 2025 therefore requires our collective reaffirmation of our key principles—of consultation and consensus, ASEAN Centrality, and unity and solidarity.

I am confident that AIPA member parliaments will work together to strengthen our united front that will show a caring and sharing ASEAN that is prepared to overcome challenges and is ready to capture present and future opportunities, while remaining firm in our faith in the region's robust prospects. Let us all take every possible measure to ensure that the twin miracles of growth and peace in the region endure, so that the benefits arising from these are felt by our peoples.

Let me conclude this message by conveying our high appreciation and gratitude to His Excellency Speaker Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Taib, for the excellent preparation on this year's General Assembly, as well as for the warm gesture extended to all the delegates.

We wish you a successful and productive meeting and, most of all, let us continue to work for a peaceful, safe and prosperous ASEAN! Thank you and I wish all of you good health.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**STATEMENT BY
H.E. TAN CHUAN-JIN
HEAD OF DELEGATION OF SINGAPORE
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

His Excellency Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Taib
Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam
Distinguished Colleagues
Your Excellencies
Ladies and Gentlemen

Allow me to extend my warmest greetings to my friends and colleagues here. I hope that this meeting finds all of you in good health. On behalf of the Singapore delegation, I would also like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation and gratitude to Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Taib for hosting the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly. It is my pleasure to join my distinguished colleagues and fellow Parliamentarians here today, albeit virtually. I would also like to congratulate Brunei on its able chairmanship of ASEAN this year, amidst these trying times.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been the defining crisis of our generation. It has claimed the lives of millions, devastated our economies, and turned back years of social progress and development in a matter of months. However, in these dark times, the strength and resilience of our region shone through. ASEAN Member States (AMS) have risen to the occasion to support one another. In April 2020, we adopted the Hanoi Plan of Action on Strengthening ASEAN Economic Cooperation and Supply Chain Connectivity in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Later that year, we created the COVID-19 ASEAN Response Fund and also launched the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework and its Implementation Plan. Apart from enhancing our health systems, these initiatives have helped to preserve supply chain connectivity, strengthen economic integration and accelerate digital transformation within ASEAN.

Our fight against COVID-19 has lasted longer than expected. New variants have emerged, and our governments are working hard to mitigate the pandemic's effects on public health and livelihoods. Under Brunei's ASEAN Chairmanship theme of "We Care, We Prepare, and We Prosper", we have redoubled our joint efforts. In particular, with an eye towards positioning ASEAN for a COVID-19 endemic world.

First, to address the public health challenge, ASEAN has agreed to utilize the COVID-19 ASEAN Response Fund to purchase vaccines for our Member States. This will contribute positively to our region's vaccination efforts. Second, to position our economies to bounce back

after the pandemic, ASEAN is working with our Partners towards the swift entry-into-force of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership agreement (RCEP). In this connection, I urge my parliamentary colleagues to support the swift domestic ratification of the RCEP so that this agreement can come into force by January 2022. As the world's largest Free Trade Agreement, the RCEP will boost regional trade as well as investment and help rejuvenate our economies. Third, to facilitate travel resumption across the region, we have established an ASEAN Travel Corridor Arrangement Framework (ATCAF). This will allow us to reopen our borders in a safe and calibrated manner.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 is not the only challenge ASEAN faces today. On the South China Sea (SCS), we must continue to support a rules-based ASEAN that supports multilateralism and upholds international law. As a non-claimant state, Singapore does not take sides on competing territorial claims. However, as a small nation dependent on trade for survival, we have fundamental interests at stake, including the maintaining peace and stability in the SCS, upholding the right of all states to freedom of navigation and overflight, and supporting the peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with universally recognized principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

The world is closely watching ASEAN's response to the situation in Myanmar. At the recent 54th ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting, all ASEAN Member States and Dialogue Partners reiterated their support for the swift implementation of ASEAN's Five-Point Consensus. In this regard, Singapore welcomed the appointment of Brunei's Minister of Foreign Affairs II Dato Erywan Pehin Yusof as Special Envoy of the ASEAN Chair to Myanmar. Singapore hopes that the Special Envoy will be given access to all parties concerned in order to facilitate meaningful dialogue among the stakeholders in Myanmar that can lead to a sustainable and peaceful political solution. Ultimately, we recognize that there are no quick fixes to the situation in Myanmar and the solution must be determined by the Myanmar people.

Similar to other AMS, Myanmar is now, unfortunately facing a surge in COVID-19 cases. ASEAN Leaders have directed the ASEAN Centre for Humanitarian Assistance or Disaster Management, or AHA Centre for short, to launch an effort to provide much needed humanitarian assistance to the Myanmar people. On our part, Singapore will contribute USD 100,000 to the AHA Centre in addition to our bilateral contributions. We hope that this will galvanize further contributions from ASEAN and external partners to help the people of Myanmar.

Lastly, the pandemic has accelerated the digitalization of society, and this is rapidly transforming the way we all live, work and play. In this regard, this year's ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly theme of "Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion Towards ASEAN Community 2025" is especially pertinent as we gather here today for the 42nd General Assembly. As Parliamentarians, we must continue to support and advocate for inclusive policies that help ensure that technology remains accessible for everyone even as we encourage greater digitalization in our respective countries.

Through the years, our countries have weathered many setbacks and challenges by remaining united as one ASEAN. To this end, the importance of ASEAN's cohesiveness and unity cannot be overstated. As we navigate through these challenging times, it is crucial that we continue to use platforms such as AIPA to communicate the importance of supporting a more integrated, digital and forward-looking ASEAN Community.

On that note, I would like to thank my friends and fellow Parliamentarians, and hope that our discussions will be both productive and enjoyable. Thank you.



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ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**STATEMENT BY
H.E. CHUAN LEEKPAI
HEAD OF DELEGATION OF THAILAND
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

Greetings from Thailand

Excellencies,

Honorable delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the people of Thailand, I wish to express my gratitude to Your Excellency Abdul Rahman Taib Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela, President of AIPA and Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam, for gathering us together once again at the 42nd General Assembly of AIPA. I also would like to congratulate the government of Brunei Darussalam on its 2021 ASEAN chairmanship.

For another year now, we have lived under the challenges of COVID-19. Despite the grim disruption, we have adapted our daily routines and adjusted to a new normal reality. We have become familiar with terms like contact tracing, state quarantine, teleconferencing, and working from home. Yet, turning to technology has revealed a distressing reality. Not all citizens of ASEAN, especially those who need it the most, have digital access.

That is why this year's theme, "Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025," is both timely and pertinent. Digital legislation is a complex, subtle issue. Good regulations can uplift communities and spur innovation, but flawed ones can stifle progress and violate our freedom. We have a unique opportunity to bridge the connectivity gap to rural areas, enable farm-to-table commerce, unlock a wave of green innovation, and enfranchise the least represented members of our community. All this and more is achievable if we do it right.

As Digital Technology inherently transcends borders, we must come together to find a delicate balance. I take this opportunity to reiterate the importance of harmonizing the legal framework throughout our region. Over the past two years we have made great strides towards that goal, including opening a dialogue between AIPA's delegation and the ASEAN Secretariat; the draft procedure for which, I am glad to note, will be submitted to our Committee on Organizational Matters during this General Assembly.

In January this year, the ASEAN Digital Master Plan 2025 was released to unify our vision towards a digital future. Not only will this Master Plan allow us to recover from our economic downturn faster, but we will come back more sustainably and inclusively than before. I believe that ASEAN as a region is ripe for a technological leapfrog, if we get it right.

As we gather to confer over the next three days, it is important to be mindful that our legislations must address both short-term needs and long-term objectives. Using digital technologies to fight COVID-19 is reasonable and responsible, but I encourage us to keep a few considerations in mind before passing any regulation that could harm individual rights: First, is what we're asking necessary and effective? Second, are the compromises worth the benefits? Third, whether our measures have limits, so they will neither last forever nor expand beyond our intentions?

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

Aside from the need for digital inclusion, ASEAN continues to face many difficult challenges. AIPA must be a center of alignment through which strategies, policies, plans and roadmaps can be coordinated.

Through Parliamentary diplomacy, we can forge new understanding and achieve seemingly impossible reconciliation.

Despite many complex issues for our Committee Meetings this year, I am confident that through your capable chairmanship, the representatives from AIPA Member Countries will exchange perspectives and considerations, overcome our differences and find common ground; as we always do.

I would also like to take this opportunity to invite you to the 13th AIPA Caucus Meeting, hosted by Thailand next year in 2022.

Thank you.



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ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**STATEMENT BY
H.E. VUONG DINH HUE
HEAD OF DELEGATION OF VIETNAM
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

Excellency Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Taib, Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam, President of AIPA 42,

Excellencies Speakers and Heads of Delegation of AIPA Member and Observer Parliaments,

Esteemed delegates,

On behalf of the Vietnamese National Assembly, allow me to extend my warmest greetings to Excellencies President of AIPA 42, AIPA Parliamentary leaders, Observer Parliaments, the AIPA Secretary General, ASEAN Secretary General and delegates attending the 42nd AIPA General Assembly. In celebration of the Islamic New Year, may I also convey my best wishes to Excellency President of AIPA 42, Negara Brunei Darussalam, and Muslim friends in ASEAN. I would like to thank the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam for its efforts and active preparations to make this event happen via videoconference.

Ladies and gentlemen,

In the past year, the world and the ASEAN region continued to face tremendous difficulties and challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, causing casualties and disruptions of the regional supply chain. This has significantly impacted economic growth and exacerbated social inequality, including digital inequality and social welfare. More than ever, the COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the urgency across the board pertaining to state governance, and adjustments of policies and development goals. It has also emphasized the demand for digitalization and the building of a digital economy, so as to timely respond to the pandemic and sustain socio-economic development.

Despite the effects of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the complex, unpredictable shifts in the regional and international geo-political landscape, we are delighted to note that the ASEAN Community has continued to maintain solidarity, unity and self-reliance, and uphold its stern resolve and centrality. Our Community has timely exerted collective efforts in response to the pandemic since its outbreak. As we weather tempestuous challenges, the close bonds and mutual sharing among ASEAN members and their peoples are further bolstered. Via such initiatives as the ASEAN COVID-19 Response Fund, the Regional Reserve of Medical Supplies, the Standard Operating Procedures for public health emergencies, and particularly the ASEAN Vaccine Security and Self-Reliance initiative, ASEAN members have worked closely together to strengthen the responsiveness of each country and gradually contain the pandemic. Given a comprehensive approach conducted in tandem with efforts to combat this pandemic,

ASEAN is expediting the implementation of measures under the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework, in which innovation, digitalization, and the transformation of growth models are considered as drivers to promptly foster sustainable recovery.

The COVID-19 pandemic also constitutes a catalyst for ASEAN's endeavors to accelerate the digitalization of its economy, effectively harness the 4th Industrial Revolution, narrow the digital gap, and ensure digital equality in the region. I highly commend the 1st ASEAN Digital Ministers' Meeting in January 2021 for approving the ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2025. I also support the efforts to adopt and implement ASEAN's Consolidated Strategy on the 4th Industrial Revolution. Such endeavors would serve to create an innovative ASEAN Community and enhance ASEAN's competitiveness in the global economy.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Given the theme of the 42nd General Assembly, which is forging parliamentary cooperation in digital inclusion, and to further build on the vital role of AIPA and its Member Parliaments in accelerating digitalization, ensuring stable growth and fostering sustainable recovery of ASEAN, thereby maintaining ASEAN's key contributions to regional peace, stability and prosperity, I would like to draw your attention to the following proposals:

First, AIPA Member Parliaments need to complete the legal framework and remove barriers to facilitate the implementation of digital transformation policies, with a view to building the e-Government towards a digital government. It is also necessary to improve the quality of online public services of our Governments and Parliaments, facilitate equitable access to digital services for the people and businesses, increase digital literacy for the vulnerable groups, offer fair, equitable and affordable digital services, and promote the development of a digital economy and society.

Second, we need to encourage the Governments of ASEAN members to carry out concrete programs, action plans and strategies pertaining to digital development. It is also essential to bolster cooperation with partners and international organizations to improve digital infrastructure, ensure an inclusive digital ecosystem, and narrow the digital gap. I wish to underscore the importance of strengthening digital connectivity and narrowing the digital gap among countries and regions to ensure equitable and sustainable development in ASEAN. I kindly request AIPA to actively lend its assistance to the Governments of ASEAN countries in accelerating the implementation of measures to boost digital connectivity and digital literacy in less-developed areas, including sub-regions in ASEAN, under the Master Plan for ASEAN Connectivity 2025 and the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan IV.

Third, we need to mobilize social resources to develop a digital ecosystem via public - private partnership and create incubators to develop digital corporations and start-ups. In particular, it is necessary to align the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework with the plans of each country to assist their enterprises in enhancing innovation and expediting digitalization, thereby allowing them to ensure stability and resume production and business activities.

Fourth, we need to improve policies and legal frameworks and support initiatives in the cooperation within ASEAN and between ASEAN and its partners on cyber security, information privacy, data protection and confidence building in the digital sphere. An advanced digital infrastructure and necessary confidence in this field will pave the way for the quick and sustainable development of ASEAN countries.

Fifth, given the complicated developments of the Covid-19 pandemic, I call on the solidary and sense of responsibility within AIPA in collaborating and sharing experience, especially the application of science and technology to effectively put Covid-19 under control. I suggest that

we strengthen cooperation within the bloc and with partners in research and development and equitable distribution of vaccines, medicine and equipments for preventing and fighting Covid-19. I encourage Parliaments to give more power to their Governments so they can actively, flexibly and effectively respond to the pandemic, minimize the socio-economic impacts and enable quick socio-economic recovery in the post-Covid 19 context (like the 15th Legislature of the Vietnamese National Assembly did during its first session this July).

Ladies and gentlemen,

All efforts to foster national recovery and development can only be conducted in a region of peace, security and stability. I welcome and highly appreciate the endeavors of the Governments of ASEAN members, and the active support of AIPA Member Parliaments in maintaining and promoting dialogue, cooperation and confidence building, upholding the respect for international law, and preventing and reducing risks to stability. These measures would be important contributors to enduring peace, security and stability in the region.

*Your Excellency,
Ladies and gentlemen,*

Overcoming the challenges presented by the Covid 19 pandemic, Viet Nam successfully held the elections for the 15th National Assembly, and the People's Councils at all levels. The National Assembly of Viet Nam has just started its new term, and have been since working tirelessly on innovation and enhancement of quality and efficiency to reach the goals to become a developing country with a modern industrial base and an upper-middle income by 2030 (the centenary of the Communist Party of Viet Nam), and a developed, high-income country by 2045 (the centenary of the nation). The National Assembly of Viet Nam pledges to continue being an active and responsible AIPA member, for the development of parliamentary diplomacy and the interests of all people in ASEAN.

On this occasion, I would like to wish Your Excellency Mr. President and all of you good health and success in your noble missions, as you work alongside Governments and the peoples to overcome current challenges to build a united, strong and prosperous ASEAN Community.

I am confident that, under your presidency and with the active participation of all delegates, the 42nd AIPA General Assembly will be crown with great success.

Thank you.

ANNEX J

STATEMENT BY AIPA SECRETARY GENERAL



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**STATEMENT BY
HON. NGUYEN TUONG VAN
SECRETARY GENERAL OF AIPA
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

Your Excellency Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib, AIPA President, Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam,

Honorable Heads of AIPA Delegations and Observer Delegations,

Distinguished parliamentarians and representatives from international and regional organizations,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all, on behalf of the AIPA Secretariat, it is my great honour to extend to all distinguished parliamentarians and guests our warmest greetings and best wishes. I wish to express my sincere thanks and high appreciation for the efforts, determination and cooperation of AIPA Member Parliaments to attend the 42nd General Assembly, the second virtual Assembly in the 44-year history of AIPA. This is a proof of cohesiveness and responsiveness of AIPA to overcome challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and promote cooperation and development of the ASEAN Community.

The 42nd AIPA General Assembly takes place at a special time when ASEAN is facing multiple challenges, stemming from the new COVID-19 outbreaks and the virus' new variants; the increasingly intense strategic rivalry between major powers; as well as the complicated developments in the East Sea and in Myanmar. Globalization, connectivity and international integration are faced with numerous difficulties, and adjustment is required to adapt to the new circumstances. The whirlwind development of science and technology, as well as the digital transformation process across the globe present countries with both opportunities and challenges.

*Your Excellencies,
Distinguished ladies and gentlemen,*

COVID-19 is a huge challenge that absorbs the attention of countries involved in the fight against the pandemic. Nevertheless, task of building the ASEAN Community is still progressing. In the midst of this situation, the awareness of ASEAN's values is further strengthened. Countries in the region have shown their support, commitment and respect for the role of ASEAN. We are glad that the master plans to build the ASEAN Community until 2025 have been rolled out across all of the Community's pillars.

To facilitate the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint 2025, the first ASEAN Digital Ministers' Meeting in January 2021 adopted the ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2025 (ADM2025) to guide the group's digital cooperation from 2021 to 2025. The plan would prioritize ASEAN's recovery from COVID-19, connect businesses and facilitate cross-border trade and build a digitally inclusive society, among other goals, making the group a leading digital community and economic bloc powered by secure and transformative digital services, technologies and ecosystem.

We are facing the most formidable challenges since the birth of the AIPA, and I echo the heads of delegations' assessment that the digital transformation is a crucial approach, which will enable member states to recover faster from the pandemic. I therefore highly appreciate the significance of the 42nd AIPA theme of “*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital inclusion toward ASEAN Community 2025*”, which showcased the AIPA's and Member Parliaments' consensus to support ASEAN Governments in overcoming difficulties, promote solidarity, cooperation, for an ASEAN Community of prosperity and sustainable development.

I believe that the 42nd AIPA General Assembly is of significant importance as it will contribute to realizing the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and charting orientations for cooperation in post-2025 period and effective response to regional and international complexities and unprecedented challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. AIPA should continue making contributions to the efforts to further promote the ASEAN centrality in the evolving regional architecture, multilateralism, connectivity and international cooperation, and rule of law for peace, stability and prosperity in the region and the world.

As we will celebrate the 44th Anniversary of AIPA in the next several days, as legislators, parliamentarians, the highest representatives of the people, reflecting their voices and wishes, I believe that AIPA continues in joining hands with ASEAN and contributing practically to the Association's milestones of development. The common goals of development of ASEAN Community to 2025 and beyond set tasks for parliamentarians to further unite, cooperate, jointly emphasise a sense of responsibility, empathy and sharing in AIPA.

*Your Excellencies,
Distinguished ladies and gentlemen,*

The AIPA Secretariat is committed to serve as the hub of communication and information among Member Parliaments. We aim to encourage understanding, cooperation, and close relations among Member Parliaments as well as Observer Member Parliaments and other organizations. AIPA Secretariat will continue to serve and support AIPA member parliamentarians to fulfill their functions, including their instrumental roles in familiarizing the peoples of Southeast Asia with policies aimed at accelerating the realization of an ASEAN Community in 2025.

With the establishment of AIPA – ASEAN partnership, the cooperation between AIPA and ASEAN Secretariats has been further strengthened. On this occasion, I would like to express my special thanks to the ASEAN Secretary General and his Secretariat for the valuable support and effective coordination which is very helpful for us to serve our ASEAN parliamentarians better.

I wish the 42nd AIPA General Assembly great success. Thank you very much for your attention.

ANNEX K

STATEMENT BY ASEAN SECRETARY GENERAL



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**STATEMENT BY
H.E. DATO LIM JOCK HOI
SECRETARY GENERAL OF ASEAN
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

Honourable Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Taib, President of the 42nd AIPA and Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam;

Honourable Speakers of AIPA Member Parliaments;

Honourable Nguyen Tuong Van, Secretary-General of AIPA;

Distinguished Guests, Members, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good afternoon. I express my appreciation to the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam for convening the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly today.

As we recently celebrated the 54th anniversary of ASEAN, allow me to extend a ‘Happy ASEAN Day’ greeting to the Assembly. Despite being physically separated, we share a strong bond as one ASEAN community. Under Brunei Darussalam’s chairmanship theme of ‘*We Care, We Prepare, We Prosper*’, ASEAN continues to consolidate itself to become a more inclusive and resilient community in spite of the unprecedented challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since March 2020, ASEAN has taken prompt and decisive actions to mitigate the impacts of the pandemic. The adoption of the *ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework (ACRF) and its Implementation Plan* during the 37th ASEAN Summit in November last year demonstrated ASEAN’s determination to collectively build back better. The ACRF addresses the urgent need for a regional recovery plan that strengthens cooperation among stakeholders and improves the lives of people across the region. Progress has been made towards implementing the ACRF, which focuses on enhancing health systems, strengthening human security, maximising the potential of intra-ASEAN market and broader economic integration, accelerating inclusive digital transformation, as well as advancing towards a more sustainable and resilient future. We also look forward to the early operationalisation of the *ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (ACPHEED)* and the *Regional Reserve of Medical Supplies (RRMS)* for Public Health Emergencies (PHE), which will strengthen our regional capabilities to prepare for, prevent, detect, and respond to public health and medical emergencies as well as emerging diseases.

In addition, the *ASEAN Travel Corridor Arrangement Framework (ATCAF)* and the *COVID-19 ASEAN Response Fund* have been introduced to accelerate regional recovery. ATCAF will facilitate essential business and official travels between and among ASEAN Member States as

we look towards the safe reopening of our economies. Meanwhile, the *COVID19 ASEAN Response Fund* will be utilised to procure vaccines for the people of ASEAN.

A key demonstration of ASEAN's commitment to build back better is the signing of the *Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership* (RCEP) Agreement last year. An open international trade is central to our effort towards sustainable economic growth and once ratified, RCEP will be the largest regional trade agreement in the world. As ASEAN strives towards ensuring the inclusive and effective implementation of RCEP, we urge AIPA Member Parliaments to complete their respective ratification process of RCEP at the earliest possible time.

Honourable Members,

The theme of this year's General Assembly, '*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025*', is highly relevant as we embark on the Fourth Industrial Revolution. The pace of digital technology adoption and the prevalence of digital solutions in the region have picked up during the pandemic. This positive trend is expected to carry on into the 'new normal'. To ensure that this transformation is inclusive, ASEAN must amplify efforts in narrowing the digital divide in infrastructures, regulations and skills. Priorities should be given to ensuring the accessibility, affordability and quality of digital connectivity as well as technology.

In this regard, we are currently developing the *Bandar Seri Begawan Roadmap on Digital Transformation and Recovery* to leverage on the ongoing digital transformation happening in the region. Among others, this would be achieved through strengthening capacities and coordination mechanism on digital transformation, cross-border payment interoperability, and greater intellectual property protection. Our digital integration agenda will also be further cemented through the *Consolidated Strategy on the Fourth Industrial Revolution* which presents a unified outlook and direction that will characterise the Digital ASEAN Community.

As the region's lead parliamentary organisation, AIPA has significantly contributed to cooperation and development across the three community pillars of ASEAN. Lawmakers from all ten member states gather at the Assembly to advance priority issues into actionable plans such as agreements and initiatives, and collectively realise a people-oriented, people-centred ASEAN community. AIPA plays a key role in transposing regional commitments to national laws, expediting the ratification of ASEAN agreements, aligning domestic laws with regional priorities, as well as monitoring law implementations across the region.

On that note, allow me to commend AIPA for the good work undertaken and express my appreciation and confidence in your continued support for ASEAN's community building endeavours. I wish the 42nd General Assembly a great success and I look forward to our dynamic as well as fruitful engagements today. Thank you very much.

ANNEX L

STATEMENTS BY HEADS OF DELEGATIONS OF AIPA OBSERVER PARLIAMENTS



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**STATEMENT BY
SENATOR HON. DAVID FAWCETT
HEAD OF DELEGATION OF AUSTRALIA
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

I am honoured to address the 42nd ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly, joining you via digital means from Australia. On behalf of the Australian delegation, may I express our sincere thanks to His Excellency the President of the 42nd AIPA and distinguished colleagues for organising this event and ensuring that AIPA's important work continues despite the impacts of pandemic.

Australia values our role as annual observers to the assembly. We deeply value strong relationships with the people and parliamentarians of ASEAN, and welcome this opportunity to deepen our friendship with you.

I would like to make a few comments regarding the theme of this year's assembly, the importance of our relationship with ASEAN and some key initiatives.

Last year, the assembly understandably concentrated its deliberations on COVID and ASEAN responses to it. The pandemic is still with us, but gradually we are developing new mechanisms of cooperative response to this shared crisis. The digital technology being used to conduct the Assembly brings to the fore this year's important theme: digital inclusion.

Digital engagements, interactions and commerce have been boosted in response to COVID. The digital economy has great power to transform the ASEAN region and super-charge regional growth. It creates opportunities for SMEs and encourages innovation. Digital trade is booming, and ASEAN nations will be brought even closer together through this new trade avenue.

It is important, though, not to chase the possibility of rapid economic growth at the expense of inclusivity, safety and sustainability. This Assembly's theme, and the work your respective parliaments do, is both timely and important.

I note Australia is working with ASEAN on cooperation to ensure cyber security and on digital trade, through the ASEAN-Australia Digital Trade Standards Initiative.

ASEAN is a critical partner for Australia, a partner we have supported since ASEAN's creation. We share the same vision of prosperous, secure, vibrant societies, working to advance sustainable and inclusive development, within a peaceful region built on respect for the rule of law. We share the same concerns for our region, and work together to ensure it remains inclusive, resilient and open.

The ASEAN-led architecture has helped to create and embed the international rules-based order. Australia and many other states continue to benefit from this.

ASEAN—Australian cooperation continues to go from strength to strength. Last year we agreed to hold annual summits between our leaders, marking a new chapter in our Strategic Partnership. Our long-running programs such as the Australia Development Cooperation Program Phase II and ASEAN-Australia Counter Trafficking continue to benefit the people of our region. Our work together on free trade – moving towards the ratification of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership and upgrading the ASEAN-ANZ FTA - will bring further prosperity to our countries.

In closing, I again express our appreciation at this opportunity to join you at this assembly. As parliamentarians, we have unique opportunities to encourage and influence public debate on issues of importance to all of our nations.

On behalf of the Australian delegation, I wish you a fruitful assembly, and hope that we will be able to meet in person next year.



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*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**STATEMENT BY
H.E. MR. VLADIMIR ANDREICHENKO
HEAD OF DELEGATION OF BELARUS
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

Dear Mr. Chairman!

Ladies and gentlemen!

I am glad to welcome you.

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude to the Parliament of Brunei Darussalam, chairing the AIPA, for organizing the 42nd General Assembly.

We are all witnessing how rapidly the modern world is changing. The selfishness of political elites in certain Western countries is leading to increased tensions in various parts of the world. This only **exacerbates the challenges** associated with climate change, socio-economic and technological inequalities.

In this regard, **ASEAN's** policy, based on such principles as non-interference in the internal affairs of other states, refusal to use force, and peaceful settlement of disputes, acquires special value. The "Code of Conduct" of the ASEAN countries is consonant with **the foreign policy of Belarus** and provides a good basis for the joint solution of many vital tasks.

We see great prospects in defining the points of contact between various integration associations. At the same time, within the framework of our chairmanship in the Commonwealth of Independent States in the year of the 30th anniversary of the organization, as well as work in the Eurasian Economic Union, **we place special emphasis on mutually beneficial projects.**

These include **cooperation in the field of creating common digital ecosystems and a digital good-neighborhood belt.** These are significant topics for collaboration on international platforms.

We already have certain **experience and developments in these areas.** The Commonwealth of Independent States Inter-Parliamentary Assembly is working on information and legal support for the digital development of society, including for the Eurasian Economic Union member states. In the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, we promote the development of the digital economy and strategic forecasting in the fields of science, technology and innovation for sustainable development.

We are open for interaction with fellow parliamentarians from AIPA on these and other topics. In order to determine its specific directions, we propose to hold **an ASEAN—Belarus inter-parliamentary forum in Minsk.**

We suggest consolidating the results of this event in the **final declaration “On international information ecosystems and the creation of a digital good-neighborhood belt”**.

Holding such a forum will also be our joint contribution to the implementation of the tasks of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. We are ready to work in this direction with our colleagues in the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

Only together can we achieve success in building the future for our countries and peoples!

In conclusion, let me wish you all good health and success in your work.

Thank you for attention.



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*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**STATEMENT BY
SENATOR HON. PAUL MASSICOTTE
HEAD OF DELEGATION OF CANADA
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

Honoured Speakers and Dignitaries,
Fellow Parliamentarians,
Special Guests,

My name is Senator Paul Massicotte and it is an honour for me to represent the Parliament of Canada at the 42nd AIPA General Assembly. This is the 10th time that Canada has participated in this assembly as an observer delegation since 2009. I would especially like to extend our thanks to Brunei Darussalam for organizing this year's assembly. Canada and Brunei have enjoyed diplomatic relations since 1984. Canadian parliamentarians visited Brunei the last time it hosted the AIPA General Assembly in 2013, and high-level visits between the two countries took place as recently as 2017.

Next year, Canada will celebrate 45 years of dialogue relations with ASEAN. In recent meetings with the foreign ministers of Indonesia, Singapore and Vietnam, Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs highlighted the importance of Canada's relationships with ASEAN and Southeast Asia. Like Canada, ASEAN countries have been grappling with the COVID-19 pandemic for more than a year. Canada is fortunate to be emerging from the worst of the crisis, and we are conscious that some other countries are still suffering acutely. The Government of Canada has [pledged](#) the equivalent of 2 billion U.S. dollars to support international efforts to fight the pandemic, which includes funding to provide vaccine doses for countries that need them.

The theme of this year's assembly is parliamentary cooperation and digital inclusion. As more and more aspects of life take place online, we must ensure that everyone has adequate Internet connectivity. Here in Canada, the government, the private sector and civil society are working to provide broadband Internet access to communities across the country, and, while significant progress has been made, there is still much to do. Digital connectivity is especially important for small businesses. I was pleased to learn that the Government of Canada has [contributed](#) funding to support the development and enhancement of small and medium enterprises in ASEAN countries.

Colleagues, like you, I continue to follow the developments relating to a potential free trade agreement between Canada and ASEAN. In March of this year, Global Affairs Canada released a [study](#) showing that such an agreement could increase ASEAN's exports to Canada by 4.81 billion U.S. dollars, and increase Canada's exports to ASEAN by 2.67 billion U.S. dollars.

ASEAN and the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly are essential forums for building cooperation not only within the region itself, but between Southeast Asia and other countries around the world. We are hopeful that we will be able to meet in person at next year's General Assembly.

Thank you very much.



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**STATEMENT BY
HON. MS. DUO LIU
HEAD OF DELEGATION OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

Your Excellency,

Speaker of the Legislative Council Brunei Darussalam and President of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly,

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I wish to thank for your invitation.

The world today is experiencing a larger and deeper revolution and industrial transformation. The integrated innovations and breakthroughs of ICT such as 5G, big data, AI, blockchain, have been accelerating. These have promoted the digital, network-based, and smart transformation. China has developed an action plan to drive changes in the way we produce, live and govern through digital transformation. I would like to focus on three aspects.

First, cyber security and data protection. The Chinese government attaches great importance to cyber and data security. In 2017, we introduced the Cyber Security Law, which is the first fundamental law in China to regulate the behaviors in the cyberspace. Recently, we introduced the Data Security Law, which aim to improve our data security legal system and clarify the basic system of data security management. At the same time, we continue to improve management systems in areas such as protection of critical information infrastructure, product security management, encourage the applications and innovations, develop the cybersecurity industry, and continuously improve protection capabilities.

Second, promoting the digitalization of SMEs. In 2017, China amended the SME Promotion Law, which clearly stipulates that "the state supports SMEs to apply modern technologies such as the Internet, cloud computing, big data, and AI in R&D, design, manufacturing, operation and management and explore innovative means of production and improve efficiency in production and operation". Since the outbreak of the COVID-19, China has carried out the special SME digital empowerment and transformation partnership actions with the aim to build a digital ecosystem, and help SMEs prevent and control the pandemic, resume work and production through digitalization.

Third, strengthening digital cooperation to address climate change. China is committed to green development and has announced the Carbon Peak and Neutrality targets at the United Nations. We are now working on the implementation plans. In addition to enacting and amending laws on environmental protection, environmental protection tax, air and water

pollution prevention and control, we have also developed the policies to enhance the role of digitalization in empowering green transformation.

China and ASEAN countries have a long history of friendly relations. China stands ready to deepen cooperation with ASEAN countries in the field of digital convergence, strengthen exchanges and mutual learning, to jointly address the risks and challenges, and promote the prosperous development of the global digital economy.

Thank you !



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**STATEMENT BY
MR. DANIEL CASPARY
HEAD OF DELEGATION OF EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

Excellences,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dear friends,

The European Parliament greatly appreciates the invitation as Observer to the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly.

It is an honour and a privilege to address you on behalf of the European Parliament. As last year, we regret that due to the pandemic we cannot meet in person.

We value this further opportunity to exchange views on issues of common interest and concern.

We also appreciate that you have chosen for this year's General Assembly the overall theme "*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025*".

Digitalisation

Enhanced digitalisation processes are one of the undeniable facts and developments of increased globalisation over the last decades. In this regard, the Covid-19 pandemic has just accelerated processes, which already existed before. The pandemic has forced us to become quicker in implementing these processes in order to keep our communication channels alive. The key question is how to integrate digitalisation processes in our daily social, economic and political lives, including our parliamentary work, and how to make correct use of them. What is the right balance between personal and digital communication?

It is undeniable that increased digitalisation can facilitate our work as parliamentarians. We in the European Parliament have managed, after an adaptation period of 4 to 5 months, to conduct all our committee, delegation and even plenary meetings in a format of videoconferencing. As a result, many meetings now take place in a mixed form, where colleagues can choose between attending the meeting room, sitting in their office or even sitting in their home office in their constituency. In particular, we are using a communication platform called Interactio with the possibility of interpretation, thus providing the opportunity to our Members to speak in their mother tongue. All these are certainly positive developments.

On the other side, we should not forget the problematic side of digitalisation. Whereas digitalisation offers huge opportunities to citizens to inform themselves, the open digital world

can pose a problem to our societies. It is possible to place lies and fake news on digital platforms or even to attempt manipulating democratic elections. We have seen it in the context of the US elections of last year.

Some people even created the word of 'alternative facts'. I believe we have to be very vigilant here and reject categorically this way of presenting lies as facts, mainly by constantly repeating them. In my view, we should be clear. A fact remains a fact based on evidence and a lie a lie. In any case, our societies and institutions need to find ways to deal with these challenges.

Parliamentary Cooperation

Let me turn back to the positive aspects of digitalisation. As I mentioned above, digitalisation can facilitate our parliamentary work. I described the developments in the European Parliament since March last year born from the dilemma to deal with the threats of the pandemic on the one side and the need to continue the parliamentary work on the other side. I am sure each Parliament in ASEAN will find its own way on how to integrate digital processes in its parliamentary work.

The same goes probably for the ASEAN meetings, either at inter-ministerial or inter-parliamentary level. Personally, I am convinced that virtual meetings never can replace personal contacts between human beings. However, if we are honest to ourselves, we can ask whether each meeting *in persona* is necessary and if it could not be replaced by a virtual format. I am thinking in particular about the impact on the environment and climate change concerns. Therefore, I see meetings in a digital format as an additional means to facilitate our work, next to meetings in a personal format.

We in the European Parliament value the importance of parliamentary diplomacy. Accordingly, digital meetings between the European Parliament and AIPA can play a significant role in the context of the overall EU-ASEAN relations. Of course, they cannot replace our personal contacts, as I mentioned before. However, digital meetings can constitute an additional means to strengthen our regular contacts, as realised by our first EP-AIPA dialogue on 22 June this year. In addition, they could be used on an ad hoc basis, in case there is an urgent issue for discussion.

EU – ASEAN Relations

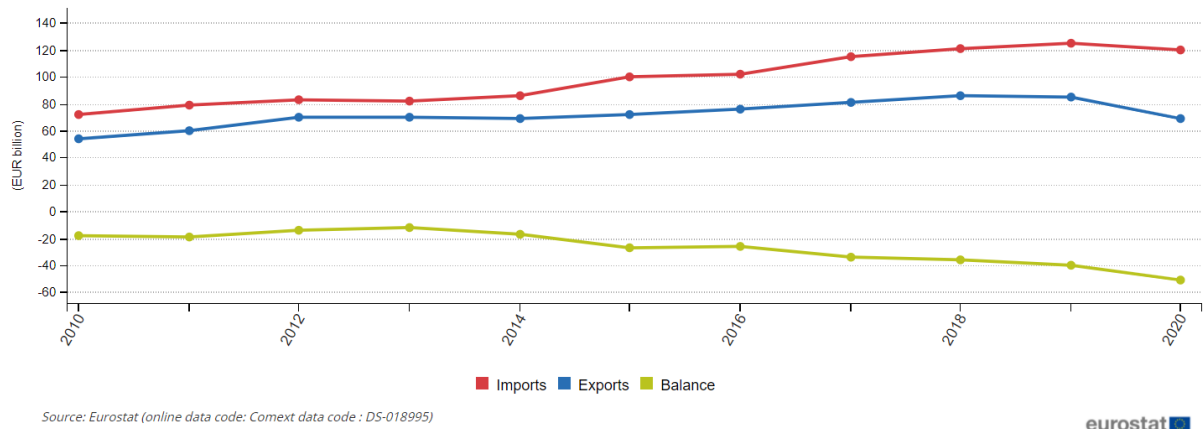
The EU-ASEAN relations are particularly perceived through the lens of trade and economic relations, because free and fair trade is part of our identities. It is therefore crucial to uphold these principles and to counter attempts of protectionism.

The ASEAN as a region is one of the world's largest economies. It was also seen as a good opportunity for EU investors. The region is a big transit hub for European goods and a strategic place in the regional supply chain system.

The ASEAN region represents the EU's 3rd largest trading partner outside Europe (after China and the US) with more than EUR 189.47 billion of trade in goods in 2020. Bilateral trade in services amounted to EUR 93.5 billion in 2019. The EU is ASEAN's third largest trading partner and biggest foreign investor with FDI stocks in 2019 amounting to EUR 313.6 bn. Around 40% of the EU trade passes through the South China Sea, thus peace and stability in the region is of utmost importance to the EU.

Manufactured goods have dominated the EU-ASEAN trade, but in 2020, the share of these fell from 87% in 2010 to 84% due to the pandemic. Singapore and Vietnam are two of the biggest

destinations for EU goods (in 2020 total trade with EU amounted to EUR 41 million and EUR 43 million respectively).



ASEAN was identified as a priority region in the Global Europe Communication (2006) and talks for a bi-regional Free Trade Agreement (FTA) started in 2007. In 2017, the EU-ASEAN dialogue partnership commemorated its fortieth anniversary, yet talks on an FTA have been stalled. The EU has instead taken a bilateral approach and signed FTAs with Singapore and Vietnam. Negotiations are ongoing with Indonesia, while talks are on hold with Malaysia and Thailand. The bilateral FTAs would pave the way for the establishment of a region-to-region FTA that will reach a market of one billion people across both regions. In a resolution adopted in 2020, the European Parliament stated that the bilateral FTAs constitute steps towards concluding a bi-regional EU-ASEAN FTA.

The EU’s Connecting Europe and Asia Strategy (2018) focusses on deepening ties between Europe and Asia by enhancing transport, energy, digital, and human connectivity. In this context, ASEAN, the EU and its Member States concluded the negotiations on the ASEAN-EU Comprehensive Air Transport Agreement (AE CATA) on 2 June 2021. The AE CATA constitutes the world’s first bloc-to-bloc air transport agreement. It will bolster connectivity and economic development among the 37 member states of ASEAN and the EU. Under the agreement, airlines of ASEAN and the EU will have greater opportunities to operate passenger and cargo services between and beyond both regions.

In 2018, the Council also adopted conclusions on enhanced EU security cooperation in and with Asia. The Council called for security cooperation to be tailor-made and operational, especially with strategic partners like ASEAN. It identified the main areas of cooperation including maritime security, cyber security, counter terrorism, hybrid threats, conflict prevention, the proliferation of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear weapons and the development of structures of regional cooperation.

The two partners also cooperate on the Human Rights Policy Dialogue, a forum established in 2015 through which they have agreed to promote respect for human rights and the rule of law through exchange of good practices, information, dialogues, seminars and capacity building initiatives. The most recent and third dialogue was held in 2019 in Brussels.

The respect for human rights and the ideals of democracy and the rule of law lie at the core of the European Union, notably of the European Parliament. We observe some developments in the ASEAN region with great concern, as we criticize by the way also some of our EU Member

States. Therefore, the European Parliament passes repeatedly resolutions on human rights violations in various ASEAN countries.

We believe the situation in Myanmar, where its democratic institutions are under siege after a military coup, requires further engagement by the international community. The European Union welcomes the appointment of the ASEAN Special Envoy on Myanmar, Brunei's Foreign Minister Erywan Yusof, and supports ASEAN's efforts for a peaceful solution to the current crisis by implementing the five-point consensus adopted by ASEAN Leaders at their summit on 24 April 2021. This comprises a meaningful political dialogue with all stakeholders, including the Committee Representing the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (CRPH), the National Unity Government (NUG), ethnic groups and other pro-democracy forces. We expect the military authorities to release those detained in connection with the coup, to end the violence across the country and to ensure rapid, safe and unhindered access to humanitarian aid. The European Union stands firmly with the people of Myanmar and is ready to assist the Special Envoy in helping Myanmar to find a way back towards democracy.

The EU also provides financial support to ASEAN under various initiatives:

- Between 2014-2020, the EU provided EUR 3 billion in development aid to Southeast Asia
- ASEAN integration aid: EUR 200 million (2014-2020)
- ARISE PLUS programme that supports Southeast Asia economic integration
- SHARE programme for increased cooperation and student mobility between universities in ASEAN: EUR 10 million
- Support to the ASEAN Secretariat through training and technical assistance of officials

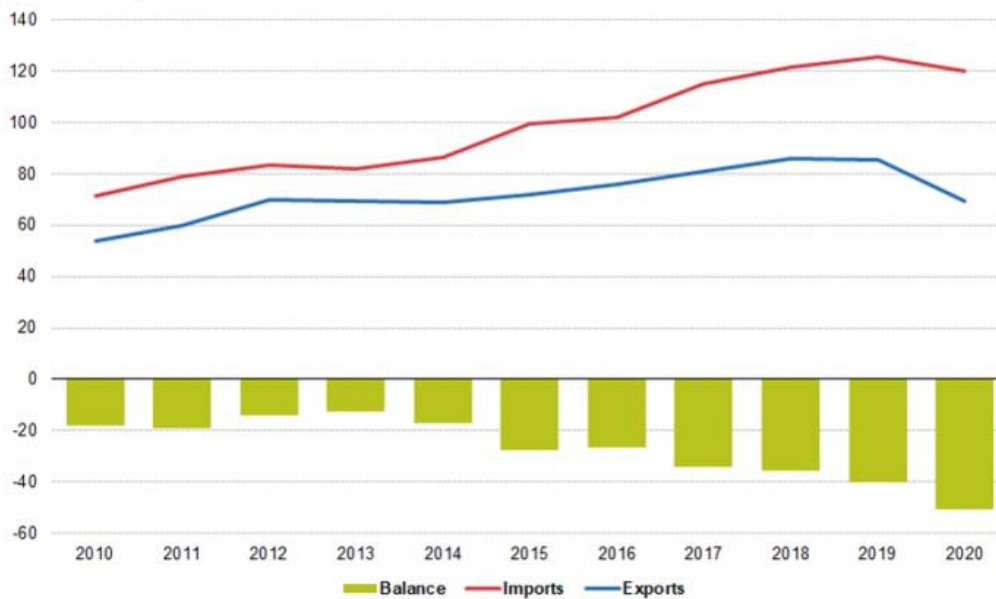
COVID-19 and its impact on EU-ASEAN relations

In July 2020, the EU allocated EUR 800 million for the ASEAN region under its Team Europe programme to tackle COVID-19. The funds will support actions at country and regional level to address the immediate health crisis, strengthen health, water and sanitation systems, as well as mitigate the socio-economic impact of the pandemic. Additionally in December 2020, the EU allocated EUR 20 million under the WHO's "South East Asia Health Pandemic Response and Preparedness" programme. National officials working with the ASEAN Secretariat will monitor its implementation. In May 2021, experts from both the EU and ASEAN convened during the 2nd EU-ASEAN Expert Dialogue on COVID-19 Vaccines. EU countries have pledged EUR 2.47 billion towards the COVAX Facility, which will help secure 1.3 billion vaccine doses for 92 low and middle-income countries, including ASEAN Member States. Both sides have also agreed to host an expert dialogue on vaccine security.

The COVID-19 pandemic has adversely affected trade relations between the EU and ASEAN. While the total EU trade with ASEAN countries grew considerably between 2010 and 2019, the data for 2020 show that it has fallen. Exports to ASEAN countries grew from EUR 54 billion in 2010 to EUR 85 billion in 2019 and then fell by EUR 16 billion to EUR 69 billion in 2020. Imports from ASEAN countries grew from EUR 72 billion to EUR 125 billion in 2019 and then plummeted by EUR 5 billion to EUR 120 billion in 2020. The trade deficit grew from EUR 18 billion in 2010 to EUR 51 billion in 2020, as can be seen in the graph below.

EU trade in goods with ASEAN countries, 2010 - 2020

(EUR billion)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: Comext data code : DS-018995)

eurostat 

Strengthening the EU-ASEAN parliamentary dimension

On 1 December 2020, the European Union and ASEAN upgraded their relations to a Strategic Partnership. The Strategic Partnership constitutes a consolidation of the current range of cooperative arrangements and shared objectives, which is broad compared to earlier phases of the relationship. Both sides are committed to host regular summits at leaders' level.

The main focus is on:

- economic and security cooperation in areas including circular economy, job creation, labour rights, sustainable financing, cybersecurity, maritime security
- cooperation in sustainable connectivity and development including research and innovation, culture and tourism, renewable energy and security of supply, human rights, clean energy transition, healthy ocean, environmental protection
- establishing a working group to address Sustainable Development Goals challenges
- establishing a working group to hold a regular dialogue with Indonesia and Malaysia on palm oil
- creating a practical framework for an EU-ASEAN FTA
- providing regional integration support, including the ASEAN Customs Transit System, and the EU's integration support packages

Furthermore, the new partnership provides a multilateral forum to deal with global issues such as COVID-19, climate change, sustainable development, overfishing, forestry, urbanization and other environmental issues.

In the European Union, we believe that the potential for greater engagement is enormous. Together, we can strengthen our two regions and make a difference with global impact. Further enhancing our relations based on common interests and shared values is a priority for the Union.

We in the European Parliament believe that enhanced interparliamentary relations between the European Parliament and the ASEAN Parliaments through AIPA should reflect this future agenda of broader and deeper EU-ASEAN relations.

I am glad that we kicked off this process by conducting an EP-AIPA Parliamentary Dialogue on 22 June, where we discussed

1. Mitigating the negative effects of the pandemic, and
2. The future of EU-ASEAN trade relations.

I am looking forward to continue this process with the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly and to convene soon again in this format, at a date to be agreed upon. Our aim should be to meet regularly to discuss issues of joint interest and concern. For this reason, I am particularly pleased that your Organizational Committee has put the establishment of the AIPA-EP Dialogue on its agenda.

We hope to meet you all soon in person and wish you fruitful parliamentary consultations.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**STATEMENT BY
HON. DR. SATYA PAL SINGH
HEAD OF DELEGATION OF INDIA
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

Distinguished Delegates

Friends, it is a matter of great honour and privilege for me to address this august gathering.

Dear all, India's relationship with the ASEAN is a key pillar of our foreign policy and the foundation of our Act East Policy. India's Act-East Policy, as you are aware, focuses on Connectivity, Commerce and Culture for achieving greater ASEAN-India cooperation. In fact, a cohesive, responsive and a prosperous ASEAN is central to India's 'Indo-Pacific Vision' and contributes to 'Security and Growth for All in the Region' (SAGAR). Here, I would also like to bring to your notice that use of digital technologies has been assigned special importance in the Master Plan for ASEAN connectivity (MPAC) 2025".

Friends, strengthening connectivity between India and ASEAN community is imperative for forging cooperation between Parliaments of these nations. Indian Parliamentary delegations have been regularly attending the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) since 2010. India also attaches highest priority to the development of bilateral Parliamentary Cooperation with the members of ASEAN. We have also set up ASEAN-India Centre in New Delhi to provide research-based policy inputs with an aim to take ASEAN-India strategic partnership forward post 2015. Continuing such efforts will not only improve the existing efforts but will also enable Sustainable Development towards a shared future.

Dear all, the digital economy has had the major share of contribution to the development of India and arguably the world, over the last few decades. The vision of a 'Digital India' is embedded in the goal of complete Digital Inclusion.

To achieve this goal, the responsibility of the Parliament and parliamentarians lies in creating an enabling ecosystem for growth through policies that encourage programs that support and protect its people. Keeping the COVID-19 pandemic in consideration, elaborate arrangements supported with advanced digital technologies have been made to hold Sessions in Parliament House. Besides these measures, Mr. Om Birla, Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha (Lower House of the Parliament of India) has taken initiative to set up an Information and Communication Centre for Members providing information to members to help them perform their legislative and public responsibilities in a better way.

As we are relentlessly pursuing our crusade against the Coronavirus, technology has ensured that we remain connected. Ever since the pandemic disrupted the functioning of the world, India has been an active participant in most of the international conferences held virtually. Besides this, in these 2 years of the pandemic, the Parliament of India has organised many workshops,

seminars, training programmes in virtual mode, as part of its initiatives to reach out to the people digitally.

Friends I believe that evolving joint initiatives in digital collaborations can go a long way in Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion. This may significantly contribute towards creating ASEAN as a leading digital community and economy bloc. It will further support the ASEAN Member states in accelerating digital integration through effective prioritization and coordination.

Thank You!



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*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
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**STATEMENT BY
HON. MR. KIM GI-HYEON
HEAD OF DELEGATION OF REPUBLIC OF KOREA
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

His Excellency Abdul Rahman Taib, Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam,
Distinguished delegates from the AIPA Member and Observer Parliaments,

I am Kim Gi-hyeon, Member of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea and Floor Leader of the People Power Party.

At the outset, I would like to express my deep gratitude to His Excellency Abdul Rahman Taib, the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam, and the AIPA Secretariat for the efforts put into organizing the virtual meeting of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly to promote close inter-parliamentary solidarity and cooperation, as COVID-19 has brought unprecedented challenges for in-person diplomacy.

While digital transformation accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic has contributed to higher quality of life, the pandemic has also played a part in widening the digital divide by gender, region, income and age, leading to rising social conflicts. In the post-COVID-19 era, the gap between those who benefit from digital technology and those who do not is expected to grow wider.

Digital inclusion, a policy which seeks to narrow this gap and to ensure that all members of society benefit from digital technology without exclusion or discrimination, is a crucial task for the sustainable growth of our societies.

As part of the efforts to expedite a transition to digital economy, ASEAN declared the ASEAN Digital Masterplan (ADM) 2025 in January this year, expressing its commitment to creating an “ASEAN as a leading digital community and economic bloc.”

I am confident that the 42nd AIPA General Assembly will play a great role in fulfilling the vision of an ASEAN as a leading digital community by strengthening cooperation among the ASEAN Member States.

Since the establishment of the Sectoral Dialogue Partnership in 1989, the Republic of Korea and ASEAN have been promoting cooperation in all areas, including not just economy and trade but also politics, society and culture.

As of last year, our bilateral trade posted US\$ 142.2 billion and Korea’s investment in ASEAN recorded US\$ 9.15 billion. Even under the difficult circumstances caused by the pandemic, we

have been maintaining and strengthening the level of cooperation.

Furthermore, recognizing the importance of collaboration and solidarity between countries while undergoing the pandemic, the Republic of Korea has been sharing its pandemic response experience with its neighboring countries, playing an active role not just in offering assistance from a humanitarian perspective, including provision of test kits, PCR equipment and PPE, but also in ensuring universal access to vaccines and therapeutics.

When we come together to overcome the crisis, the bonds between the Republic of Korea and ASEAN will only grow stronger.

I hope that Korea and all the ASEAN Member States will be able to maintain our characteristic positive attitude to bring the current pandemic under control as soon as possible and work together to build a better future.

I wish to continue to rely on your unwavering support for our strong relationship.

Thank you for your kind attention.



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**STATEMENT BY
H.E. HABIB EL MALKI
HEAD OF DELEGATION OF MORROCCO
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

Honorable Speaker Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Taib,

Dear colleagues,

Ladies and gentlemen,

First of all, I would like to express my warmest congratulations to Honorable Speaker Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Taib and wish him great success in his mission. I also seize this opportunity to commend the tremendous efforts of the outgoing Speaker Hon. Nguyễn Thị Kim Ngân, who contributed to the issuance of unanimous resolutions and recommendations which made it possible for the House of Representatives of the Kingdom of Morocco and the Storting of the Kingdom of Norway to gain observer status at your Assembly.

I particularly pride myself on taking part, today, in the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) in the capacity of observer. I would also like to congratulate you on devoting this year's General Assembly to such a timely topic as "Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025," particularly amid the current juncture marked by COVID-19.

Thanks to the remarkable technology and communication progress and the intensity of movement on the international level, distances separating geographical areas, continents, and regions no longer hinder institutional interaction among States.

At a time of a worldwide digital revolution, the digitization of parliamentary work has become a key element in inter-institutional cooperation in that it contributes to building bridges between countries and peoples thus giving a parliamentary dimension to international governance and consolidating peace. As such, it has become a prominent aspect of international cooperation and of democratic consolidation.

Digital inclusion, thanks to its mechanisms and approaches, fosters continuous communications between national parliaments and favors exchange of practices and expertise, and understanding among countries' political elites. It also enhances trust between peoples and contributes to decisive steps that may be difficult to achieve otherwise. In this respect, digital programs developed into communication channels that facilitate and keep pace with the evolution of relations between States, especially on issues and cases where it is difficult to communicate officially, particularly in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, where

functions, practices, and working methods of national parliaments need to be adapted accordingly.

The House of Representatives, which I am honored to chair, prioritizes digital programming within a comprehensive strategic vision and approach that aim to achieve digital justice and establish the pivotal position of voters, that is, the human element, in relations between different institutions that collectively aspire to consolidate democratic values in a way that guarantees sustainability, clarity, and transparency within legislative institutions, and that reduces the digital gap.

We dearly wish that our accession to your honorable Assembly, as observer, brings an added value to its action and that we shoulder a key role in bridging relations between Asia and Africa and in exchanging expertise and best practices, especially as the member Parliaments of your Assembly have accumulated a significant experience in parliamentary action in all its aspects, which the House of Representatives of the Kingdom of Morocco can refer to.

I wish full success to this session and that we will be physically present at the coming sessions in the post-COVID context.

Thank you.



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*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
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**STATEMENT BY
HON. MRS. ELIN ROOUM AGOESTEIN
HEAD OF DELEGATION OF NORWAY
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

Dear Excellencies, Dear AIPA Delegates, Dear colleagues,

It's a great honour for me, as the Head of the Asia Delegation of the Norwegian Parliament, to address this General Assembly. This year is *extra special* for us, since we attend the Assembly as an *observer parliament* for the first time. As such, we enter a new role in our cooperation with you!

We intend to use this [cooperation] to the very best for *all* our parliaments: For AIPA and the Storting, for ASEAN and Norway. We wish to strengthen our cooperation in areas of common values and interests, such as the multilateral world order and the UN Sustainable Goals. But also, as you highlight so well as the theme for this General Assembly, by "*forging parliamentary cooperation in digital inclusion*". Looking at the post-pandemic recovery especially, this will be important. And, hopefully the *huge* digital leaps that we have taken during the pandemic, will help us achieve this!

Let me start with the COVID 19 pandemic and express my deepest sympathy and condolences with those who have suffered personal losses. [And also pay tribute to ASEAN as a region, that to my knowledge, has dealt with the pandemic in a professional manner.]

The crisis has reminded us that we're all in this together. COVID 19 is a global health crisis that requires global cooperation, and our mutual respect, support and compassion. Norway has in the UN spoken up for a global approach to the pandemic and especially for more **equitable global access to vaccines. Our work with COVAX and other global networks reflects this.** It's my wish that global health cooperation will be a key topic in our parliamentary dialogue with you, as we now engage with you on a more permanent basis, and as we enter political discussions on how to best recover from the pandemic. For us, ensuring broader health cooperation, but also a sustainable and digital recovery will be crucial.

I am hopeful that the enormous progress we have made digitally *during* the pandemic will also help us *through* the crisis. I hope all the digital tools and platforms we have developed and learned to use, will further strengthen our cooperation and increase the contact between our parliaments. From a societal point of view, it will also be important to support and develop digital solutions that can make our critical infrastructure more secure, more efficient, and our cities smarter. A key priority both for ASEAN and Norway!

This all has to happen in a way that upholds and preserves our democracies. This is especially important in the face of new global challenges, such as the COVID 19 pandemic.

During the pandemic, we have experienced tough restrictions in personal freedom. Many people have lost their income and lived under enormous pressure. Some speak of a “poly-pandemic” – that the consequences of the pandemic and restrictions have led to other social challenges such as poverty and increased violence against women and children.

In situations like these, it is vital that people have trust in political institutions, in parliaments, and in us, members of national parliaments. *We* have to take responsibility in upholding democracy, rule of law and human rights. *We* have to hold our governments accountable. Ensuring digital inclusion should be part of the solution, as well as helping us ensure a stronger economic recovery from the pandemic.

We would like to use our role as observer parliament in AIPA to strengthen our cooperation in these policy areas.

We also hope our inter-parliamentary dialogue will continue to contribute positively to peace and stability in ASEAN. We know this is part of the ASEAN Charter and key to your cooperation. This is close to our hearts as well, and a key priority for Norway in the UN Security Council.

On that note, I would like to thank you for giving us the floor and wish you all the best for the General Assembly.

Thank you!



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*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**STATEMENT BY
H.E. KONSTANTIN KOSACHEV
HEAD OF DELEGATION OF RUSSIAN FEDERATION
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

Dear colleagues, good afternoon!

On behalf of the Federation Council of the Russian Federation I'm honored to address the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-parliamentary Assembly. I am also pleased to take this opportunity to convey our gratitude to His Excellency, Mr. Abdul Rahman Taib, for the warm welcome and productive meeting during the official visit of Madame Valentina Matviyenko, Speaker of the Federation Council, to the State of Brunei Darussalam in 2019.

The development of relations with the ASEAN is a priority of the Russian foreign policy.

The year 2021 is marked by a double anniversary – the 30th anniversary of Russian-ASEAN relations and the 25th anniversary of the full-scale Russia-ASEAN dialogue. The special meeting of foreign ministers of our countries, held in July on this occasion, defined the list of tasks that we have to solve, first of all, at the highest level, including the adoption of a comprehensive action plan to enhance cooperation in 2021-2025.

We continue to concentrate on stepping up cooperative efforts to combat the coronavirus pandemic, in particular making vaccines universally available. Russia provides the ASEAN with the necessary advisory and practical assistance; we send epidemiologists, test systems and medicines to the region. At the moment an agreement has been reached or negotiations are underway to supply Sputnik V vaccine to Vietnam, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, and the Philippines. Steps are being taken to establish overseas licensed production of this vaccine in South-East Asia. A trial batch of the vaccine was already produced in Vietnam in July.

The use of information and communication technology has become especially important under the pandemic. It was the video format that allowed maintaining the usual rhythm of the dialogue mechanisms - meetings of foreign and economic ministers, of senior officials on political issues, the economy, on fighting transnational crime, on agriculture and energy. We, the parliamentarians, are keeping up with this trend, as evidenced by our on-line meeting today.

However, it is regrettable that, for the second year in a row, the AIPA General Assemblies have not included dialogue meetings with observers. Direct dialogue between parliamentarians gives us the opportunity to keep in tune and discuss the main areas of cooperation, both in bilateral and multilateral formats. Therefore, if restrictions remain in force, we suggest continuing also the practice of organizing on-line dialogue meetings with observers.

New mechanisms of cooperation are being launched in video mode - in June, the first Consultations of high-level representatives of Russia and the countries of the "Ten" in charge

of security issues took place. We attach great importance to the early launch of the Russian-Asian Dialogue on Security in the Use of ICT.

According to expert estimates, by 2030 these technologies will accumulate up to 8% of the region's GDP. Our country is rightly considered one of the global leaders in this field. To date, 3.7% of Russian GDP is allocated for the development of the digital economy, and Russia is in 9th place in the world for the availability of the Internet. On average, 80% of the country's population and 70% of entrepreneurs receive state and municipal services in electronic form. By 2025, we plan to create a digital Russia with a single digital environment and ecosystem of services. We calculate that this will increase national GDP by more than 30%.

We are ready to share our experience in area of digital transformation, including the implementation of digital solutions tested within the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), including the mobile application "Travel without COVID-19" and the unified search system "Work without borders" (launched on July 1 through the UN European Economic Commission). We are also ready to borrow the experience of our ASEAN colleagues.

We are aiming at the establishment of a dialogue platform with the "ten" on the digitalization of the urban economy. Russian representatives actively participate in conferences of the ASEAN Smart Cities Network. Currently, a number of joint projects are underway or in preparation to promote e-commerce, create a professional network for women entrepreneurs, apply innovation in the agricultural sector, and digitalize small and medium-sized businesses as part of the ASEAN Integration Initiative. We think it will be a real contribution of Russia to the ASEAN Digital Community.

In conclusion - we in Russia look forward to the active participation of charming female representatives of ASEAN countries in the Third Eurasian Women's Forum, which will be held on October 13-15 in St. Petersburg.

You are also welcome at the World Conference on inter-cultural and inter-faith dialogue in St-Petersburg on 16-18 May, 2022. The event is held by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and co-organized by the UN and Russian Federation as the host country. Heads of state, parliamentarians, and representatives of world religions are expected to attend.

I wish all the participants of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly constructive and interesting discussions and well-balanced decisions.

Thank you.

ANNEX M

STATEMENTS BY GUESTS OF THE HOST



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Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

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**STATEMENT BY
HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL DR. THIDA OO OF MYANAMR
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

His Excellency President of AIPA,

**Honorable Speakers, Heads of Delegations and Parliamentarians of AIPA Member
Parliaments, Honorable Secretary General of AIPA,**

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great honour to be here at the 42nd General Assembly of ASEAN Inter- Parliamentary Assembly.

First of all, may I convey our warmest greetings to you all on behalf of Myanmar Delegation and I would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the Honorable President of AIPA and the Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam for his warm invitation to the Myanmar Delegation as a guest of the AIPA President.

Myanmar Delegation would like to extend our sincere congratulations to the Mr. President for your appointment to be a chairmanship of 42nd AIPA General Assembly. Without your stewardship, the Assembly will not be convened as it is now.

As a Member of ASEAN, Myanmar has been working hand-in-hand with ASEAN Members. Myanmar remains firmly committed to work with ASEAN and its peoples to ensure a successful ASEAN Community building and regional integration. It will continue to maintain friendly relations with countries of the world. Also, Myanmar has actively participated in the activities of AIPA.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to explain briefly about the current situation of Myanmar in accordance with the 2008 Constitution.

The Office of the President issued its Order Number 1 of 2021 on 1st February 2021 regarding the announcement of the State of Emergency due to more than 11 million voter lists irregularities across the nation that was happened in the previous General Election that was held in 2020.

Section 417 of the 2008 Constitution refers to “acts or attempts to take over the sovereignty of the Union by insurgency, violence and wrongful forcible means. Then, the President may, after coordinating with the National Defense and Security Council, promulgate an ordinance and declare a state of emergency.” According to this Section, the state of emergency was declared to prevent taking over the sovereignty of the Union by wrongful forcible means.

Furthermore, Section 418 (a) of the Constitution mandates that ‘Legislative, Judicial and Executive Powers’ are being transferred to the Commander-in-Chief of the Defense Services. Accordingly, the Commander-in-Chief has been serving such mandate through the State Administration Council and the Provisional Government. The Chairman of State Administration Council also authorizes and assigns me to engage and participate in the 42nd AIPA General Assembly.

The State Administration Council adopted the Five- Point Road Map and one of the points is “the free and fair multiparty democratic election will be held in line with the 2008 Constitution upon accomplishing the provisions of the state of emergency and further work will be undertaken to hand over State duties to the winning party in accordance with democratic standards”. The Parliament Session is now suspended and it will be resumed after the coming election is held as stated in the Road Map.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to reiterate that Myanmar maintains its cooperation with AIPA to the full and effective implementation of the ASEAN Community.

I would like to conclude by conveying our sincere wishes to the success and well-being of all the delegates and for fruitful discussions at this General Assembly.

I thank you.



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**STATEMENT BY
HON. MARTIN CHUNGONG OF INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

Mr. Speaker,

Distinguished delegates,

Thank you for this opportunity to address the virtual meeting of the 42nd ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) General Assembly. I would like to express my congratulations to AIPA for holding this meeting in a virtual format. The Covid-19 pandemic has brought very many challenges. One of them is how global and regional organizations can continue to function and play their important role in international cooperation, when it is no longer possible to meet in person.

At the IPU, we have managed to hold two major virtual events, a meeting of the IPU Governing Council in November 2020 to elect a new President of the organization, and a full Assembly in May 2021 where the IPU debated the response to the pandemic and adopted a number of resolutions. Like you, we are of course looking forward to the time when we can resume our in-person activities. But like you, we have proved that our organizations are resilient and able to use the current technologies to continue to do their business at times of crisis.

This points to a wider truth that will run through your discussions during this General Assembly. The digital environment is now fully entwined in every sphere of life, including the political, social, economic and cultural domains. Progress towards the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is underpinned by digital technology. Democratic processes are underpinned by digital technology. It is therefore our responsibility to ensure two very fundamental requirements.

The first is inclusion. When some people are connected and others are not, we create a system where opportunities are not equally shared. I am thinking here not only of infrastructure but also educating people in digital literacy from the earliest age. If I may, I would like to underscore that digital literacy is also important for parliamentarians. Parliamentarians need a good basic understanding of the Internet in order to fully grasp the issues that are at stake when we talk of internet governance and the major technological choices that a country makes. I believe parliaments have a responsibility in supporting their parliamentarians in building their knowledge on digital issues.

The second fundamental requirement concerns safety in the digital environment. Here I am thinking naturally of cybersecurity and ensuring that digital infrastructure is protected against criminal activity. I am also mindful of the need to protect people's fundamental online rights, so that everyone can express their views freely, so that there are clear and strong protections for their personal data, and so on.

At the IPU we are approaching these questions through different channels. I encourage all parliamentarians to engage with the Internet Governance Forum, where the IPU will organize a parliamentary event at its next meeting in Poland in December 2021. I also commend to you the IPU's Centre for Innovation in Parliament, which has become the primary forum for inter-parliamentary cooperation on the effective use of technology, charting the wave of innovation in parliamentary working methods as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

I wish you fruitful deliberations and reiterate the IPU's commitment to support parliaments in their efforts to ensure that no-one is left behind in the new digital world.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**STATEMENT BY
H.E. TONY SMITH OF ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM
AT THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION
ON 23 AUGUST 2021**

Mr President and ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly colleagues

I would like to thank His Excellency Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Taib for his kind invitation to participate in the 42nd AIPA General Assembly.

As the President of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum I am honoured to address parliamentary colleagues participating in this week's AIPA General Assembly. Many of you are also members of the APPF and I look forward to our discussions at the 29th Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum hosted by the Republic of Korea later this year.

None of us could have predicted what 2020 and 2021 would hold and how every country in the world would be, and continues to be, affected by the Coronavirus pandemic. I am well aware that within our international community we are all experiencing different levels of hardship. Parliamentary forums such as AIPA provide a vital means for us to recognise that we can face these challenges together and continue to build regional cohesion, understanding and cooperation

I commend Brunei for its commitment and determination to deliver the 42nd AIPA Assembly. The last year has seen a tremendous upheaval in the way our communities live, work and socialise. Measures such as social distancing, working from home and even virtual parliaments have become our new normal. Digital engagement has enabled us to stay connected and digital trade continues to grow exponentially.

Digital inclusion has never been more important.

In hosting a virtual event to bring together representatives from over 20 different national parliaments, Brunei is truly showcasing 'Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion'. I encourage all colleagues to reflect on our role as legislatures in supporting digital inclusion for our communities.

ANNEX N

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS OF AIPA (WAIPA)



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

Doc.42GA/2021/WAIPA Rep

**REPORT OF THE
MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS OF
AIPA (WAIPA)**

His Excellency Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia
Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib,
The President of 42nd AIPA and Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam

Your Excellencies,
Honorable Delegates
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great honour to submit the following Report of the Meeting of the Committee of Women Parliamentarians of AIPA (WAIPA).

1. The Meeting was held virtually on 23rd August 2021 at 05.00 pm GMT +8. It was presided over by Honourable Ms. Siti Rozaimeriyanty Dato Seri Laila Jasa Haji Abdul Rahman, Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam as the Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson from the next host country, Cambodia was appointed for the meeting.
2. The following Parliamentarians from 9 AIPA Member Parliaments attended the meeting.

Brunei Darussalam

- a) Hon. Ms. Khairunnisa Haji Ash 'ari
- b) Hon. Pehin Dato Haji Judin Haji Asar
- c) Hon. Ms. Nik Hafimi Abdul Haadii
- d) Hon. Mr. Haji Mohimin Haji Johari

Cambodia

- a) Hon. Mrs. Nin Saphon
- b) Hon. Mrs. Mean Som An
- c) Hon. Mrs. Lork Kheng
- d) Hon. Mrs. Un Sokunthea

- e) Hon. Mrs. Khoun Khundy
- f) Hon. Mrs. Mak Vansitha

Indonesia

- a) Hon. Mrs. Himmatul Aliyah
- b) Hon. Mrs. Arzeti Bilbina

Lao PDR

- a) Hon. Mrs. Thoummaly Vongphachanh
- b) Hon. Mrs. Vandy Bouthsavong

Malaysia

- a) Hon. Mrs. Dato' Sri Rohani Abdul Karim
- b) Hon. Mrs. Natrah Ismail

Philippines

- a) Hon. Mrs. Maria Lourdes Acosta-Alba
- b) Hon. Deputy Speaker Rose Marie J. Arenas
- c) Hon. Ann K. Hofer
- d) Hon. Sandra Y. Eriquel, M.D.
- e) Hon. Sharon S. Garin

Singapore

- a) Hon. Ms. Cheryl Chan
- b) Hon. Ms. He Ting Ru
- c) Hon. Ms. Nadia Ahmad Samdin

Thailand

- a) Hon. Mrs. Pikulkeaw Krairiksh
- b) Hon. Mr. Ekkapob Pianpises
- c) Hon. Ms. Phetchompoo Kijburana

Vietnam

- a) Hon. Nguyen Thuy Anh
- b) Hon. Dinh Thi Phuong Lan
- c) Hon. Le Thu Ha
- d) Hon. Thai Quynh Mai Dung
- e) Hon. Vu Thi Luu Mai
- f) Hon. Pham Thi Hong Yen

3. The Meeting of the Committee of Women Parliamentarians of AIPA (WAIPA) was held in the spirit of ASEAN brotherhood and sisterhood, unity, and cooperation. It reflects AIPA's commitment and continuous effort to ensure gender equality and women's empowerment at the heart of our recovery efforts. It is in AIPA's mandate to support the objectives of ASEAN Community 2025 and Sustainable Development

Goals which envisions towards an inclusive community and achieving gender equality ensuring leaving no one behind.

4. The AIPA Member Parliaments discussed and approved the following resolution:

a) Resolution on Promoting Women’s Economic Empowerment in The Future of Work and Post Pandemic Recovery through Digital and Financial Inclusion

5. The Resolution was introduced on the recognition that gender disparity remains a challenge in achieving a politically cohesive, economically integrated, and socially responsible of ASEAN Community.
6. The discussion of the Resolution was focused on the financial inclusion and digital access for women that are more than a gender equality issue; these are essential parts that relate to the economic, social, and political development of the country. Thus, the Committee emphasized the need to develop a framework and set of policy recommendations to close the digital gender gap and prepare women for the future work and post-pandemic recovery, and improve the national legal system and regional cooperation to ensure the women’s economic empowerment through digital and financial inclusion in the post-pandemic era.
7. Aside from the access to the financial resources, to ensure financial inclusion, the Committee agreed that women should be provided with an adequate social protection mechanism to maintain the financial safety and stability with the development of digital financial services.
8. Through the Resolution, the Committee called upon the ASEAN Member States to:
 - 1) Implement and strengthen inclusive digital strategies such as improving access and affordability of digital technologies while managing the digital security and cybersecurity as well as expand policies that are digitally inclusive and responsive to the challenges of Industrial Revolution 4.0 by increasing **women’s participation and leadership** in the policy and decision- making process to address the issue on **gender digital divide**.
 - 2) To map out a post-pandemic plan of **enhancing women’s economic empowerment in ASEAN** through **digital and financial inclusion** by building network and cooperation at all levels in conducting an inclusive impact research of COVID-19 on ASEAN women labours and developing capacity building including enhancing a responsive and effective upskilling capacity ensuring jobs are provided for women and girls
 - 3) Support the **development of women’s financial sustainability** through the **development of digital financial services** with adequate social protection mechanisms and **digital enabling ecosystem for women entrepreneurs** including women-led MSMEs by promoting implementation of the ASEAN Committee on Women’s Work Plan (ACW) 2021 – 2025 and **gender-responsive** access to financing for start-up or innovation projects as part of

sustainable effort in post pandemic recovery and the realization of digital inclusion

4) **To enact, strengthen or amend relevant laws** on cybersecurity and online safety, social protection in the informal economy and digital platform, recognize women's unpaid care work, redesign financial products and services to women's needs and preferences and also to promote and underscore women's participation in designing, building and leading our digital future

Your Excellency and Honourable Delegates,

9. Our recovery will not be complete without including gender equality. The time for action is now and there is still much more that we must do – with the strength of ASEAN as One identity – we can collectively recover stronger with One Vision as One community towards an Inclusive ASEAN – as We are indeed the ASEAN legacy.

10. I hereby present the Report of the Meeting of the Committee of Women Parliamentarians of AIPA (WAIPA)

Thank you for your attention, Your Excellency.



**HON. MS. SITI ROZAIMERIYANTY DATO
SERI LAILA JASA HAJI ABDUL RAHMAN**
CHAIRPERSON



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

(Res 42GA/2021/WAIPA/01)

**RESOLUTION ON
PROMOTING WOMEN’S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT IN THE
FUTURE OF WORK AND POST PANDEMIC RECOVERY THROUGH
DIGITAL AND FINANCIAL INCLUSION**

Sponsored by Brunei Darussalam

The Forty-Second AIPA General Assembly:

Recalling the AIPA Resolution No. 39GA/2018/WAIPA/02 on “Empowering Women in ASEAN to Harness the Potential of Industrial Revolution 4.0”, adopted at the 39th General Assembly in Singapore; AIPA Resolution No. 40GA/2019/WAIPA/01 on “Promoting Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women in ASEAN”; AIPA Resolution No. 40GA/2019/WAIPA/02 on “Bridging the Gender Gap in Technology-based Disciplines”, adopted at the 40th General Assembly in Bangkok, Thailand and AIPA Resolution No. 41/GA/2020/WAIPA/01 on “Promoting the Role of Women Parliamentarians in Securing Jobs and Income for Women Workers” adopted at the 41st General Assembly in Hanoi, Vietnam;

Recalling further the ASEAN Labour Ministers' Statement on the Future of Work: Embracing Technology for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth adopted during the Special Session of ASEAN Labour Ministers on Future of Work in 2019; Joint Statement on Promoting Women, Peace and Security in ASEAN adopted in Manila, Philippines on 13 November 2017; and the Chairman’s Press Statement of ASEAN Leaders’ Special Session at the 36th ASEAN Summit on Women’s Empowerment In The Digital Age held in Viet Nam on 26 June 2020;

Reiterating the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) specifically Goal 1 on ending poverty in all its forms and ensuring equal rights to economic resources, as well as appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance; and Goal 5 on achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls through the use of enabling technology particularly information and commercial technology;

Reaffirming the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 to promote quality of life, protection of human rights, and provision of equitable access to all opportunities, and other relevant international conventions and provisions for realizing gender equality and the empowerment of women;

Recognizing the importance of the theme of the 2021 ASEAN Chairmanship of Brunei Darussalam: “We Care, We Prepare, We Prosper”, which emphasizes the need to ensure the well-being and livelihood of the people, adapt and work together to overcome any regional and global challenges in achieving a sustainable ASEAN Community;

Recognizing that tackling the gender disparity in the region through women's empowerment is not only a social imperative, but also an important strategy to further ASEAN's economic growth and realizing that Industrial Revolution 4.0, which is a new era that builds and extends the impact of digitalization in new and unanticipated ways, and facilitate resiliency following the disruptive impact of the COVID-19 pandemic that has greatly affected the future of work, workplace and workforce dynamics, which further amplify gender inequalities, emphasizing that the financial inclusion and digital access for women is more than an issue of gender equality and an essential part of the economic, social and political development of our countries;

Noting that while technological transformation offers both opportunities and challenges, and gender equality ensures women's full contribution to the betterment of societies and economies, women's participation in technology-related sectors remains low due to the inherent digital gender divide;

Recognizing that financial gender gaps has persisted as a result of exclusion of a large proportion of women from financial services, and recognizing that it is important to give priority to digital finance in closing these gender gaps. Parliaments play an important role in completing the legal framework for digital and financial inclusion to promote women's economic empowerment in the future of work and post-pandemic recovery;

Acknowledging that digitalization acts as a catalyst to the economic growth of communities, enabling the future of the world and the region and is an effective solution for women's liberation and empowerment if they have access to and are fully trained; emphasizing the strong impacts and new challenges of COVID-19 pandemic, which brings about the unemployment of the workforce, especially female workers in manual labour and production industries. At the same time, difficulties in accessing sources of support, especially in finance, is one of the obstacles for women to develop and create jobs after the COVID-19 pandemic;

Emphasizing that on-going challenges to unleash women's potential to harness the opportunities of Industrial Revolution 4.0 have been greatly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic thus to close the digital gender divide, parliamentarians should develop policy recommendations and digital strategies to essentially prepare women for the post-pandemic recovery; and recognizing the need to develop a framework that will accelerate inclusive and sustainable development and maximizing the potential of information communications technology (ICT) for women's economic empowerment.

Hereby resolves to:

Call upon the ASEAN Member States to implement and strengthen inclusive digital strategies that actively aim to address the gender digital divide, improving the access and affordability of digital technologies, while managing the digital security and cybersecurity; to promote AIPA Member Parliaments to build network and cooperation at bilateral, regional and international levels in training and ensuring that jobs are provided for women, and conducting an inclusive impact research of COVID-19 on ASEAN women labours to map out a post-pandemic plan of women's economic empowerment through digital and financial inclusion;

Encourage ASEAN Member States to increase women's participation and leadership in the policy- and decision-making process, thus strengthen and expand policies that are digitally inclusive and responsive to the challenges of Industrial Revolution 4.0 and enhances women's economic empowerment in ASEAN; and support the development of digital financial services with adequate social protection mechanisms to provide safe, secure, efficient and affordable access to women and to safeguard women's financial sustainability;

Support the development of women’s financial sustainability by promoting implementation of the ASEAN Committee on Women’s Work Plan (ACW) 2021 – 2025, which underlines seven thematic areas, including women’s economic empowerment and the future of work;

Call upon AIPA Member Parliaments to share experiences on parliamentary interventions and practices of women’s economic empowerment, and to work closely for capacity building at bilateral, regional and international levels; and recommend ASEAN Member States to develop and enhance a responsive and effective upskilling capacity, including life-long learning amidst the digital age in tandem with the increasing variability in the labour market skills demand, by proactively upgrading the existing Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET); and enhance greater enrolment in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) for women and girls;

Recommend ASEAN Member States to encourage, and support the digitalization of women-led Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) and leadership, promote gender-responsive access to financing for start-up or innovation projects, as a part of sustainable effort in post pandemic recovery and the realization of digital inclusion and supporting digital enabling environment/ecosystem for women entrepreneurs;

Encourage ASEAN Member States and AIPA Member Parliament to enact, strengthen or amend relevant laws to address the following issues, such as cybersecurity and online safety but not limited to, lack of social protection for those in the informal economy including those in the digital platform, recognize the unpaid care work done by women, redesign financial products and services to women’s needs and preferences, and, promote and underscore women’s participation in designing, building and leading our digital future.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.

ANNEX O

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL MATTERS



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

Doc.42GA/2021/Pol Rep

**REPORT OF THE
COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL MATTERS**

His Excellency Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia
Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib,
The President of 42nd AIPA and Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great honor to submit the following Report of the Committee of Political Matters.

1. The Meeting was held virtually on 24th August 2021 at 09.30 am GMT +8. It was presided over by Honourable Ms. Nik Hafimi Abdul Haadii, Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam as the Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson from the next host country for the 43rd General Assembly of AIPA, Cambodia, was appointed for the meeting.
2. The following Parliamentarians from 9 AIPA Member Parliaments attended the meeting.

Brunei Darussalam

- a) Hon. Ms. Khairunnisa Haji Ash'ari
- b) Hon. Pehin Dato Haji Judin Haji Asar
- c) Hon. Mr. Haji Umarali Esung
- d) Hon. Mr. Haji Abdul Hamid Arsad
- e) Hon. Ms. Siti Rozaimeriyanty Dato Haji Abdul Rahman
- f) Hon. Mr. Iswandy Ahmad
- g) Hon. Mr. Naim Haji Kamis
- h) Hon. Mr. Pengiran Haji Mohamed Pengiran Haji Osman

Cambodia

- a) Hon. Mr. Chheang Vun
- b) Hon. Mr. Mam Bunneang
- c) Hon. Mr. Loy Sophath

- d) Hon. Mr. Kep Chuktema
- e) Hon. Nim Chantara

Indonesia

- a) Hon. Dr. Fadli Zon
- b) Hon. Mr. Ichsan Firdaus
- c) Hon. Mr. Muslim

Lao PDR

- a) Hon. Mr. Sanya Praseuth
- b) Hon. Mr. Amphay Chitmanonh

Malaysia

- a) Hon. Mr. Dato' Mohd Rashid Bin Hasnon
- b) Hon. Mr. Dato' Seri Shahidan Kassim
- c) Hon. Mr. Yusuf Abd Wahab
- d) Hon. Mr. Wong Chen
- e) Hon. Mr. Datuk Hasanuddin Mohd Yunus

Philippines

- a) Hon. Deputy Speaker Rufus B. Rodriguez
- b) Hon. Ann K. Hofer

Singapore

- a) Hon. Mr. Lim Biow Chuan
- b) Hon. Ms. Raeesah Khan
- c) Hon. Mr. Zhulkamain Abdul Rahim

Thailand

- a) Hon. Mr. Kitti Wasinondh
- b) Hon. Gen. Thawip Netniyom
- c) Hon. Assoc. Prof. Rong Boonsuaykhwan

Vietnam

- a) Hon. Vu Hai Ha
- b) Hon. Don Tuan Phong
- c) Major General Nguyen Minh Duc
- d) Hon. Pham Phu Binh

3. Ahead of the discussion, the Chairperson reminded the meeting on the principle of consensus in the decision-making mechanism of ASEAN and AIPA. From this perspective, the Chairperson stressed that any non-agreement on one item should not affect the other items in the agenda.

4. The Committee met and discussed at length various issues related to the five draft resolutions.

a) Resolution on the Adoption of the Report of the 12th AIPA Caucus Held via Video Conference Hosted by the Parliament of Singapore.

5. The Committee unanimously approved the Report of the 12th AIPA Caucus, and agreed for its adoption.

b) Resolution on Enhancing Cybersecurity and Data Protection Towards a Resilient Cyberspace in ASEAN.

6. The Resolution was introduced in recognition of growing electronic commerce (e-commerce) which significantly contributes to the global economy but in parallel poses a threat to cybersecurity and data protection.

7. The Committee also recognized the importance of cyber security to maximize the benefits of digitalization for socio-economic and political development. In this regard, the Committee agreed that AIPA Member Parliaments play a vital role in ensuring cybersecurity and data protection in the region through the laws, policies, and regulations of ASEAN Member States. Through the Resolution, the Committee called upon AIPA Member Parliaments to: 1) urge ASEAN Member States to further engage with relevant-led ASEAN mechanisms on cybersecurity, 2) encourage ASEAN Member States leverage on regional institutions to enhance cybersecurity through various measures, and 3) urge ASEAN Member States to strengthen cooperation on cybersecurity and data protection.

8. The Committee also shared the view that strengthening the capabilities of the respective national Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) and cyber security law enforcement agencies, as well as encouraging the implementation of joint regional activities to enhance cooperation and collaboration in the field of cyber security and data protection, to ensure the effective and practical implementation of the 11 voluntary principles; the non-binding norms of State behaviours in cyberspace.

c) Resolution on Fostering Human Security to Achieve Digital Inclusion in ASEAN.

9. The Committee shared the views that digital inclusion is one of the key pillars of COVID-19 recovery and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and human security is an important approach in identifying and addressing widespread and cross-cutting challenges to the survival, livelihood and dignity of the people in the region.

10. The Committee discussed and explored the role of AIPA in addressing this issue. The Committee agreed that AIPA Member Parliaments shall maximize the utilization of AIPA as a platform in promoting human security to achieve digital inclusion through meaningful dialogues and exchange of best practices. Further, AIPA Member Parliaments shall reinforce parliamentary diplomacy to support and complement the diplomatic efforts by their States/Governments.
11. Realizing the importance and emergence of this issue, the Committee extended a request to the AIPA Secretariat to look for possibilities of cooperation with the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS) and explore potential areas of cooperation.

d) Resolution on Promoting Parliamentary Diplomacy to Move the ASEAN Community Forward.

12. Referring to the aims and purposes stipulated in the AIPA Statutes to move ASEAN towards the achievement of ASEAN goals by offering parliamentary contributions to ASEAN integration, the Committee agreed that as representatives of the ASEAN peoples, the AIPA Member Parliaments shall serve as a strong link for the people-centered ASEAN Community through parliamentary diplomacy.
13. The Committee underlined that parliamentary diplomacy can play more roles in addressing multidimensional impacts due to the pandemic through among others exchange of views. The Committee also noted the need to complement the efforts by the ASEAN Member States in accelerating regional integration and community building through parliamentary diplomacy.
14. The Committee agreed to strengthen parliamentary diplomacy through all levels of AIPA activities to move forward the ASEAN Community. The Committee also agreed to enhance parliamentary diplomacy between AIPA and other international organizations such as IPU, APPF and other key parliamentary counterparts. Further, the Committee encouraged ASEAN Member States to actively join AIPA activities, to promote synergy between AIPA and ASEAN.

e) Draft Resolution on Parliamentary Support on the Situation in Myanmar

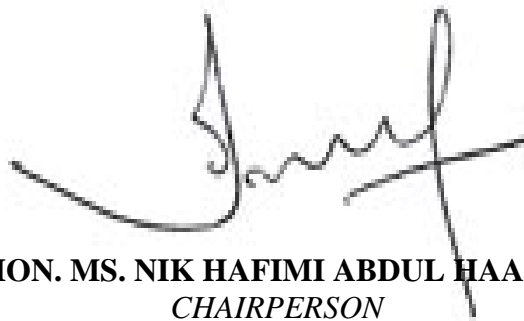
15. Indonesia presented the Draft Resolution on Parliamentary Support to the Situation in Myanmar, calling to bring peace, stability and democracy back to the country. The AIPA Member Parliaments in the Committee exchanged views on the Draft Resolution consequently. They expressed their deep concerns over the situation in Myanmar and called for efforts of all parties to seek a peaceful solution in the interests of the people. They also expressed their full support for the complete and immediate implementation of the Five-Point Consensus of the ASEAN Leaders' Meeting and welcomed the appointment of the Special Envoy of the ASEAN Chair to facilitate constructive and

inclusive dialogue among all parties' concerned towards a peaceful solution. In addition, the Committee also called for the delivery of humanitarian assistance through the AHA Centre.

16. However, as consensus was not reached, the Committee decided to not further discuss the Draft Resolution. Indonesia, as the proponent of the Draft Resolution, respected the discussion, and for adoption of Resolutions (items 1 to 4) but affirmed its position for reservation on the Resolutions (items 1 to 4) of the Committee of Political Matters.

17. I hereby present the Report of the Committee on Political Matters to the 42nd General Assembly of AIPA.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'NIK HAFIMI ABDUL HAADII', written over a horizontal line.

HON. MS. NIK HAFIMI ABDUL HAADII
CHAIRPERSON



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

(Res 42GA/2021/Pol/01)

**RESOLUTION ON
THE ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 12TH AIPA CAUCUS
HELD VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE HOSTED BY THE PARLIAMENT
OF SINGAPORE**

The Forty-Second AIPA General Assembly:

Recalling the Resolution No 28GA/2007/Pol/03 on the *Establishment of an AIPA Caucus* to provide a platform for regular interaction amongst AIPA Member Parliament;

Recognizing that the 12th AIPA Caucus monitored the implementation of the resolutions adopted at the 41st AIPA General Assembly hosted by the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam;

Acknowledging that the theme for Working Group discussion of the 12th AIPA Caucus was “Strengthening Supply Chain Resilience and Enhancing Trade Connectivity”;

Appreciating the hosting of the 12th AIPA Caucus by the Parliament of Singapore via videoconference on 16 June 2021.

Hereby Resolves to:

Adopt the Report of the 12th AIPA Caucus held via videoconference hosted by the Parliament of Singapore.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

(Res 42GA/2021/Pol/02)

**RESOLUTION ON
ENHANCING CYBERSECURITY AND DATA PROTECTION
TOWARDS A RESILIENT CYBERSPACE IN ASEAN**

Sponsored by Brunei Darussalam

The Forty-Second AIPA General Assembly:

Recalling AIPA Resolution Res.37GA/2016/Pol/04 on “Strengthening Cooperation to ensure Cybersecurity in ASEAN” adopted during the 37th AIPA General Assembly on 29 September – 3 October 2016 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar;

Recalling further the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Blueprint 2025 adopted by the ASEAN Leaders during the 27th ASEAN Summit on 22 November 2015 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, which envisions the establishment of a coherent and comprehensive framework for personal data protection in recognition that global electronic commerce (e-Commerce) has become an increasingly vital element of the global economy as part of a retailer’s multi-channel strategy;

Reaffirming the ASEAN Leaders’ Statement on Cybersecurity Cooperation adopted during the 32nd ASEAN Summit on 27-28 April 2018 in Singapore, which recognized the growing urgency and sophistication of transboundary cyber threats and recommended the feasible options of coordinating cybersecurity policy;

Reiterating the commitment of the Heads of States/Governments of ASEAN Member States during the 35th ASEAN Summit on 2-3 November 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand, which called for the need to address cybersecurity challenges in a holistic manner;

Recognizing the importance of cybersecurity for ASEAN Member States to maximize the benefits of digitalization for socio-economic and political development; and regional and international cooperation to address the growing threats to cybersecurity;

Acknowledging the work done in fostering greater regional cybersecurity cooperation and capacity building through cross-pillar cybersecurity initiatives such as the ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Capacity Building Centre (AJCCBC) and the ASEAN-Singapore Cybersecurity Centre of Excellence (ASCCE);

Recognizing the vital role of AIPA Member Parliaments in ensuring cybersecurity in the region, in accordance with the domestic laws, policies and regulations of ASEAN Member States;

Fully Aware also that effective cybersecurity and data protection are not merely a matter of governments or parliaments, but should be addressed through prevention and supported throughout wider society.

Hereby resolves to:

Call upon AIPA Member Parliaments to urge ASEAN Member States to promote further engagement through relevant ASEAN-led mechanisms and sectoral bodies on cybersecurity such as the ASEAN Digital Ministers Meeting (ADGMIN), ASEAN Ministerial Conference on Cybersecurity (AMCC), ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Inter-Sessional Meeting on ICT Security, ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM)-Plus Experts' Working Group Meeting on Cyber Security and ASEAN Cybersecurity Coordinating Committee (ASEAN Cyber CC) for further enhancing cybersecurity cooperation in ASEAN;

Encourage ASEAN Member States to leverage on regional institutions related to cybersecurity such as the AJCCBC, ASCCE and other relevant regional collaboration frameworks to implement practical capacity-building and confidence-building measures and complement existing ASEAN efforts on cybersecurity towards the promotion of voluntary and non-binding norms of responsible State behaviours in cyberspace to enhance cybersecurity;

Urge ASEAN Member States to strengthen cooperation on cybersecurity and data protection within ASEAN and between ASEAN and its external partners and relevant stakeholders through exchanges, information sharing, collaboration mechanisms as well as Information and Communication Technology infrastructure development across strategic, policy and technical spheres; heading towards a common regional framework of cooperation to address issues of cybersecurity in conformity with relevant international laws and best practices;

Suggest that ASEAN Member States strengthen the capabilities of their respective national Computer Emergency Response Team (CERTs) and cybersecurity law enforcement agencies and encourage the undertaking of joint regional activities to enhance cooperation and collaboration in the areas of cybersecurity and data protection; and in supporting the relevant agencies in the efforts towards developing a long-term regional action plan to ensure the effective and practical implementation of the 11 voluntary, non-binding norms of State behaviours in cyberspace;

Recommend that AIPA Member Parliaments support the strengthening of relevant national policies and legal frameworks, as well as explore the possibility of harmonisation of laws in ASEAN on cybersecurity and data protection to safeguard and enhance the capacity and readiness of ASEAN towards a digital economy;

Underline that cybersecurity and data protection have become a matter of importance to every human life. Therefore, AIPA Member Parliaments are expected to actively take part in increasing awareness about the importance of cybersecurity and data protection among the people;

Urge AIPA Member Parliaments to ensure that their respective domestic legislations on cybersecurity will serve the purpose of enhancing democracy, human rights, and good governance.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.



42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

(Res 42GA/2021/Pol/03)

**RESOLUTION ON
FOSTERING HUMAN SECURITY TO ACHIEVE DIGITAL
INCLUSION IN ASEAN**

Sponsored by Malaysia

The Forty-Second General Assembly:

Recalling the ASEAN Charter, ASEAN Community Vision 2025: Forging Ahead Together, ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2025 adopted during the ASEAN Summit, East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM), and ASEAN Plus Three to promote a rules-based, people-oriented and people-centered ASEAN community;

Recalling further the 1994 Human Development Report published by the United Nations Development Programme, United Nations General Assembly A/RES/60/1 or the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted on 16 September 2005, particularly paragraph 143 thereof, A/RES/64/291 adopted on 16 July 2010 and A/RES/66/290 adopted on 10 September 2012; and the Reports of the Secretary-General A/59/2005 dated 21 March 2005, A/64/701 dated 8 March 2010, A/66/763 dated 5 April 2012 and A/68/685 dated 23 December 2013 on a common understanding on the notion of human security, which is based on the right of people to live in freedom and dignity, free from poverty and despair, and entitled to freedom from fear and freedom from want;

Reaffirming support for the 37th ASEAN Summit 2020 held virtually on 12 November 2020 chaired by Viet Nam; the ASEAN Leaders' Vision Statement on A Cohesive and Responsive ASEAN: Rising Above Challenges and Sustaining Growth adopted on 26 June 2020; the Joint Media Statement of the 1st ASEAN Digital Ministers' Meeting and Related Meetings adopted on 22 January 2021, and the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework (ACRF) and its Implementation Plan;

Noting the outcomes of the virtual segment of 142nd Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Virtual Assembly held on 24-27 May 2021; Annual Inter-Parliamentary Union Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nations held on 17 February 2021; and the virtual segment of the Fifth World Conferences of Speakers of Parliament held on 20 August 2020; which reaffirmed the commitment of the Inter-Parliamentary Union Member Parliaments in supporting the continuing efforts in digital inclusion;

Highlighting that there is a significant progress in ASEAN Member States in realising the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, particularly in fostering human security and promoting innovations geared towards bridging the digital divide;

Reiterating that digital inclusion as one of the key pillars of COVID-19 recovery and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

Acknowledging the importance of human security approach and the value of open, unrestricted dialogue and trust among parliamentarians in identifying and addressing widespread and cross-cutting challenges to the survival, livelihood and dignity of the people in the region;

Further Acknowledging that a lack of information and digital technology negatively impacts personal, political and economic capabilities;

Reaffirming that human security must be implemented with full respect of the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, the ASEAN Charter, the ASEAN Declaration on Human Rights, including full respect of the sovereignty of ASEAN Member States, territorial integrity and non-interference in internal affairs; and that human security does not entail additional legal obligations on the part of ASEAN Member States.

Hereby resolves to:

Recognise AIPA as an essential platform to explore and promote the common understanding on the concept and approach of human security through meaningful dialogues and exchange of best practices to achieve digital inclusion in the region;

Urge AIPA Member Parliaments to reinforce parliamentary diplomacy in supporting and complementing diplomatic efforts by States/Governments;

Call upon AIPA Parliamentarians to consider the needs of their respective communities in enhancing human securities of freedom from want, fear and indignity through cohesive and responsive measures in accordance with the ASEAN Charter, the ASEAN Declaration on Human Rights and relevant ASEAN instruments;

Support the embodiment of human security ethos of freedom from want, freedom from fear and freedom from indignity as part of AIPA's common commitment and aspiration;

Encourage the AIPA Member Parliaments to actively collaborate on potential human security approach, including but not limited to ACRF and its Implementation Plan, that address social, political and economic matters at the regional and national levels;

Recommend the AIPA Member Parliaments to provide their stronger national legal instruments and other necessary strides aimed at accelerating the digital inclusion particularly in support of pandemic recovery and the SDGs by 2030;

Urge the AIPA Member Parliaments to support efforts by ASEAN Member States to effectively implement the Broad Strategy 4-Accelerating Inclusive Digital transformation of the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework, the ASEAN Digital Master Plan 2025, adoption and realisation of the ASEAN 4IR Strategy, taking into account the human security approach;

Emphasise the importance of engagement between parliamentarians and their respective communities in raising awareness on digital inclusion and human security approach;

Request the AIPA Secretariat to work with the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS) to explore potential areas of cooperation.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025

(Res 42GA/2021/Pol/04)

**RESOLUTION ON
PROMOTING PARLIAMENTARY DIPLOMACY
TO MOVE THE ASEAN COMMUNITY FORWARD**

Sponsored by Thailand

The Forty-Second AIPA General Assembly:

Recalling the Resolution on the “Contribution of Parliaments to Enhancing the Role of the United Nations and the Strengthening of Parliaments' Involvement in Foreign Policy through the Development of Parliamentary Diplomacy and Closer Collaboration between the Executive and the Legislative,” adopted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) during the 88th Inter-Parliamentary Conference in Stockholm, Sweden on 12 September 1992, which states clearly that parliamentary diplomacy plays an important role in strengthening the United Nations to achieve its goals;

Acknowledging the Resolution on “Promoting Parliamentary Diplomacy for Peace, Security and Prosperity in the Region and The World” adopted by the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) during its 26th Annual Meeting in Hanoi, Vietnam in 2018, which provides the crucial role of parliament at the international stage and a platform for solving issues in many aspects, including political, economic and social issues;

Recognizing the Pattaya Declaration adopted during the General Assembly of the Association of Asian Parliaments for Peace (AAPP) which encourages parliamentarians to implement the concept of parliamentary diplomacy by increasing their participation in international affairs as well as working more closely with their respective governments on such area;

Emphasizing the importance to promote a rule-based, people-oriented and people-centered ASEAN Community bound by fundamental principles, shared values and norms, including the implementation of ASEAN declarations and agreements at the national level, to facilitate regional integration in moving forward the ASEAN Political-Security Community envisaged in the ASEAN Community Vision 2025;

Reaffirming the aims and purposes in the AIPA Statutes to move ASEAN towards the achievement of ASEAN goals and also by establishing and maintaining exchange and dissemination of information as well as coordination, interaction and consultations with ASEAN by offering parliamentary contributions to ASEAN integration;

Realizing that since parliamentarians are representatives of the people, the development of inter-parliamentary relationship through parliamentary diplomacy can serve as a strong link for the people-centered ASEAN Community;

Recognizing challenges posed by rapidly-changing geo-strategic landscapes, emerging complex traditional and non-traditional security challenges, unprecedented and multifaceted impacts of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic;

Underlining that parliamentary diplomacy can play more roles in addressing multidimensional impacts due to the pandemic through inter-alia exchange of views on the formulation of necessary strides, which is consistent particularly with democracy and fundamental human rights;

Being convinced of the need to enhance parliamentary diplomacy to support efforts by the Governments of ASEAN Member States to move forward regional integration and Community-building amidst uncertainties and challenges, maintain ASEAN unity and centrality while enhancing ASEAN's capacity to effectively respond to emerging challenges as well as fostering a sustainable and resilient development path for the ASEAN Community.

Hereby resolves to:

Strengthen parliamentary diplomacy through all levels of AIPA activities to move the ASEAN Community forward in achieving regional peace, stability and security, dynamic and inclusive economic growth, green economy, equitable and sustainable development, human security and caring societies;

Enhance parliamentary diplomacy between AIPA and other international organizations, such as IPU, APPF and other key parliamentary counterparts;

Encourage AIPA Member Parliaments to support the promotion and the protection of democracy, rule of law and fundamental rights;

Encourage the Governments of ASEAN Member States to join actively AIPA activities in ensuring that the Interface between Leaders of AIPA Member Parliaments and ASEAN Member States on the sidelines of the ASEAN Summit will focus on concrete actions in addressing issues of concern to all people, stability and development of ASEAN Member States;

Reinforce cooperation between AIPA Member Parliaments and Governments of ASEAN Member States through the AIPA framework which encompasses the AIPA General Assembly, AIPA Caucus as well as AIPA observer countries to push for the harmonization of laws, regulations or practices among member countries;

Encourage AIPA Member Parliaments to increase their efforts in addressing any issues related to laws or international agreements and promote ASEAN fundamental principles, shared values and norms as well as principles of international law governing the peaceful conduct of relations;

Instruct the AIPA Secretariat to work closely with the ASEAN Secretariat in identifying legislative impediments to the realization of the ASEAN Community especially in areas of political-security, economic and socio-cultural cooperation, to prepare agenda for the annual Interface between Leaders of AIPA Member Parliaments and ASEAN Member States.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.

ANNEX P

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC MATTERS



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

Doc.42GA/2021/Eco Rep

**REPORT OF THE
COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC MATTERS**

His Excellency Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia
Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib,
The President of 42nd AIPA and Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam

Your Excellencies,
Honorable Delegates
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great honor to submit the following Report of the Committee on Economic Matters.

1. The Meeting was held virtually on 24th August 2021 at 01.45 pm GMT +8. It was presided over by Honourable Ms. Siti Rozaimeryanty Dato Seri Laila Jasa Haji Abdul Rahman, Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam as the Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson from the next host country for the 43rd General Assembly of AIPA, Cambodia, was appointed for the meeting.
2. The following Parliamentarians from 9 AIPA Member Parliaments attended the meeting.

Brunei Darussalam

- a) Hon. Ms. Nik Hafimi Abdul Haadi
- b) Hon. Pehin Dato Haji Judin Haji Asar
- c) Hon. Mr. Pengiran Haji Ali Pengiran Maon
- d) Hon. Mr. Haji Mohimin Haji Johari
- e) Hon. Mr. Awang Hanapi Bin Mohd Siput

Cambodia

- a) Hon. Mr. Ty Sokun
- b) Hon. Mr. Ai Khan
- c) Hon. Mr. Chay Borin
- d) Hon. Mr. Kheav Phearith
- e) Hon. Mr. Ouk Damry

Indonesia

- a) Hon. Mr. Hafisz Tohir
- b) Hon. Mr. I Gusti Agung Rai Wirajaya

Lao PDR

- a) Hon. Assoc. Prof. Dr Linkham Douangsavanh
- b) Hon. Mr. Thanta Kongphaly

Malaysia

- a) Hon. Mr. Ahmad Fadhli Shaari
- b) Hon. Mr. Datuk Zakaria Mohd Edris

Philippines

- a) Hon. Sharon S. Garin

Singapore

- a) Hon. Mr. Saktiandi Supaat
- b) Hon. Mr. Shawn Huang
- c) Hon. Ms. Ng Ling Ling

Thailand

- a) Hon. Mr. Manoon Sivapiromrat
- b) Hon. Mrs. Pikulkeaw Krairiksh
- c) Hon. Mr. Krisda Tanterdtit

Vietnam

- a) Hon. Pham Thi Hong Yen
- b) Hon. Vu Thi Luu Mai
- c) Hon Thai Quynh Mai Dung
- d) Hon. Bui Hoai Son

3. The Meeting of the Committee on Economic Matters was held in the traditional ASEAN spirit of friendship, unity and cooperation. The AIPA Member Parliaments discussed and approved 2 resolutions as follows:
 - a) **Resolution on Promoting Inclusive Digital ASEAN to Empower MSMEs And Strengthen the ASEAN Economic Integration.**
4. The resolution was introduced on the recognition that the impact of COVID-19 has affected the economy, especially MSMEs, and also acknowledged the importance of economic integration as the main agenda of the ASEAN Economic Community as well as the digital inclusion in ASEAN.
5. The Committee affirmed the important role played by digital technology in strengthening ASEAN's economic connectivity and readiness to respond to the challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Committee also highlighted the importance of MSMEs as the backbone of ASEAN's diverse and dynamic economy. The Committee discussed further concerning the development of MSMEs capabilities and networking, including digital upskilling and reskilling of MSMEs.

6. Therefore, the Committee resolved to promote legislation and policies towards harmonization for ASEAN economic digital integration, which prioritize connectivity, especially sub-region and remote area connectivity, regional integration and narrow the development gap among AMS in coordination to capture the opportunities of transitioning into the Fourth Industrial Revolution in attaining and achieving integration in key sectors for overall ASEAN economic integration. Further, the Committee encouraged the digital economy and transformation as the way forward of doing business for the MSMEs to provide better opportunities and overcome the effect of economic disruptions due to COVID-19 pandemic.

b) Resolution on Post COVID-19 Economic Recovery: Tourism Cooperation in ASEAN.

7. The Resolution highlighted that the COVID-19 pandemic has caused severe damage to tourism worldwide especially in ASEAN where the economy is heavily dependent on the tourism sector. However, the Committee underscored that the tourism sector will play a significant role in delivering sustainable solutions for ASEAN region on the post COVID-19 by strengthening the cooperation among each Member States.
8. During the discussion and deliberation of the Resolution, the Committee reaffirmed the commitment of the AIPA to fully support the ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan 2016-2025 by re-prioritizing activities and projects aimed at revitalizing tourism in the region after overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic. Through the Resolution, the Committee also supported the vision of ASEAN Tourism 2025 whereby ASEAN aim to be a safe and quality tourist destination offering a unique, diverse ASEAN experience, and commit to be a responsible, sustainable, inclusive and balanced tourism development, so as to contribute significantly to the socio-economic well-being of ASEAN people, especially during the post pandemic period of COVID-19.
9. The Committee also encouraged Parliamentarians of the AIPA Member Parliaments to support and facilitate the integrated and coordinated approach towards the essential movement of the people in the ASEAN region. Further, the Committee call upon AIPA Member Parliaments and ASEAN Member States to foster regional cooperation through sharing best practices, policies, and capacity building.
10. I hereby present the Report of the Committee on Economic Matters to the 42nd General Assembly of AIPA.

Your Excellency and Honorable Delegates,

As we navigate the roads of recovery from the devastating economic impact of the pandemic, governments in the region need to seize the opportunity to support MSMEs in building resilience and emerge stronger by accelerating digitalization and building an inclusive digital future. Furthermore, with the current relentless vaccination rollouts, our travel sector will also need to prepare for its revival.

“Let us Care and Recover, Prepare for Stronger Unity and Prosper Together –Sama Sama”

Thank you, Your Excellency and Hon Delegates.



**HON. MS. SITI ROZAIMERIYANTY DATO
SERI LAILA JASA HAJI ABDUL RAHMAN**
CHAIRPERSON



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

(Res 42GA/2021/Eco/01)

**RESOLUTION ON
PROMOTING INCLUSIVE DIGITAL ASEAN TO EMPOWER MSMEs
AND STRENGTHEN THE ASEAN ECONOMIC INTEGRATION**

Jointly Sponsored by Brunei Darussalam and Malaysia

The Forty-Second AIPA General Assembly:

Recalling the AIPA Resolution Res39GA/2018/Econ/03 on “Deepening Regional Economic Integration in ASEAN”; the AIPA Resolution Res40GA/2019/ECO/01 on “Fostering Inclusive Development in ASEAN”; the AIPA Resolution Res40GA/2019/ECO/03 on “Improving Digital Connectivity to Support the Growth of MSMEs”; and the AIPA Resolution Res41GA/2020/Eco/01 on “*The Role of Parliaments in Promoting ASEAN Cohesiveness and Economic Recovery Post Covid-19*”; adopted at the 39th, 40th and 41st AIPA General Assembly respectively, which highlights the importance of improving digital connectivity as one of the contributing factors to accelerate ASEAN Economic Integration and in particular the growth of MSMEs as well as affirming the important role played by digital technology in strengthening ASEAN’s economic connectivity and readiness to respond to challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic;

Acknowledging the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint 2025 and the signing of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnerships (RCEP), both of which aim to create a deeply integrated and highly cohesive ASEAN economy that would engender a more equitable and inclusive economic growth; support sustained high economic resilience even during global economic shocks, volatilities, and pandemic as well as to propel ASEAN towards a digitally-enabled economy that is safe, secure, sustainable and transformative, capable to further leverage and enhance the use of ICT for an innovative, inclusive and integrated ASEAN;

Remaining Mindful of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the economic development and integration of the ASEAN region in addition to its direct and indirect disruption of the financial market, market and supply chain including the vulnerable sectors for MSMEs; supporting the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on e-Commerce, ASEAN Framework for Personal Data Protection and ASEAN Digital Masterplan to enable the vision of ASEAN being safe and secure digital economy and digital society;

Welcoming the result of the 1st ASEAN Digital Ministers’ Meeting and Related Meetings in January 2021 that stressed the importance of accelerating inclusive digital transformation in ASEAN, which is one of the key strategies adopted under the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework (ACRF) and its Implementation Plan, which serves as a consolidated exit strategy from the COVID-19 crisis;

Emphasizing the importance of MSMEs as the backbone of ASEAN's diverse and dynamic economy, which is currently lagged behind in digital connectivity, resources, skills and strategy of digital transformation. Hence the development of MSMEs capabilities and networking, including digital upskilling and reskilling of MSMEs to achieve significant uplift in productivity; efficiency and market expansion within the region, and other supports of MSMEs participation in the digital economy to boost economy and improve society during the post-COVID-19 as identified in the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework (ACRF) and the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025 so that they may continue to play a pivotal role in the growth of ASEAN economy;

Further emphasizing the priority areas identified in the ASEAN Digital Integration Framework Action Plan (DIFAP) 2019-2025, which aims are to facilitate seamless trade, to protect data and privacy while supporting digital trade and innovation, to enable seamless digital payments, to broaden digital talent base, to foster and promote the policy on STEM and entrepreneurship learning in coordinating actions and to effectively implement and enable the acceleration of digital integration within ASEAN.

Hereby resolves to:

Call upon AIPA Member Parliaments to promote policies and legislation towards harmonization for ASEAN economic digital integration, which prioritize connectivity, especially sub-region and remote area connectivity, regional integration and narrow the development gap among AMS in coordination to capture the opportunities of transitioning into the Fourth Industrial Revolution in attaining and achieving integration in key sectors for overall ASEAN economic integration;

Call for the acceleration of digital integration by further enhancing the affordable, accessible digital infrastructure and regional consensus on data governance needed to support the increasing demand for digital connectivity in the region including developing domestic regulations that seeks for mobilizing and allocating adequate budget and resources supporting the objectives of the ASEAN economic integration through digital connectivity and inclusion; especially investment in education and training to upskill and reskill people to ensure that the impact of new technologies will not lead to widening the gap of development inequality;

Encourage AIPA Member Parliaments to promote digital economy and transformation as the way forward of doing business for the MSMEs to provide better opportunities and overcome the effect of economic disruptions due to COVID-19 pandemic by enhancing national efforts including on the provision of supporting governments' efforts in delivering assistance and working with business sectors to support the integrated digital connectivity in order to increase ASEAN trade and support the development of MSMEs;

Support efforts of Governments of ASEAN Member States to effectively implement the Broad Strategy 4-Accelerating Inclusive Digital transformation of ACRF and the development of the ASEAN Consolidated Fourth Industrial Revolution Strategy;

Call upon AIPA Member Parliaments to encourage the establishment of roadmaps for digitalization of MSMEs with focus on restructuring business models to optimize their performance and productivity and to improve their capacity and competitiveness, contributing to the development of digital economy in each country;

Strongly advise the exploration of potential partnerships among ASEAN Member States and AIPA Member Parliaments to promote excellence, innovation and productivity; share best practice of supporting MSMEs digital transformation and digital platforms in the region; to facilitate and enhance market access, digital financial inclusion and improve the

internationalization of MSMEs to promote entrepreneurship and human capital development towards a thriving economic environment in ASEAN;

Urge ASEAN Member States and AIPA Member Parliaments to adapt laws and regulations to protect our digital economy, including MSMEs from various cyber threats, so that an ethical environment for digitalization can be created by considering the various pitfall of digitalization such as digital dementia, data privacy, fake news and cyberattack;

Strengthen cooperation with stakeholders in the region to advocate awareness on the benefit of digital society as well as on education and digital inclusion in order to improve the ICT skills and digital literacy of people in ASEAN Member States;

Support research on Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) and all forms of financial technology to enhance MSMEs performance as well as in shaping international regulations, standards, norms, values, and ethics in financial technology.–

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

(Res 42GA/2021/Eco/02)

**RESOLUTION ON
THE POST – COVID-19 ECONOMIC RECOVERY: TOURISM
COOPERATION IN ASEAN**

Sponsored by Thailand

The Forty-Second AIPA General Assembly:

Recalling AIPA Resolution Res 41GA/2020/Soc/03 on “Enhancing AIPA’s Role in Supporting ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community in Responding to COVID-19” that AIPA deeply sympathizes with the unprecedented impact of the Corona Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, which tremendously affected the ASEAN socio-cultural community, particularly the people’s health, well-being, safety, social welfare, income, employment, education, and other socio-cultural fields;

Firmly Supporting the resolution’s aim which calls for ASEAN’s resolve to consolidate the ASEAN Community; in achieving the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 of building a people-oriented and people-centered ASEAN Community by stepping up the ASEAN Member States’ efforts and cooperation through deepening the integration to mitigate the impacts of natural disasters and the pandemic on ASEAN’s citizens;

Recalling also the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework and its Implementation Plan and the ASEAN Declaration on Digital Tourism adopted at the 37th ASEAN Summit on 12 November 2020, which provides coordinated and consolidated strategy for post-pandemic recovery, inter-alia in tourism sector, including through digital technology and innovation;

Reaffirming the commitment of AIPA to support the ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan 2016-2025, amended in February 2021 by re-prioritizing activities and projects aimed at revitalizing the tourism in the region after overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic; which reflects the strategic direction of future tourism cooperation in moving forward to sustainable, inclusive and resilient tourism in the region;

Reaffirming the ASEAN’s commitment to care for its people and prepare for the future opportunities and challenges, in order to advance sustainable development for shared prosperity in the region as stated in the 54th ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting (AMM);

Welcoming the development of a Post COVID-19 Recovery Plan for ASEAN Tourism linked and strengthened the ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan 2016-2025, which provides coordinated measures for ASEAN Member States to proactively respond to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on tourism sector with existing activities and new initiatives;

Emphasizing the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), particularly Goal 12 on Responsible Consumption and Production, so that tourism can and may play a significant role in delivering sustainable solutions for the people by creating jobs and enhancing the economic and social outcomes whereby the tourism sector must adopt Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) models of preserving energy, water, waste, and biodiversity, by creating jobs and enhancing the economic and social outcomes as well as cultural diversity;

Welcoming ASEAN initiatives to fight against the COVID-19 pandemic including the COVID-19 ASEAN Response Fund, the Strategic and Holistic Initiative to Link ASEAN Responses to Emergencies and Disasters (ASEAN SHIELD) as well as other post-pandemic recovery plans.

Hereby resolves to:

Call upon AIPA Member Parliaments to closely engaged in the ASEAN post-pandemic recovery plans for the regional resilience and development as well as urge the Governments of ASEAN Member States to urgently implement the Action Plan for the ASEAN Vaccine Security and Self-Resilience, the ASEAN Regional Reserve of Medical Supplies and the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework;

Strengthen public health cooperation by creating vaccine security and self-reliance particularly in the implementation of the Regional Strategic and Action Plan on ASEAN Vaccine Security and Self-Reliance (AVSSR) 2021- 2025; to make the COVID-19 vaccines available and affordable as a public product and as global public goods, which would support the recovery of tourism sector in the post-COVID-19 era;

Support the vision for ASEAN Tourism to 2025 whereby ASEAN aim to be a safe and quality tourist destination offering a unique, diverse ASEAN experience, and commit to being a responsible, sustainable, inclusive and balanced tourism development, so as to contribute significantly to the socio-economic well-being of ASEAN people, especially during the post pandemic period of COVID-19;

Encourage the AIPA Member Parliaments to support and facilitate the integrated and coordinated approach towards the essential movement of people in the ASEAN region, for tourism and other travels, while safeguarding public health in line with the efforts to combat the pandemic;

Encourage innovation and research by ASEAN Member States to diversify tourism products and services to meet the new trend of post-COVID-19 tourism including safe destinations and healthcare tourism;

Urge all ASEAN Member States to successfully implement the ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan 2016-2025 and to strengthen the ASEAN Community by promoting green recovery, choosing not to exploit our resources and biodiversity and cultural diversity for the sole purpose of pursuing economic growth since the result of such action would come to a cost of resource degradation, the decline of biodiversity and a number of pollutions which would result to environmental damage and health problems as well as cultural conflicts in the long run;

Encourage AIPA Member Parliaments and ASEAN Member States to foster regional cooperation through sharing best practices and policies as well as capacity building such as providing better access to skill development, educational exchange programs and regional research networks for tourism professionals in areas such as digital technologies, innovation, eco-tourism and entrepreneurship, which will contribute to empowerment and resilience of tourism sector in the post COVID-19 recovery and adversity of future crisis to build a more sustainable, inclusive and resilient tourism that can overcome future challenges;

Encourage tourism travel bubbles, by specializing routes to tourism sites in member countries. People traveling from and to different destinations are tested to make sure they are not infected with the novel coronavirus and go straight to the safe zones.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.

ANNEX Q

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL MATTERS



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

Doc.42GA/2021/Soc Rep

**REPORT OF THE
COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL MATTERS**

His Excellency Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia
Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib,
The President of 42nd AIPA and Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam,

Your Excellencies,
Honourable Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great honour to submit the following Report of the Committee on Social Matters.

1. The Meeting was held virtually on 24th August 2021 at 4.30 pm GMT +8. It was presided over by Honourable Ms. Khairunnisa Haji Ash'ari, Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam as the Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson from the next host country, Cambodia was appointed for the meeting.
2. The following Parliamentarians from 9 AIPA Member Parliaments attended the meeting.

Brunei Darussalam

- a) Hon. Mr. Ong Tiong Oh
- b) Hon. Pehin Dato Haji Judin Haji Asar
- c) Hon. Mr. Iswandy Ahmad
- d) Hon. Mr. Haji Tahamit Haji Nudin
- e) Hon. Mr. Haji Abdul Wahab Apong
- f) Hon. Mr. Haji Emran Haji Sabtu

Cambodia

- a) Hon. Mr. Yang Sem
- b) Hon. Mrs. Nin Saphon
- c) Hon. Mrs. Lork Kheng
- d) Hon. Mrs. Un Sokunthea
- e) Hon. Mrs. Mak Vansitha
- f) Hon. Mr. Long Bunny

Indonesia

- a) Hon. Mr. Putu Supadma Rudana
- b) Hon. Mr. Arkananta Akram

Lao PDR

- a) Hon. Mrs. Thoummaly Vongphachanh
- b) Hon. Mr. Bounelome Keobouahome

Malaysia

- a) Hon. Mrs. Dato' Sri Hajah Rohani Abdul Karim
- b) Hon. Mr. Wong Chen
- c) Hon. Mr. Ahmad Fadhli Shaari

Philippines

- a) Hon. Ms. Rose Marie "Baby" J. Arenas

Singapore

- a) Hon. Mr. Sitoh Yih Pin
- b) Hon. Ms. Hany Soh
- c) Hon. Mr. Don Wee

Thailand

- a) Hon. Mr. Jetn Sirathranont
- b) Hon. Mr. Chakkrapan Pornnimit
- c) Hon. Ms. Pechdau Tohmeena

Vietnam

- a) Hon. Mr. Nguyen Tuan Anh
- b) Hon. Mr. Nguyen Hoang Mai
- c) Hon. Mr. Dinh Cong Sy
- d) Hon. Mr. Pham Phu Binh

3. In the spirit of friendship, solidarity and cooperation, the Committee on Social Matters discussed and approved three (3) Resolutions:

- a) **Resolution on the Adoption of the 4th AIPACODD Report and Resolution on Prevailing the Contemporary and Responsive Challenges Towards Drug-Free ASEAN**

4. The Committee considered and adopted the Report of the meeting of the 4th AIPA Advisory Council on Dangerous Drugs (AIPACODD) and the Resolution on Prevailing the Contemporary and Responsive Challenges Towards Drug-Free ASEAN which was held via videoconference on 24th May 2021, hosted by the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam at the International Convention Centre, Berakas, Brunei Darussalam.

5. The Resolution emphasised on commanding the AIPA Member Parliaments to reaffirm its stance of zero tolerance approach, introduce effective measures, reinforce existing policies, promote further cross-border cooperation and strengthen cooperation with drug law enforcements agencies, national authorities and other institutional bodies to ensure the commitment of AIPACODD in its strive towards a drug-free ASEAN.

b) Resolution on Strengthening Cooperation and Enhancing Digital Inclusion to Mitigate the Impacts of Climate Change

6. The resolution reaffirmed the importance of climate change as a regional challenge that has been highlighted in several Resolutions adopted at the previous AIPA General Assemblies.
7. During the deliberation, the delegates shared the same concern on the vulnerability of the region to the climate change threats that could affect the vital yet vulnerable segments of the economic sectors including agriculture, natural and built environments, biodiversity, food supply, food security, and public health. The delegates acknowledged the importance of regional cooperation and the role of digital technology in advancing climate action and reducing the risk of climate change in the region.
8. Realizing the importance of regional cooperation, the Committee unanimously agreed to collaborate in utilizing digital technology as an effective enabling tool for the management, monitoring, warning, reporting information on climate change mitigation, resilience, and adaptation. Hence through the resolution, the Committee called upon the ASEAN Member States to establish a network of information exchanges in climate science, research, and systematic observation and data sharing. Further, the delegation also urged the ASEAN Member States to strengthen climate financing and enhance opportunities for technical assistance in terms of capacity building and technology transfer among one another.

c) Resolution on Localising the Sustainable Development Goals for Effective National Implementation

9. Taking into consideration the targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by the United Nations in 2015, the Resolution emphasized the need for Parliamentarians of the AIPA Member Parliaments to play a progressively crucial role in driving forward effective national implementation of the Goals and Targets. The Resolution further emphasized that localizing the SDGs will accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda to be relevant and beneficial to the people of ASEAN.
10. The Committee agreed that as the people's elected representatives, Parliamentarians should play an active role to ensure laws and policies contributed to achieving the 2030 Agenda. The Committee also stressed the importance of coordination, cooperation, and communication between the decision-making bodies at all levels of government and the private sector for effective implementation. Thus, the Committee considered setting up a mechanism of communication with various

stakeholders to enable Parliamentarians to have a wide range of perspectives in reviewing the national priorities and policies, which further enhance the role of local governments in implementing the 2030 Agenda in their local context.

11. Aside from that, the delegates acknowledged that digitalization offers an opportunity to improve interaction, coordination, and cooperation among stakeholders. The delegates also believed that digitalization is critical to support timely data availability, data accessibility, and data quality. It is also critical to effectively monitor the progress of the implementation of the action plan. Thereby, the Committee agreed to call on Parliamentarians of AIPA Member Parliaments to review policies that will develop innovative and coherent programs for upskilling and reskilling that assure digital connectivity and participation of the local citizen in implementing and monitoring the SDGs.

d) Draft Resolution on Technology to Facilitate Greater Election Participation

12. Malaysia, as the proposing country, presented a brief explanation on the Draft Resolution on Technology to Facilitate Greater Election Participation. As elections are considered as an internal affair of each ASEAN Member State, there was a concern that the Draft Resolution is not in harmony with the principle of non-interference. As suggested by some AIPA Member Parliaments, the Committee decided to defer the Draft Resolution to the next AIPA General Assembly.

13. I hereby present the Report of the Committee on Social Matters to the 42nd General Assembly of AIPA.

Thank you.

HON. MS. KHAIRUNNISA HAJI ASH'ARI
CHAIRPERSON



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

(Res 42GA/2021/Soc/01)

**RESOLUTION ON
THE ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 4TH MEETING
OF THE AIPA COUNCIL ON DANGEROUS DRUGS (AIPACODD) AND
THE RESOLUTION ON
PREVAILING THE CONTEMPORARY AND RESPONSIVE
CHALLENGES TOWARDS DRUG-FREE ASEAN**

The Forty-Second AIPA General Assembly:

Recalling Resolution 23GA/2002/Soc/07 on the *Terms of Reference of the AIPO Fact-Finding Committee (AIFOCOM) to Combat the Drug Menace* which stated that the AIFOCOM shall meet at least once a year, preferably in the country where the AIPA General Assembly is to be held that year, and Resolution 40GA/2019/Org/17 which resolved that the 41st General Assembly shall be held in Viet Nam;

Further recalling Resolution 38GA/2017/Soc/02 on *The Terms of Reference of the AIPACODD* which stated the transformation from AIFOCOM to AIPACODD as a parliamentary tool to fight dangerous drugs and mandated the AIPA Secretariat to ensure legal and mutual cooperation and the sharing of information and best practices among AIPA Member Parliaments to fight the drug menace;

Noting that the 4th AIPACODD Meeting was held via videoconferencing on 24 May 2021 hosted by the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam, and the report of the 4th AIPACODD Meeting including the Resolution on Prevailing the Contemporary and Responsive Challenges Towards Drug-Free ASEAN;

Recognizing that the Report of the 4th AIPACODD Meeting and the Resolution on Prevailing the Contemporary and Responsive Challenges Towards Drug-Free ASEAN demonstrated unified concern and action by AIPA Member Parliaments of achieving a drug-free ASEAN region.

Hereby resolves to:

Adopt the Report of the 4th AIPACODD Meeting and the Resolution on Prevailing the Contemporary and Responsive Challenges Towards Drug-Free ASEAN.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

(Res 42GA/2021/Soc/02)

**RESOLUTION ON
STRENGTHENING COOPERATION AND ENHANCING DIGITAL
INCLUSION TO MITIGATE THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE**

Sponsored by Brunei Darussalam

The Forty-Second AIPA General Assembly:

Recalling AIPA Resolution 28GA/2007/SOC/07 on Climate Change as a Regional Challenge; AIPA Resolution 31GA/2010/SOC/01 on Climate Change, Disaster Management and Pandemic Prevention; AIPA Resolution 37GA/2016/SOC/03 on Enhancing Cooperation in Response to Climate Change in ASEAN; and AIPA Resolution 40GA/2019/SOC/05 on Regional Parliamentary Initiative for Enhancing Climate Change in ASEAN;

Noting the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) adopted in 2015, which aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, committed to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 degree Celsius above pre-industrial levels, and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degree Celsius compared to pre-industrial levels and committed to increase the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production;

Acknowledging ASEAN's commitment to the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, in particular the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CBDR-RC), in the light of different national circumstances;

Reiterating the ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate Change to the 25th Session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP25) adopted in Bangkok on 2 November 2019;

Recognising the ASEAN Working Group on Climate Change Action Plan (2016-2025), ASEAN Plan of Action on Energy Cooperation Phase II (2021 – 2025) and ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme (2021-2025);

Acknowledging with a deep concern the increasing vulnerability and exposure of ASEAN region to climate change threats, and the looming displacement of economically dependent residents living along the region's coastlines due to the rising sea levels, increasing temperature and extreme weather conditions, and exacerbating climate-induced disasters such as flood, flash floods, landslides, forest fires and transboundary haze pollution;

Acknowledging the importance of regional cooperation in the areas of sustainable utilisation of natural resources, enhancement of disaster management capacities and the adoption of capacity-building initiatives for disaster risk reduction, which includes but not limited to the enhancement of the preparedness and response for emerging multi-hazard and large scale disasters, to enhance ASEAN's capability to mitigate and adapt to climate change and reduce the adverse risks and impacts of climate-induced catastrophes to the vital yet vulnerable segments of key economic sectors like agriculture, natural and built environments, biodiversity, food supply and food security, and public health;

Realising the role of digital technology and the achievements of the 4th Industrial Revolution in socio-economic development in advancing climate action and reducing the risks of climate change in the region.

Hereby resolves to:

Encourage ASEAN Member States initiatives to align strategies, policies, action plans and roadmaps particularly on climate change mitigation, resilience and adaptation, while considering utilising digital technology as an effective enabling tool;

Encourage ASEAN Member States to strengthen policy coherence among several critical sectors development through digital technology adaptation;

Encourage AIPA Member Parliaments to collaborate and provide guidance within ASEAN in utilising available resources towards integrating digital technology for the management, monitoring, warning, reporting information on greenhouse gas emissions and climate change mitigation resilience and adaptation as well as encouraging AIPA Member Parliaments to adopt and amend the relevant laws and regulations on climate change and disaster control;

Call upon ASEAN to establish cooperation and a network of information exchanges in climate science, research and systematic observation and data sharing between ASEAN Member States. In addition to setting up a harmonised regional data centre to coordinate the sharing of information between ASEAN Member States with a close link towards Disaster Risk Management, it may also be set up to carry out climate assessments, introduce Artificial Intelligence (AI) and big data as a monitoring and tracking tool, generate an online hazard mapping and early warning system;

Urge ASEAN Member States to explore, enable and strengthen climate financing and enhance opportunities for technical assistance; capacity building and technology transfer among one another to facilitate relevant and timely climate actions towards climate adaptation and resilience;

Emphasise the importance of enhancing digital inclusion in tackling climate change to improve the adoption of green technologies and reducing greenhouse gas emissions;

Enhance public preparedness against climate-induced disasters through the promotion of Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction (CCA and DRR) programmes improve education, awareness-raising, human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning to build more disaster-resilient communities at all levels of society;

Strengthen public and private partnerships at national and regional levels to enhance community resilience and increase capacity to adapt and cope with the impacts of changing climate.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam
at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

(Res 42GA/2021/Soc/03)

**RESOLUTION ON
LOCALISING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS FOR
EFFECTIVE NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Sponsored by Malaysia

The Forty-Second General Assembly:

Guided by the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on *ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together* and the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 for a peaceful, stable, and resilient Community able to respond effectively to challenges;

Referring to the United Nations Resolution on “*Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*” adopted at the UN Sustainable Development Summit on 25 September 2015 in New York, and the Decade of Action announced in September 2019 for accelerating sustainable solutions to the world’s biggest challenges;

Also referring to Hanoi Declaration on “the Sustainable Development Goals: *Turning Words into Action*” adopted by the 132nd Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held in Hanoi on 1st April 2015, which aims to promote the parliamentary engagement in the implementation on Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the IPU Self-Assessment Toolkit designed to assist Parliaments in assessing the effectiveness of their participation in implementing the goals in their own country;

Taking note of the New Urban Agenda adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) on 20 October 2016 in Quito, Ecuador, as the key instrument for enabling national, sub-national and local government units and all stakeholders to achieve sustainable urban development, as well as the outcome of the ASEAN-China-UNDP Symposium on “Localising the SDGs and realising poverty eradication” in Siem Reap, Cambodia in 2018, which states that strengthening the governance at the local level can make a significant impact in developing and implementing inclusive and coherent policies;

Fully aware that the complementarities between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development can uplift the standards of living of our peoples and that its implementation requires the involvement of the private sectors, especially the participation of parliamentarians;

Recognizing that strengthening governance at the local level can make a significant impact in developing and implementing inclusive and coherent policies;

Acknowledging that AIPA parliamentarians play an active role in this regard to ensure laws and policies contribute to achieving the 2030 Agenda;

Stresses the importance of enabling institutional frameworks and structures for better coordination and cooperation as well as clear communication between and within decision-making bodies in all levels of government and the private sector for effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

Further acknowledging that the challenges in designing mechanisms and strategies exist, and that it is necessary to ensure that the spirit of the 2030 Agenda trickles down and makes a real impact at the local level, integrating them into policies and governance frameworks;

Fully aware that digitalisation offers an opportunity to improve interaction, coordination and cooperation among stakeholders;

Noting with deep concern that the digital divide among the ASEAN Member States impact the flow of information across the region and affects the overall push towards social and economic integration;

Noting that the need to enhance capacity-building and support on timely data availability, data accessibility, and data quality is critical to effectively monitor progress in the achievement of the SDGs;

Mindful that sharing of knowledge and exchange of good practices among the AIPA Member Parliaments can be valuable opportunities for peer-to-peer partnerships and learning to accelerate localised SDG initiatives;

Bearing in mind the importance of creating an environment that facilitates new initiatives, innovation and partnerships with the private sector to align strategies with sustainable development objectives and funding the initiatives;

Realising that COVID-19 pandemic has critically affected people at every level, especially vulnerable groups, thus humanitarian efforts can plan a role in providing assistance to people affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in all areas.

Hereby resolves to:

Encourage the AIPA Member Parliaments, state assemblies, sub-national and local governments to raise awareness on the transformative potential of the 2030 Agenda and build a national consensus to harmonise the SDGs with their national development plans, thus creating ownership, commitment and accountability;

Consider setting up a mechanism to communicate with stakeholders from the public and private sectors, and to include their perspectives into the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

Call upon parliamentarians to review strategies and gaps in national priorities and policies to enhance the role of local governments in implementing the 2030 Agenda in their local contexts;

Encourage the AIPA Member Parliaments to further engage in law-making, supervising and promoting the development and implementation of their respective National Action Plans for Sustainable Development Goals for the benefit of the people;

Remind the AIPA Member Parliaments to eliminate laws, regulations, policies and practices that discriminate or restrict the participation of women, the poor, vulnerable, marginalised, and minority groups in all levels of decision-making;

Call upon the AIPA Member Parliaments to further refine the IPU Self-Assessment Toolkit, digitalise and develop it with more in-depth local insights for the application at sub-national levels by parliamentarians to promote their role in the sub-national implementation of Sustainable Development Goals;

Further Encourage the AIPA Member Parliaments to participate in the Voluntary National Review process to ensure that implementation of the SDGs is on track;

Call on all parliamentarians to address the digital divide, promote trade, create jobs, and stimulate growth by looking for new and innovative solutions, including technologies, in their local communities and to pass the appropriate laws that will provide the appropriate infrastructure and support needed for all groups to have equal access to information and digital services;

Promote the use of technological advances to facilitate public access to services and general information to deliver efficient urban management, and to enable an innovative ecosystem for digital economy;

Encourage ASEAN Member States to improve the availability and quality of disaggregated data and to use that data for informed decision-making process to implement and monitor the SDGs as well as filling gaps;

Call upon parliamentarians to review policies that will develop innovative and coherent programmes for upskilling and reskilling that assure digital connectivity and participation for the poor and marginalised groups;

Promote multi-stakeholder and multi-lateral cooperation to advance and accelerate the achievement of the 2030 Agenda by taking advantage of digitalisation both in public and private sectors;

Further encourage parliamentarians to strengthen cooperation with the private sectors to foster sustainable development;

Urge ASEAN Member States, where possible, to provide humanitarian assistance to ensure the equitable access to the distribution of COVID-19 vaccinations, medicine and public health services to all as well as address the regional cooperation and engagement of communities to cope with COVID-19 pandemic that could contribute to achieving the SDGs;

Promote cooperation among the AIPA Member Parliaments to collectively address challenges to achieve the 2030 Agenda and to mitigate any negative impact and promote recovery from COVID-19 pandemic.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.

ANNEX R

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

Doc.42GA/2021/Org Rep

**REPORT OF
THE ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE**

His Excellency Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia
Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib,
The President of 42nd AIPA and Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam,

Your Excellencies,
Honourable Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great honour to submit the following Report of the Organizational Committee.

1. The Meeting was held virtually on 25th August 2021 at 10.00 AM GMT +8. It was presided over by Honourable Mr. Haji Abdul Hamid @ Sabli Haji Arshad, Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam as the Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson from next country, Cambodia.
2. The following Parliamentarians from 9 AIPA Member Parliaments attended the meeting.

Brunei Darussalam

- a) Hon. Pehin Dato Haji Hasrin Haji Sabtu
- b) Hon. Pehin Dato Haji Judin Haji Asar
- c) Hon. Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Ghani Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Rahim
- d) Hon. Nik Hafimi Abdul Haadii
- e) Hon. Mr. Haji Abdul Hamid Haji Mumin
- f) Hon. Mr. Haji Ramli Haji Lahit

Cambodia

- a) Hon. Mr. Chhit Kim Yeat
- b) Hon. Mr. Hou Sry
- c) Hon. Dr. Ly Chheng
- d) Hon. Mr. Pich Chivorn
- e) Hon. Mr. Tak Vantha

Indonesia

- a) Hon. Dr. Mardani Ali Sera
- b) Hon. Dr. Andi Yuliani Paris

Lao PDR

- a) Hon. Mrs. Pingkham Lasasimma
- b) Hon. Mr. Thanta Kongphaly
- c) Hon. Dr. Bouthanh Bounvilay

Malaysia

- a) Hon. Mr. Datuk Hasanuddin Mohd Yunus
- b) Hon. Mr. Ahmad Hassan

Philippines

- a) Hon. Ms. Sandra Y. Eriguel, M.D.

Singapore

- a) Hon. Ms. Tin Pei Ling
- b) Hon. Ms. Yeo Wan Ling
- c) Hon. Mr. Yip Hon Weng

Thailand

- a) Hon. Mr. Anusart Suwanmongkol
- b) Hon. Prof. Kanchanaratt Leevirojana
- c) Hon. Mr. Ekkachai Songamnartcharon
- d) Hon. Mr. Issara Sereewatthanawut

Viet Nam

- a) Hon. Mrs. Le Thu Ha
- b) Hon. Mr. Dihn Cong Sy
- c) Hon. Mrs. Dinh Thi Phuong Lan
- d) Hon. Mr. Pham Phu Binh

3. The Meeting of the Committee of Organizational Matters was held in the traditional ASEAN spirit of friendship, unity and cooperation. The following resolutions were discussed and adopted:

a) Resolution on Financial Report 2020-2021.

4. The resolution of the Financial Report of the AIPA Secretariat was adopted by the Organizational Committee. The Members of the Committee shared their views, comments and suggestions to the AIPA Secretariat in managing the Special Fund and in absorbing expenditures covered from Regular Fund as well as in ensuring that expenses comply with the procedures and rules of AIPA Secretariat including to secure savings. AIPA Secretariat is also requested to prepare the list of fixed assets.

b) Resolution on Granting Permission to Use Special Funds for the Payment of Cost-Sharing of the New Premises of AIPA Secretariat and for the Minor

Adjustment in the Salary of the Locally Recruited Staff of the AIPA Secretariat.

5. The Members of the Committee expressed their appreciation to AIPA that during the current global pandemic, AIPA is able to convene AIPA meetings and activities virtually. Hence, the Committee unanimously agreed to adopt the resolution. The Committee reiterated its suggestion to transfer the Special funds to regular funds for accounting purposes.

c) Resolution on Budget Estimation 2021-2022.

6. Recognizing the situation of economic uncertainty and the economic recovery in ASEAN Member States affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Committee emphasized the budget shall be used in a prudent and conservative manner. With that note in mind, the Committee agreed and approved the Resolution on Budget Estimation 2021-2022.

d) Resolution on Secretariat's Annual Report 2020-2021.

7. Following the brief explanation on the Secretariat's Annual Report by the Secretary-General of AIPA, the Committee agreed and approved the adoption of the resolution.

e) Resolution on Accrediting the Parliament of Ukraine as an Observer of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA), and

f) Resolution on Accrediting the Parliament of Pakistan as an Observer of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA).

8. The committee welcomed the applications from the Parliament of Ukraine, the Parliament of Pakistan, and the Parliament of Georgia. During the deliberation, the Committee took note of the assessment of the new Observer Parliaments, which shall follow the procedure provided in the guidelines and the acceptance of new Observer(s) should bring an effective, active, and prosperous partnership to the AIPA and ASEAN. Further, the Committee acknowledged the need for AIPA to expand its networking, especially during the pandemic period. The deliberation resulted in a consensus to grant the Observer status to the Parliament of Ukraine and the Parliament of Pakistan. Meanwhile, the Committee decided to hold in abeyance the application of the Parliament of Georgia as an observer in AIPA.

g) Resolution on Amendment to the AIPA Statutes.

9. The Amendments to the AIPA Statutes were developed upon the discussion from the Working Group Meeting on 1) The Guiding Rules and Procedure for the Hosting of the AIPA General Assembly on 5 May 2021, and 2) Transformation of AIPA Secretariat on 8 June 2021. The Committee acknowledged that amending the AIPA Statutes is important to maintain administrative order and uniformity in the proceedings. Hence, the committee agreed to adopt the amendment to the AIPA Statutes as proposed in the resolution.

h) Resolution on Guiding Rules and Procedures for the Hosting of the AIPA General Assembly.

10. Following the adoption of the amendment to the AIPA Statutes, the members of the Committee of the Organizational Matters unanimously approved the Guiding Rules and Procedures for the Hosting of the AIPA General Assembly that aims to update, codify and organize the various provisions in the AIPA Statutes in the conduct of the AIPA General Assembly into more a systematic set of rules, and standard procedures to be implemented by the Host of the AIPA General Assembly.

i) Resolution on Guidelines and Procedures of the AIPA-ASEAN Hearing.

11. The Committee welcomed the initiative and has adopted the resolution on Guidelines and Procedures of the AIPA-ASEAN Hearing. The Committee further proposed a study to be conducted to explore and discuss the best way possible for exchange of ideas between the two institutions.

j) Resolution on Rules and Procedures of the Meeting of the Young Parliamentarians of AIPA.

12. The Committee appreciated the AIPA Secretariat for preparing the draft Rules and Procedures of the Meeting of the Young Parliamentarians of AIPA, and for facilitating the email communication in gathering inputs from AIPA Member Parliaments. Some concerns, however, were raised during the discussion. In principle the Resolution was adopted, however, as the Committee recognized the need to further review the Draft Rules and Procedures, the Committee requested AIPA Secretariat to form a Working Group to further deliberate the Rules and Procedures of the Meeting of the Young Parliamentarians of AIPA.

k) Resolution on Establishment of the AIPA-EP Dialogue.

13. The Committee welcomed and appreciated the initiative from the European Parliament to maintain communication and conduct a series of activities with AIPA through the establishment of AIPA-EP Dialogue. The Committee supported and approved the adoption of the resolution.

l) Resolution on AIPA Distinguished Service Award to H.E. Post. Dr. Kittisethabindit Cheam Yeap (Cambodia), and

m) Resolution on AIPA Distinguished Service Award to Hon. Dr. Fadli Zon (Indonesia).

14. The Committee valued the outstanding contributions and services of H.E. Post. Dr. Kittisethabindit Cheam Yeap and Hon. Dr. Fadli Zon towards pursuit of the goals and objectives of AIPA. Taking that into consideration, The Committee unanimously agreed to confer the AIPA Distinguished Service Award to H.E. Post. Dr. Kittisethabindit Cheam Yeap and Hon. Dr. Fadli Zon as recognition of their meritorious services to AIPA.

n) Resolution on Appreciation of the President of AIPA.

15. The Committee congratulated and expressed appreciation for the service, commitment and contribution of His Excellency Pehin Dato Awang Haji Abdul Rahman Taib as the President of AIPA. The Committee unanimously agreed and approved the adoption of the resolution.

o) Resolution on Date and Venue of the 43rd AIPA GA

16. The Cambodian Delegation informed the Committee that the 43rd AIPA General Assembly will be convened in September 2022 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Cambodia wishes to welcome all Delegates of AIPA Member Parliaments in a physical meeting in the country, once the pandemic is over and the situation allows.

Thank you for your attention.



HON. MR HAJI ABDUL HAMID @ SABL I HAJI ARSHAD
CHAIRPERSON



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

(Res 42GA/2021/Org/01)

RESOLUTION ON

**FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE AIPA SECRETARIAT
FOR THE PERIOD OF 1 AUGUST 2020 TO 31 JULY 2021**

The Forty-Second General Assembly:

Noting that AIPA adopts the new Financial Year to be from 1 August of each year to 31 July of the following year as resolved by Resolution RES.35GA/2014/ORG/03 at the 35th AIPA General Assembly held in Vientiane, Lao PDR;

Having considered the Audited Financial Reports of the AIPA Secretariat covering the period of 1 August 2020 to 31 July 2021 as contained in Doc. 42GA/2021/FinRep/01;

Noting the Balance Sheet of the AIPA Secretariat as of 31 July 2021.

Hereby resolves to:

Approve the aforesaid Financial Report covering the period of 1 August 2020 to 31 July 2021.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

(Res 42GA/2021/Org/02)

RESOLUTION ON

**GRANTING PERMISSION TO USE SPECIAL FUNDS FOR THE
PAYMENT OF COST-SHARING OF THE NEW PREMISES OF AIPA
SECRETARIAT AND FOR THE MINOR ADJUSTMENT IN THE
SALARY OF THE LOCALLY RECRUITED STAFF OF THE AIPA
SECRETARIAT**

The Forty-Second AIPA General Assembly:

Recalling the AIPA Resolution No. Res. 41/GA/2020/org/07 on the Relocation of AIPA Secretariat Premises, adopted at the 41st AIPA General Assembly in Viet Nam;

Appreciating the support provided by the ASEAN Secretariat and the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN in granting a rent-free work space for the Permanent Secretariat of AIPA;

Fully aware that the relocation of AIPA Secretariat premises from the Indonesian Parliament Compound to the Heritage Building of ASEAN Secretariat generates extra expenses to the present budget regarding the annual operational and maintenance costs;

Aware of the moral and ethical obligation of the AIPA Member Parliaments to ensure the welfare of the AIPA Secretariat staff and that salary incremental could be one of the solutions to address the issue of high employment turn-over rate of the AIPA Secretariat;

Acknowledging the request extended by the AIPA Secretariat during the Working Group Meeting on the Transformation of AIPA Secretariat to to pay the cost-sharing of the new premises of the AIPA Secretariat as well as to increase the salary of the locally recruited staff;

Realizing that due to budget constraint, increasing the annual contribution of AIPA member parliaments is inevitable to address the above-mentioned issue;

Taking into consideration the prolonged Covid-19 pandemic that led to the weakening of the economy of the ASEAN Member States which makes it difficult for most AIPA Member Parliaments to increase the annual contribution for this challenging time.

Hereby Resolves to:

Grant permission to AIPA Secretariat to utilize the Special Fund to pay the cost sharing of the new premises of AIPA Secretariat and slightly increase salary of locally recruited staff up to USD.28,000 and USD. 15,210 respectively, until the increment of the annual contribution is put into force in 2023.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

(Res 42GA/2021/Org/03)

RESOLUTION ON

- (1) ESTIMATED BUDGET FOR THE AIPA SECRETARIAT
FOR THE PERIOD OF 1 AUGUST 2021 TO 31 JULY 2022;
(2) SPECIAL FUND FOR THE PERIOD OF 1 AUGUST 2021 TO 31
JULY 2022 AND
(3) ESTIMATED SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FROM 1 AUGUST 2022
TO 31 OCTOBER 2022**

The Forty-Second General Assembly:

Bearing in mind that the Estimated Budget of AIPA for the Financial Year 1 August to 31 July of the following year and the Supplementary Budget for the months of August to October of the next Financial Year will be contained in a single audited report for the approval of General Assembly;

Further bearing in mind that Special Fund started operating in Financial Year 2017/2018 and is contained in a single audited report for the approval of General Assembly;

Having considered the details of the Estimated Expenditures and Explanatory Note for Financial Year 2021/2022 covering the period from 1 August 2021 to 31 July 2022, the Special Fund covering the period from 1 August 2021 to 31 July 2022 and the Supplementary Estimate from 1 August 2022 to 31 October 2022.

Hereby resolves to:

Approve the estimated expenditure as contained in Doc. 42GA/2021/Org/XX of US\$ 309,920.00 for the period of 1 August 2021 to 31 July 2022, US\$ 10,000.00 tuition fee funded from savings, US\$ 50,000.00 being the expenditure of AIPA Special Fund covering the period of 1 August 2021 to 31 July 2022 and Supplementary Estimates of US\$ 70,495.00 to cover the expenditure for three months from 1 August 2022 to 31 October 2022 respectively.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

(Res 42GA/2021/Org/04)

**RESOLUTION ON
THE SECRETARIAT'S ANNUAL REPORT FY 2020-2021**

The Forty-Second AIPA General Assembly:

Having considered the AIPA Secretariat's Annual Report FY 2020-2021 submitted by the Secretary General.

Hereby resolves to:

Approves the aforesaid Secretariat Annual Report FY 2020-2021.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
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(Res 42GA/2021/Org/05)

**RESOLUTION ON
ACCREDITING THE PARLIAMENT OF UKRAINE AS AN OBSERVER
OF ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (AIPA)**

The Forty-Second General Assembly:

Referring to the letter from the Chairman of the Parliament of Ukraine dated 2 October 2020, containing an appeal for the Parliament of Ukraine to be considered as an observer member of AIPA;

Noting the interest of the Parliament of Ukraine to participate in the annual General Assembly of AIPA as an Observer;

Recalling Article 6 (5) of the Statutes of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) which stated that the General Assembly may invite special observers and guests to attend its annual meetings;

Recalling further Article 10(1) of the Statutes of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) which stated that the Executive Committee shall have the power and function to consider and recommend membership in AIPA and the participation of Special Observers, Observers and Guests, and that the Executive Committee has considered the Parliament of Ukraine's desires to participate as an observer in the annual meeting of AIPA;

Appreciating the positive response and the unanimous decision of the AIPA Member Parliaments to accept the Parliament of Ukraine to be an Observer at the annual meeting of AIPA.

Hereby resolves to:

Accredit the Parliament of Ukraine as an Observer in the ongoing and future AIPA General Assemblies.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

(Res 42GA/2021/Org/06)

**RESOLUTION ON
ACCREDITING THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF ISLAMIC
REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN AS AN OBSERVER OF ASEAN INTER-
PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (AIPA)**

The Forty-Second General Assembly:

Referring to the letter from the Speaker of the National Assembly of Islamic Republic of Pakistan dated 22 June 2021, containing an appeal for the National Assembly of Islamic Republic of Pakistan to be considered as an observer member of AIPA;

Noting the interest of the National Assembly of Islamic Republic of Pakistan to participate in the annual General Assembly of AIPA as an Observer;

Recalling Article 6 (5) of the Statutes of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) which stated that the General Assembly may invite special observers and guests to attend its annual meetings;

Recalling further Article 10(1) of the Statutes of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) which stated that the Executive Committee shall have the power and function to consider and recommend membership in AIPA and the participation of Special Observers, Observers and Guests, and that the Executive Committee has considered the National Assembly of Islamic Republic of Pakistan's desires to participate as an observer in the annual meeting of AIPA;

Appreciating the positive response and the unanimous decision of the AIPA Member Parliaments to accept the National Assembly of Islamic Republic of Pakistan to be an Observer at the annual meeting of AIPA.

Hereby resolves to:

Accredit the National Assembly of Islamic Republic of Pakistan as an Observer in the ongoing and future AIPA General Assemblies.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

(Res 42GA/2021/Org/07)

**RESOLUTION ON
THE AMENDMENT OF AIPA STATUTES**

The Forty-Second AIPA General Assembly:

Recalling the Resolution on the Guidelines of AIPA Engagement with Guests and Observers adopted at the 40 General Assembly on the 29 August 2019 in Bangkok, Kingdom of Thailand which contained some changes to the provisions of the AIPA Statutes;

Realizing that there was no separate resolution on the Amendments to the AIPA Statutes adopted during the 40 AIPA General Assembly, despite the implied changes to its provisions by the adoption of the Resolution on Guidelines of AIPA Engagement with Guests and Observers;

Realizing further that the Guiding Rules and Procedures for the Hosting of the AIPA General Assembly shall only be implemented if the amendments to the AIPA Statutes are adopted by the General Assembly;

Acknowledging that amending the AIPA Statutes is important in the interest of maintaining administrative order and uniformity in the proceedings;

Aware of the changes brought about to the AIPA Statutes as the consequences of the submission of the Draft Resolution on Guiding Rules and Procedures for the Hosting of the AIPA General Assembly at the Organizational Committee of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly;

Realizing that the Guiding Rules and Procedures for the Hosting of AIPA General Assembly shall only be implemented with the condition that the Amendment of AIPA Statute has been adopted.

Hereby Resolves to:

Approve and adopt the amendment of the following provisions of the AIPA Statutes conducive to adopt the Draft Resolution on the Guiding Rules and Procedures for the Hosting of the AIPA General Assembly:

Art.9 (3) The venue of the General Assembly shall be rotated among the Member Parliaments in alphabetical order, unless otherwise decided by the General Assembly. In the event that a Member Parliament is unable to host the General Assembly, the Executive Committee shall decide on the venue.

In cases when the attendance of member parliamentarians becomes extremely difficult or impossible such as on occasions of natural calamities, pandemics, strikes, riots, and civil disturbances, whether fortuitous or not, the Executive Committee may authorize the Host Parliament to conduct the General Assembly and other related meetings through electronic platforms like video conference, telecommunications and other reliable online technologies.

Art. 9 (7.a) Decisions by the General Assembly on any subject shall be made by consensus. When consensus cannot be achieved, the General Assembly may decide on how a specific decision can be made.

Art. 11 (5) Decisions by the Executive Committee on any subject shall be made by consensus. When consensus cannot be achieved, the Executive Committee may decide on how a specific decision can be made.

Art. 14 (1-3)

1. The Secretariat is the administrative body of AIPA and the hub for information, knowledge, communication and stakeholder's engagement of AIPA.
2. It shall perform at least the following functions:
 - a. Provide service support to the AIPA and its Member Parliaments;
 - b. Take initiative to explore and conceptualize possible joint programs and projects with external stakeholders to achieve common goals with AIPA, and submit to AIPA General Assembly the approval for its implementation; and
 - c. Establish and maintain efficient and effective administrative support system for AIPA.
3. The AIPA Secretariat shall be at the city where the ASEAN Secretariat is located, unless the General Assembly decides otherwise.

Approve the draft resolution on the Amendment of the AIPA Statutes.

The amendment shall come into force on 25 August 2021.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

(Res 42GA/2021/Org/08)

**RESOLUTION ON
GUIDING RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE HOSTING OF THE
AIPA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

The Forty-Second AIPA General Assembly:

Considering that the AIPA General Assembly as the policy-making body of AIPA is mandated to meet at least once a year, unless otherwise decided by the Executive Committee, as provided for in paragraph (2) Article 9 of AIPA Statutes;

Recognizing that the various rules and procedures governing the conduct of the AIPA General Assembly may be found in the different articles and provisions of AIPA Statutes;

Observing that AIPA Member Parliaments have used different sets of rules and procedures in hosting the AIPA General Assembly which have caused confusion, discomfort, disharmony or even misunderstanding among guests and observers;

Bearing in mind that such issues need to be addressed, this proposed Resolution aims to update, codify and organize the various provisions in the AIPA Statutes relating to the rules and procedures for the hosting of the General Assembly into a systematic and uniform set of rules, and standard procedures to be implemented by the Host of the AIPA General Assembly;

Having adopted the Resolution on the Amendment of AIPA Statutes to accredit the initiation of the Guiding Rules and Procedures for the Hosting of the AIPA General Assembly.

Hereby Resolves to:

Adopt and approve the Guiding Rules and Procedures for the Hosting of the AIPA General Assembly, as attached. The Guiding Rules and Procedures shall come into force as soon as the current General Assembly is concluded.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
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(Res 42GA/2021/Org/09)

**RESOLUTION ON
GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES OF AIPA-ASEAN HEARING**

The Forty-Second AIPA General Assembly:

Recalling the Resolution on the *Institutionalization of AIPA-ASEAN Dialogue* adopted at the 40th AIPA General Assembly on 29 August 2019, in Bangkok, Kingdom of Thailand which agreed to institutionalize a meaningful dialogue mechanism between AIPA and ASEAN to discuss the plan and status of implementation of the ASEAN Integration Plan and other matters in every AIPA General Assembly/or suitable platform;

Noting AIPA Member Parliaments directed the AIPA Secretariat to establish guidelines and procedures for regular AIPA-ASEAN dialogue at the AIPA General Assembly or suitable platform;

Considering the inputs and recommendations in developing the guidelines and procedures of the AIPA-ASEAN dialogue from all AIPA Member Parliaments and the ASEAN Secretariat.

Hereby resolves to:

Call upon the AIPA Member Parliaments to approve and adopt the proposed Guidelines and Procedures of AIPA-ASEAN Hearing.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

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(Res 42GA/2021/Org/10)

**RESOLUTION ON
THE ADOPTION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE
MEETING OF YOUNG PARLIAMENTARIANS OF AIPA**

The Forty-Second AIPA General Assembly:

Noting the AIPA Resolution number Res 41GA/2020/Org/06 on the Engagement of Young Parliamentarians of AIPA in the ASEAN Community Building, adopted at the 41st AIPA General Assembly which welcomed the initiative to establish the Meeting of Young Parliamentarians of AIPA to be held in AIPA General Assemblies, as well as supported the creation of Ad-Hoc Committee to draft the Rules of Procedure for the Meeting of Young Parliamentarians of AIPA to be considered and adopted in the next AIPA General Assembly;

Noting with regret that the suggested Ad-Hoc Committee was unable to be formed and meet in an actual meeting due to the heavy meeting schedule of the AIPA;

Recognizing the Draft Rules of Procedure of the Meeting of Young Parliamentarians of AIPA prepared by the AIPA Secretariat which later was deliberated by the AIPA Member Parliaments through email communication;

Taking into account the inputs and recommendations from the AIPA Member Parliaments to the Draft Rules of Procedure gathered through the above-said email communication mechanism.

Hereby Resolves to:

Establish an Ad Hoc working group to discuss the matter concern in the Rules of Procedure of the Meeting of Young Parliamentarians of AIPA;

Approve the resolution on the Rules of Procedure of the Meeting of Young Parliamentarians of AIPA, as attached.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

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(Res 42GA/2021/Org/11)

**RESOLUTION ON
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ANNUAL AIPA-EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT INTER-REGIONAL PARLIAMENTARY HEARING**

The Forty-Second AIPA General Assembly:

Acknowledging the European Parliament as one of the first parliaments to establish formal relations with AIPA as an Observer;

Appreciating the proposal of the European Parliament's Delegation for relations with the countries of Southeast Asia and ASEAN (DASE) during the Thirty-Ninth and Forty First AIPA General Assembly to hold one additional annual inter-regional meeting that would allow for a more structured dialogue between the European Parliament and AIPA;

Recognizing the successful Inaugural AIPA-European Parliamentary Dialogue virtually held on 22 June 2021, where the two most common and relevant issues for both regions were constructively discussed: The Future of EU-ASEAN Trade Relations, and Mitigating the Negative Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic;

Considering that the parliamentary bond is the key to a productive larger and bilateral relationship and an opportunity to strengthen the parliamentary extension of EU-ASEAN relations;

Bearing in mind the view of each AIPA Member Parliament that it is important to have a uniform in the proceeding for the establishment of an annual dialogue with European Parliament with the dialogue with Observer delegations regularly convened during the AIPA General Assembly.

Hereby Resolves to:

Support the establishment of the annual AIPA-European Parliament Hearing as a formal platform for the two parliamentary groups to intensively and constructively discuss common and relevant issues, while maintaining the annual dialogue that is regularly convened during the AIPA General Assembly;

Request the AIPA Secretariat to communicate with European Parliament and prepare the Terms of Reference of the Annual AIPA-European Parliament Inter-Regional Parliamentary Hearing.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.



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*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
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(Res 42GA/2021/Org/12)

**RESOLUTION ON
AIPA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD TO
H.E. POST. DR. KITTISETHABINDIT CHEAM YEAP**

The Forty-Second AIPA General Assembly:

Recognizing the valuable service, outstanding contribution and tireless efforts of H.E. Post. Dr. Kittisethabindit Cheam Yeap, Chairman of the Commission on Economy, Finance, Banking, and Audit & Chairman of Cambodian Parliament AIPA National Group, towards the pursuit of the goals and objectives of AIPA;

Considering the nomination of H.E. Post. Dr. Kittisethabindit Cheam Yeap, Chairman of the Commission on Economy, Finance, Banking, and Audit & Chairman of Cambodian Parliament AIPA National Group, with the unanimous support of all Delegations.

Hereby resolves to:

Agree that this General Assembly confers AIPA Distinguished Service Award to H.E. Post. Dr. Kittisethabindit Cheam Yeap as recognition of his meritorious services to AIPA.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
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*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
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(Res 42GA/2021/Org/13)

**RESOLUTION ON
AIPA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD TO
HONORABLE DR. FADLI ZON**

The Forty-Second AIPA General Assembly:

Recognizing the valuable service, outstanding contribution and tireless efforts of Hon. Dr. Fadli Zon, Chairperson of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation of the House of Representatives of Indonesia, towards the pursuit of the goals and objectives of AIPA;

Considering the nomination of Hon. Dr. Fadli Zon, Chairperson of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation of the House of Representatives of Indonesia, with the unanimous support of all Delegations.

Hereby resolves to:

Agree that this General Assembly confers AIPA Distinguished Service Award to Hon. Dr. Fadli Zon as recognition of his meritorious services to AIPA.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

(Res 42GA/2021/Org/14)

**RESOLUTION ON
APPRECIATING THE SERVICE OF
HIS EXCELLENCY PEHIN DATO AWANG HAJI ABDUL RAHMAN
TAIB AS PRESIDENT OF AIPA**

The Forty-Second General Assembly:

Acknowledging that the term of office of His Excellency Pehin Dato Awang Haji Abdul Rahman Taib as the President of AIPA ends at the conclusion of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly;

Recognizing His Excellency Pehin Dato Awang Haji Abdul Rahman Taib's valuable contribution to the success of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly during his term of office;

Sincerely expressing its deepest appreciation and gratitude for his leadership of the organization and welcoming his continued participation and contribution in the development and growth of AIPA.

Hereby resolves to:

Adopt this resolution on appreciating the Services of His Excellency Pehin Dato Awang Haji Abdul Rahman Taib.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
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*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

(Res 42GA/2021/Org/15)

**RESOLUTION ON
DATE AND VENUE OF THE 43RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

The Forty-Second General Assembly:

Referring stipulation of Chapter IV, Article 9 Paragraph 3 of the AIPA Statutes that the venue of the General Assembly shall be on rotational basis in alphabetical order among the Member Parliaments;

Hereby resolves, that the 43rd General Assembly shall be held in Phnom Penh in September 2022 in Cambodia.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.

ANNEX S

REPORT OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE



42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

(Doc 42GA/2021/JC)

**JOINT COMMUNIQUE OF
THE FORTY-SECOND (42ND) GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (AIPA)**

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) with the theme “Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion Towards ASEAN Community 2025” was held virtually from 23 to 25 August 2021, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam.
2. His Excellency Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib, President of 42nd AIPA and Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam presided over the 42nd General Assembly of AIPA.

II. DELEGATIONS

3. Delegates from the AIPA Member Parliaments, Observer Parliaments, the AIPA and ASEAN Secretariats, Guests of the Host, and AIPA Partners participated virtually in the 42nd General Assembly.
4. For the AIPA Member delegations, **Brunei Darussalam** was led by Hon. Pehin Orang Kaya Pendikar Alam Dato Paduka Seri Awang Haji Hasrin Bin Dato Paduka Awang Haji Sabtu, Member of Legislative Council; **Cambodia** was led by Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin, President of the National Assembly; **Indonesia** was led by H.E. Dr. (H.C.) Puan Maharani, Speaker of the House of Representatives; **Lao People’s Democratic Republic** was led by H.E. Xaysomphone Phomvihane, President of the National Assembly; **Malaysia** was led by H.E. Datuk Azhar Azizan Harun, Speaker of the House of Representatives; **Philippines** was led by H.E. Mr. Lord Allan Jay Q. Velasco, Speaker of the House of Representatives; **Singapore** was led by H.E. Mr. Tan Chuan-Jin, Speaker of Parliament; **Thailand** was led by H.E. Mr. Chuan Leekpai, President of the National Assembly and **Vietnam** was led by H.E. Vuong Dinh Hue, President of the National Assembly.
5. For the Observer delegations, **Australia** was led by Senator Hon. David Fawcett; **Belarus** was led by H.E. Mr. Vladimir Andreichenko; **Canada** was led by Senator Hon. Paul Massicotte; **People’s Republic of China** was led by Hon. Ms. Duo Liu; **European Parliaments** was led by Hon. Mr. Daniel Caspary; **India** was led by Hon. Dr. Satya Pal

Singh; **Republic of Korea** was led by Hon. Mr. Kim Gi-hyeon; **Morocco** was led by H.E. Habib El Malki; **Norway** was led by Hon. Mrs. Elin Rooum Agoestein; and the **Russian Federation** was led by H.E. Konstantin Kosachev.

6. The delegation from **AIPA Secretariat** was led by Hon. Nguyen Tuong Van, Secretary-General of AIPA.
7. The delegation from **ASEAN Secretariat** was led by H.E. Dato Lim Jock Hoi, Secretary-General of ASEAN.
8. For the delegation of Guests of the Host, **The Representative of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar** was led by Hon. Attorney General Dr. Thida Oo; **Inter-Parliamentary Union** was led by Hon. Mr. Martin Chungong; **Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum** was led by H.E. Tony Smith;
9. For the delegation of AIPA Partners, the **Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)** was led by Prof. Hidetoshi Nishimura; **Freeland** was led by Mr. Steven Galster; **Parliamentary Centre Asia (PCAsia)** was led by Mr. Dararith Kim-Yeat.

III. OPENING CEREMONY

10. The Opening Ceremony of the 42nd General Assembly of AIPA was held on Monday, 23 August 2021, at 10.00 am GMT +8. His Excellency Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib, President of 42nd AIPA and Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam, delivered his welcoming address followed by the Royal Speech of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.

Welcoming Address

11. In his welcoming address, His Excellency Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib, President of 42nd AIPA and Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam, warmly welcomed all delegates of AIPA Member Parliaments, Observers, Guests, and Partners. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, by taking advantage of technology, he was pleased to see the prevailing spirit of friendship and cooperation allowed the 42nd AIPA General Assembly to convene virtually.
12. Referring to the theme of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly: *“Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025”*, he stated that ensuring inclusive digital transformation shall be put a priority in order to build resilience and better prepare the current and future generations for a post-pandemic era. He explained that the theme was chosen not only to embrace, promote and enable digital inclusion as a means to further strengthen parliamentary cooperation amidst the pandemic, but also to highlight the important role of parliamentarians in supporting ASEAN Vision 2025 for a community that is “politically cohesive, economically integrated and socially responsible”.

13. He also highlighted noteworthy issues such as women empowerment, climate change, cyber security and strengthening economic integration were included in the agenda of this year's AIPA General Assembly. Thus, it is important for AIPA Parliamentarians to power through this current climate united in resolve and purpose to ensure alignment in the collective intention.

Royal Speech

14. His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, delivered Royal Speech at the opening ceremony of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly. His Majesty warmly welcomed all Delegates to the virtual 42nd AIPA General Assembly. Referring to the theme of Brunei Darussalam's ASEAN Chairmanship 2021: "We Care, We Prepare, We Prosper", His Majesty noted the continuing efforts of ASEAN to respond rapidly in providing care for its peoples amidst the uncertainty.
15. His Majesty acknowledged the theme of 42nd AIPA General Assembly which reassert the commitment of AIPA Member Parliaments in building ASEAN as a leading digital community and economy bloc through harmonizing regulations, standardizing policies and legislations across ASEAN. His Majesty highlighted the persistence of parliamentarians in making AIPA the key organization and platform that enhances multilateral cooperation in order to realize the collective desire of ASEAN which is to see its present and future generations continue to enjoy sustainable peace, security, prosperity, and economic growth.
16. His Majesty was confident that the discussions during the 42nd AIPA General Assembly will generate new ways on how AIPA and ASEAN can work together to effectively respond to regional and global challenges. His Majesty also called upon ASEAN parliamentarians to continue cooperation with fellow parliamentarians of AIPA Observers. His Majesty concluded His Royal Speech by wishing the 42nd AIPA General Assembly and its delegates much success in their deliberations.

IV. VICE-PRESIDENTS OF 42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

17. Pursuant to Article 10 of the Statutes of AIPA, the General Assembly elected the Leaders of Delegations of the AIPA Member Parliaments as Vice-Presidents of the 42nd General Assembly of AIPA.

V. STATEMENTS BY HEADS OF DELEGATIONS OF AIPA MEMBER PARLIAMENTS

The Heads of Delegations of the AIPA Member Parliaments delivered their respective statements at the First Plenary session of the 41st General Assembly.

Cambodia

18. Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin, President of the National Assembly of Cambodia opened his remarks by congratulating the Legislative Council of Brunei for the wonderful arrangement of the virtual 42nd AIPA General Assembly. In his statement,

he expressed his strong support to the chosen theme of Promoting Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025, as it reflects the need to achieve a more inclusive ASEAN Community with leading digital connectivity ensuring high security and sustainability. He highlighted the concrete plans introduced by ASEAN to achieve the ASEAN Vision 2025, including the ASEAN Digital Master Plan 2025, which is an important driving force in promoting resilient economic growth, pushing economic diversification and enhancing productivity and competitiveness. He stated that it is important to ensure that digitalization is inclusive and that multilateral cooperation on digital governance and rules is strengthened.

19. He emphasized that our world is now growing more complex, highly competitive, and facing drastic changes in balances of economic power and competition in trade. These require all of us to be more internationally united and to embrace multilateralism, an important policy choice for resolving problems based on the principles of international law.
20. Samdech Heng Samrin shared that the Royal Government of Cambodia recently launched the “Digital Economic and Social Policy Framework 2021-2035” to build a vibrant digital economy and society aimed at promoting digital adoption and transformation. This policy will play a critical role in economic recovery plans after the Covid-19 crisis through the development of digital infrastructure and the promotion of trust and confidence in digital systems, digital citizens, digital government and digital business. He emphasized, however, that numerous issues overshadow the process of digital transformation such as digital development gaps, digital illiteracy and cybersecurity which are critical challenges for developing countries whose resources and capabilities are constrained. Therefore, ASEAN countries need to invest and allocate more resources to promote digital literacy and people's capacity.
21. In this regard, he called for parliamentary cooperation to build inclusive and safe digital infrastructure by sharing cybersecurity information and regulations, and by promoting public-private cooperation, digital capacity building and cybersecurity awareness as well as strengthening cybersecurity management. At the same time, he underscored peace as an important foundation for development as the world is facing instability and growing multiple threats to peace that have not been seen in decades. Hence, peace and development must go hand in hand. He closed his statement by stressing the importance of maintaining peace and striving to promote sustainable development so people can live in prosperity and progress.

Indonesia

22. The Head of the Indonesian Delegation, Speaker of the Indonesian House of Representatives, YM. Puan Maharani, expressed her appreciation to AIPA for its resilience in maintaining its role amidst the pandemic. There are various cooperation that ASEAN member countries can do to curb the pandemic, among others, cooperation in exchanging information to overcome the spread of the virus, and cooperation in providing vaccines, medical equipment and medicines, including research.
23. In regard to this year's theme, she conveyed that it reflects the Parliament's desire to cooperate in helping to improve digital connectivity among ASEAN member countries. In

the present day, the COVID-19 pandemic has contributed to the acceleration of the use of digital technology which has brought disruption in many areas.

24. In this regard, she stressed that the ASEAN member countries should continue to increase cooperation and exchange information in order to take greater benefits from digital technology. *First*, cooperation in increasing the availability of affordable internet access for the community. This is also related to the efforts to increase internet access, especially in remote and rural areas. *Second*, cooperation to improve human resources related to literacy and skills, not only to take advantage of the digital technology itself, but also to prevent hoaxes and disinformation. *Third*, cooperation in formulating policies that support digital connectivity and also to ensure the security of digital activities, such as cybersecurity, personal data protection, and consumer protection. *Fourth*, cooperation to improve innovation, education, and research in digital technology. In line with efforts to utilize digital technology for economic growth, it is necessary to always pay attention to digital inclusion through the expansion of internet access for all.
25. Furthermore, in an effort to effectively deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, ASEAN must continue to maintain its political stability and security, as well as support the development of democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights. The political crisis in Myanmar has caused its own challenges for ASEAN. Therefore, a peaceful resolution to the political crisis in Myanmar must be started immediately through an inclusive dialogue process. For this reason, the Five-Point Consensus jointly developed by the ASEAN Leaders Summit must be immediately followed up, and the ASEAN Special Envoy must be given access to meet various parties in Myanmar.

Lao's People Democratic Republic

26. H.E. Dr. Xaysomphone Phomvihane, President of the National Assembly of Lao PDR congratulated the President of AIPA for the excellent arrangement of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly. He also expressed his appreciation and support for the theme of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly: “Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025”.
27. As the world is facing a number of challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic and natural disasters which have posed serious impact to public health, socio-economic development, regional and global stability and security, Lao PDR in this regard highly appreciated the timely measures that have been undertaken by ASEAN member countries.
28. He emphasized that Lao PDR acknowledges the importance of digital inclusion to economic growth and social development. In this regard, He shared that Lao PDR has developed a National Strategy on Science and Technology Development (2013-2020) and Vision 2030, and integrated them into the 9th Five-Year National Socio-Economic Development Plan (2021-2025). Lao PDR is also currently drafting a Digital Economic Development Strategy for 2021-2025 that aims to improve the national economy, which hopefully will facilitate the transition of Lao PDR from Least Developed Country to become a Developed Country while promoting industrial modernization.

29. To make sure the digital inclusion is achieved, H.E. Dr. Xaysomphone Phomvihane shared that Lao PDR integrated ICT into tertiary education curricula, and ensured that access to technology is also available to people living in remote areas, including the most disadvantaged groups, so as to improve people's livelihoods and narrow the development gap between urban and rural areas. Such measures were taken also to support the MSMEs and Start-Ups, so they can engage in online platforms and create an enabling environment for businesses to get access to domestic, regional and global markets in an equitable manner.
30. As an effort to realize a resilient and innovative ASEAN Community, H.E. Dr. Xaysomphone Phomvihane called on AIPA Member Parliaments to strengthen cooperation in Science and Technology, as well as research and development, and enhance the coordination, to ensure an equitable access to digital technologies and promote public-and-private participation with their respective national policies and legislation.

Malaysia

31. His Excellency Datuk Azhar Azizan Harun, Speaker of the House of Representatives in the Parliament of Malaysia started his address to the 42nd ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) General Assembly by expressing his support for this year's AIPA General Assembly's theme. His address illustrated the impact of second waves of the pandemic COVID-19 to the legislative branch. Following that, many parliaments have had to resort to electronic means of business as a temporary stop-gap solution, including the consideration of a hybrid or virtual parliamentary sitting. In addition, Parliaments have started reforming previously rigid and embedded attitudes towards novel ways of working.
32. Further to that, he also highlighted the importance of transparency and the accuracy of information. For instance, while accurate data and information related to pandemics are fundamental for an effective response to the crisis, social media, however, presents a challenge whereby the platforms have been misused by some to spread dangerous misinformation.
33. The address was concluded with a call to action for the region to strive for greater regional representation through better interstate cooperation and committed participation to realize the ASEAN vision.

Philippines

34. In the statement of Speaker Lord Allan Jay Velasco, he highlighted that the pressing call to leverage the digital economy has become more compelling as the region grapples with the nature of the "new normal". As a result, digitalization has led the region to adopt a nimble and adaptive response to disruptive conditions. Digital platforms have enabled the ASEAN people to stay connected and engaged, and for some businesses to operate amid the lockdown.
35. Further he mentioned in his statement the fact that digital transformation is now a major strategic focus for ASEAN to drive economic recovery and build back better. But what many may not realize is the extent to which COVID-19 has accelerated this shift that was

already underway. Unfortunately, not all countries are able to leverage digital technologies to their full potential. There are gaps between countries in the region in basic access to the internet, along with speed and cost. In this regard, he emphasized that digital inclusion is crucial for digital platforms to reach all member states and all levels of society. The key, he said, is to invest in digital infrastructure and connectivity to broaden physical access to mobile and internet networks. This will also enhance access to education, markets, and other economic opportunities.

36. Given the scale of the pandemic, ASEAN and AIPA also saw the need to change the way they conduct business from traditional interface platforms to online interactions. These institutions have utilized digital diplomacy, with all of its meetings across all sectors, including those with Dialogue Partners. Going forward, he stated that there are good reasons for ASEAN and AIPA to use digital platforms beyond COVID-19, especially for technical discussions and emergency response.

Singapore

37. H.E. Mr. Tan Chuan-Jin, Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Singapore opened his speech by noting that the COVID-19 pandemic has been the defining crisis of our generation. He was heartened that the strength and resilience of ASEAN has shone through, with ASEAN Member states rising to the occasion to support one another. In this vein, he highlighted the adoption of the Hanoi Plan of Action on Strengthening ASEAN Economic Cooperation and Supply Chain Connectivity in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic in April 2020, as well as the creation of the COVID-19 ASEAN Response Fund and the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework and its Implementation Plan that were launched later that year.
38. Mr. Tan noted that the governments of AIPA members are working hard to mitigate the pandemic's effects on public health and livelihoods. In this regard, he was heartened that AIPA members have redoubled their joint efforts under Brunei's ASEAN Chairmanship theme of "We Care, We Prepare, and We Prosper", with an eye towards positioning ASEAN for a COVID-19 endemic world.
39. Mr. Tan pointed out that the pandemic has also accelerated the digitalization of society, which is rapidly transforming the way we all live, work and play. In this vein, he expressed that this year's ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly theme of "Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion Towards ASEAN Community 2025" was especially pertinent, and urged AIPA members to continue to support and advocate for inclusive policies that help ensure that technology remains accessible for everyone.
40. Concluding his statement, Mr. Tan reiterated the importance of ASEAN's cohesiveness and unity that has helped ASEAN Member States weather the many setbacks and challenges through the years. In this regard, he urged ASEAN Member States to continue using platforms such as AIPA to communicate the importance of supporting a more integrated, digital, and forward-looking ASEAN Community.

Thailand

41. H.E. Mr. Chuan Leekpai, President of the National Assembly of Thailand, expressed his view on the COVID-19 situation that in order to live in a new normal reality, people have to adjust their daily routines, for example, utilizing digital technology; teleconferencing, and working from home. Nonetheless, he pointed out that not all citizens of ASEAN have opportunity to have digital access and showed his support to the theme of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly, "Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion towards ASEAN Community 2025", which will bring about legislative resolutions to bridge a digital gap through good regulations, harmonization of laws, and constructive dialogue between AIPA and ASEAN.
42. H.E. Mr. Chuan Leekpai also supported the implementation of ASEAN Digital Master Plan 2025 and showed his strong belief that AIPA has to enhance its role as a center of alignment through which strategies, policies, plans and roadmaps can be coordinated to support ASEAN. Consequently, he suggested that any legislation must address both short-term needs and long-term objectives as well as encouraged Members of Parliaments to consider at least three crucial issues before passing any regulation: "First, is what we're asking necessary and effective? Second, are the compromises worth the benefits? Third, whether our measures have limits, so they will neither last forever nor expand beyond our intentions?"
43. The President of the National Assembly of Thailand also touched upon a concept of parliamentary diplomacy which is a significant instrument to achieve any reconciliation.
44. In conclusion, H.E. Mr. Chuan Leekpai was confident that AIPA Member Countries shall overcome any challenging issues that occurred during Committee Meetings through exchange of perspectives and considerations.

Viet Nam

45. H.E. Vuong Dinh Hue, Head of Vietnamese Delegation, President of the National Assembly of Viet Nam, highlighted the significant impact to the economic growth and exacerbated social inequality, including digital inequality and social welfare tremendous challenges, posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has emphasized the urgency of state governance, adjustments of policies and development goals as well as digitalization and the development of the digital economy, to respond to the pandemic in a timely manner and sustain socio-economic development.
46. The complex and unpredictable shift in this pandemic time have also occurred in the regional and international geo-political landscape, for which H.E. Vuong Dinh Hue was pleased to note that the ASEAN Community continues to maintain solidarity, unity and self-reliance, and uphold its stern resolve and centrality. Further, the pandemic has also proven that in the face of tempestuous challenges, the close bonds and mutual sharing among ASEAN members and the peoples are further bolstered. He mentioned concrete evidence that ASEAN members have worked closely together to strengthen responsiveness of each country to gradually contain the pandemic such as the ASEAN COVID-19 Response Fund, the Regional Reserve of Medical Supplies, the Standard Operating

Procedures for public health emergencies, and particularly the ASEAN Vaccine Security and Self-Reliance initiative.

47. H.E. Vuong Dinh Hue pointed out the need to further build on the vital role of AIPA Member Parliaments in accelerating digitalization and called on AIPA Member Parliaments to remove barriers through appropriate legal framework, improve the quality of online public services for the development of e-Government, to facilitate equitable access to digital services for society and business, to increase digital literacy for vulnerable groups, to offer fair, equitable and affordable digital services, and to promote the development of the digital economy and society. He also called AIPA Member Parliaments to encourage the Governments of ASEAN members to carry out concrete programs, action plans and strategies pertaining to digital development, particularly strengthening digital connectivity, narrowing the digital gap among countries and regions, boosting digital literacy in less-developed areas including sub-regions to ensure equitable and sustainable development in ASEAN.
48. Further, he emphasized the need to mobilize social resources to develop a digital ecosystem via public - private partnership and create incubators to develop digital corporations and start-ups; improve policies, legal frameworks and support initiatives in the cooperation within ASEAN and between ASEAN and its partners on cyber security, information privacy, data protection and confidence building in the digital sphere also shall be put as priority. Lastly, he called on further cooperation and experience sharing, especially the application of science and technology to control Covid-19 effectively. He suggested strengthening cooperation in research and development, equitable distribution of vaccines, medicine and equipment for preventing and fighting Covid-19. He encouraged parliamentary action to give more power to the Governments to actively, flexibly and effectively respond to the pandemic, minimize the socio-economic impacts and enable quick socio-economic recovery in the post pandemic context.
49. He also appreciated endeavors of ASEAN and active support of AIPA Member Parliaments in promoting dialogue, cooperation and confidence building, upholding respect for international law, preventing and reducing risks to stability, which contribute to enduring peace, security, stability and fostering recovery and development in the region, including the South China Sea, in compliance with international law and the 1982 UNCLOS, refraining from activities that further complicate the situation, observing the DOC and soon concluding the Code of Conduct for South China Sea (COC). He informed that Viet Nam has successfully held the elections for the 15th National Assembly, and the People's Councils at all levels for the 2021-2026 tenure in May 2021, amidst the pandemic. In July, Viet Nam has also successfully convened the first session of the 15th National Assembly to elect the key leaderships of the State, National Assembly and Government, and outlined the national development goals in the coming time.

Brunei Darussalam

50. On behalf of the Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam, the Head of Delegation of Brunei Darussalam, Hon. Pehin Orang Kaya Pendikar Alam Dato Paduka Seri Awang Haji Hasrin Bin Dato Paduka Awang Haji Sabtu welcomed all Delegates to the virtual 42nd AIPA General Assembly.

51. The theme of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly: *“Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion Towards ASEAN Community 2025”*, reflects the importance of digital inclusion to fill connectivity gaps in internet access and affordability. Hon. Pehin highlighted the instrumental role of AIPA in not only realizing digital inclusion in ASEAN, but also ensuring the cybersecurity in the region, by aligning regulations and standardizing policies across ASEAN with appropriate laws that are coherent with the ASEAN Community Blueprint 2025.
52. Hon. Pehin also mentioned in his statement, the role of MSMEs in accelerating ASEAN economic growth. Hon. Pehin called on the AIPA Member Parliaments for collaboration, as well as to encourage ASEAN Member States to prioritize connectivity, regional integration and narrowing development gaps among ASEAN member countries in a coordinated approach to achieve the goals of the fourth industrial revolution, and closer sectoral integration.
53. Hon. Pehin also highlighted the gravity of enabling technology to promote women empowerment, which will be discussed at the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians of AIPA (WAIPA). This is in line with the theme of ASEAN Chairmanship Brunei Darussalam 2021 *“We Care, We Prepare, We Prosper”* which aims to ensure the welfare and livelihoods of the community, to adapt and overcome any future challenges in achieving a sustainable ASEAN Community.
54. Finally, Hon. Pehin hoped that the spirit of brotherhood of ASEAN will bring the 42nd AIPA General Assembly a success.

VI. STATEMENTS OF THE AIPA SECRETARY GENERAL AND ASEAN SECRETARY GENERAL

55. Hon. Nguyen Tuong Van, Secretary General of AIPA, and H.E. Dato Lim Jock Hoi, Secretary General of ASEAN, presented their statements at the First Plenary Session of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly.

VII. STATEMENTS OF THE HEADS OF DELEGATIONS OF OBSERVER PARLIAMENTS

56. Head of Delegation of Observer Parliaments including Australia, Belarus, Canada, People’s Republic of China, European Parliament, India, Republic of Korea, Morocco, Norway, Russian Federation, and Timor Leste presented their statements live and via pre-recorded video at the First Plenary Session of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly.

VIII. STATEMENTS OF THE HEADS OF DELEGATIONS OF GUESTS OF THE HOST

57. Heads of Delegation of Guest of Host including Hon. Dr. Thida Oo of Myanmar, Hon. Mr. Martin Chungong of Inter-Parliamentary Union, and H.E. Tony Smith of Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Union presented their statements via pre-recorded video at the First Plenary Session of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly.

IX. MESSAGES OF THE HEADS OF STATES/GOVERNMENTS

58. The 42nd General Assembly of AIPA received messages from the following Heads of States/Governments;
- His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam
 - His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni, the King of the Kingdom of Cambodia
 - H.E. Mr. Joko Widodo, President of the Republic of Indonesia
 - H.E. Mr. Thongloun Sisoulith, President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic
 - H.E. Mr. Rodrigo Roa Duterte, President of the Republic of the Philippines
 - H.E. Mdm. Halimah Yacob, President of the Republic of Singapore
 - H.E. General Prayut Chan-o-cha (Ret.), Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand
 - H.E. Mr. Nguyen Xuan Phuc, President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

X. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

59. The Committees proceeded with their meetings to consider the agenda assigned by the General Assembly.

Executive Committee

60. The Executive Committee Meeting was convened via email communication from 3 August 2021 – 13 August 2021 to prepare the programme, agenda and other relevant matters pertaining to the General Assembly. The meeting was presided by His Excellency Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib, President of 42nd AIPA and Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam. The Executive Committee endorsed Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin, the President of National Assembly of Cambodia as the vice-chair of the meeting.
61. The Executive Committee received a proposal of an emergency item from Indonesia in the form of Draft Resolution on "*Parliamentary Support on the Situation in Myanmar*". In this regard, the Agenda Items of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly were updated subsequently, and it was decided that further discussion on this matter shall take place in the Committee Meeting of Political Matters.
62. The Executive Committee agreed to adjust the meeting of the Political Committee on Tuesday, 24 August 2021, and the Second Plenary Session on Wednesday, 25 August 2021. The meeting of the Political Committee on 24 August 2021 shall now begin at 9:30 am (GMT+8), and the Second Plenary on 25 August 2021 shall commence at 2:30 pm (GMT+8).
63. Members of the Executive Committee approved the nomination of H.E. Post. Dr. Kittisethabindit Cheam Yeap from Cambodia, and Hon. Dr. Fadli Zon from Indonesia, for the AIPA Distinguished Service Award. Further discussion on this matter will take place in the Organizational Committee Meeting.

64. The Executive Committee took note of the views received from AIPA Members with regards to the observer applications. Discussion on the Accreditation of the applicants shall take place at the Meeting on Organizational Matters, and the accreditation shall then be granted upon the adoption of the relevant resolutions at the AIPA General Assembly.
65. It was noted by the Executive Committee that the National Assembly of Cambodia agreed to accept the AIPA Presidency and host the 43rd AIPA General Assembly. The date and venue will later be announced.

Meeting of Women Parliamentarians of AIPA (WAIPA)

66. The Meeting of the Committee of Women Parliamentarians of AIPA (WAIPA) was chaired by Hon. Ms. Siti Rozaimeriyanty Dato Seri Laila Jasa Haji Abdul Rahman. The Committee considered and approved one (1) Resolution for adoption by the General Assembly:

Resolution on Promoting Women's Economic Empowerment in The Future of Work and Post Pandemic Recovery through Digital and Financial Inclusion.

67. The Committee was in consensus that the financial inclusion and digital access are essential for promoting women's economic empowerment in the future work and post-pandemic recovery. Thus, the Committee called upon the ASEAN Member States to: 1) strengthen inclusive digital strategies to address gender digital divide whilst managing digital security and cybersecurity; 2) to build network and cooperation at all levels in developing the capacity of women, ensuring that jobs are provided for women, and conducting an impact research of COVID-19 on ASEAN women labours to map out a post-pandemic plan, and 3) to develop and enhance a responsive and effective upskilling capacity for women and girls.

Committee on Political Matters

68. The Committee on Political Matters was chaired by Hon. Ms. Nik Hafimi Abdul Haadii. The Committee considered and approved four (4) Resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly:

Resolution on the Adoption of the Report of the 12th AIPA Caucus.

69. The Committee unanimously approved the Report of the 12th AIPA Caucus for adoption by the General Assembly.

Resolution on Enhancing Cybersecurity and Data Protection Towards a Resilient Cyberspace in ASEAN.

70. The committee shared concerns on the increasing threats to cybersecurity and data protection following the development of e-commerce. Recognizing the importance of cyber security to maximize the benefits of digitalization for socio-economic and political development, the Committee noted the vital role played by AIPA Member Parliaments in ensuring cybersecurity and data protection in the region through the laws, policies, and regulations of ASEAN Member States.

Resolution on Fostering Human Security to Achieve Digital Inclusion in ASEAN.

71. The Committee shared the views that digital inclusion is one of the key pillars of COVID-19 recovery and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and human security is an important approach in identifying and addressing widespread and cross-cutting challenges to the survival, livelihood and dignity of the people in the region. The Committee agreed that AIPA Member Parliaments shall: 1) maximize the utilization of AIPA as a platform in promoting human security to achieve digital inclusion through meaningful dialogues and exchange of best practices, 2) reinforce parliamentary diplomacy to support and complement the diplomatic efforts by their States/Governments.

Resolution on Promoting Parliamentary Diplomacy to Move the ASEAN Community Forward.

72. The Committee agreed that as representatives of the ASEAN peoples, the AIPA Member Parliaments shall serve as a strong link for the rules-based, people-centered and people-oriented ASEAN Community through parliamentary diplomacy. The Committee agreed to strengthen parliamentary diplomacy through all levels of AIPA activities to move the ASEAN Community forward. The Committee also agreed to enhance parliamentary diplomacy between AIPA and the international community. Further, the Committee encouraged ASEAN Member States to actively join AIPA activities, to promote synergy between AIPA and ASEAN.

Draft Resolution on Parliamentary Support on the situation in Myanmar

73. Indonesia presented the proposal of Draft Resolution on Parliamentary Support to the Situation in Myanmar, calling to bring peace, stability and democracy back to the country. The AIPA Member Parliaments in the Committee exchanged views on the Draft Resolution consequently. They expressed their deep concerns over the situation in Myanmar and called for efforts of all parties to seek a peaceful solution in the interests of the people. They also expressed their full support for the complete and immediate implementation of the Five-Point Consensus of the ASEAN Leaders' Meeting and welcomed the appointment of the Special Envoy of the ASEAN Chair to facilitate constructive and inclusive dialogue among all parties' concerned towards a peaceful solution. In addition, the Committee also called for the delivery of humanitarian assistance through the AHA Centre. However, as consensus was not reached, the Committee decided to not further discuss the Draft Resolution. Indonesia, as the proponent of the Draft Resolution, respected the discussion, but affirmed its position for reservation to the Resolutions (item 1 to 4) of the Committee on Political Matters.

Committee on Economic Matters

74. The Committee on Economic Matters was chaired by Hon. Ms. Siti Rozaimeriyanty Dato Seri Laila Jasa Haji Abdul Rahman. The Committee considered and approved two (2) Resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly:

Resolution on Promoting Inclusive Digital ASEAN to Empower MSMEs And Strengthen the ASEAN Economic Integration.

75. The Committee firmly supported the view on the important role of digital technology and MSMEs in strengthening ASEAN's economic activity and connectivity. Recognizing the impact and challenges posed by the COVID-19 to the economy, especially MSMEs, the Committee pointed out the need to develop the MSMEs' capabilities and networking. Thus, the Committee agreed to resolve this by promoting policies and legislation towards harmonization for ASEAN economic digital integration among ASEAN Member States and encouraging the digital economy and transformation for MSMEs.

Resolution on the Post COVID-19 Economic Recovery: Tourism Cooperation in ASEAN.

76. The Committee reaffirmed the commitment of the AIPA in supporting the ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan 2016-2025 by re-prioritizing activities and projects aimed at revitalizing the tourism in the region after overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic. Through the Resolutions, the Committee also supported the vision for ASEAN Tourism to 2025 whereby ASEAN aims to be a safe and quality tourist destination offering a unique, diverse ASEAN experience, and commit to be a responsible, sustainable, inclusive and balanced tourism development.

Committee on Social Matters

77. The Committee on Social Matters was presided over by Hon. Ms. Khairunnisa Haji Ash'ari, Member of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam. The Committee considered and approved four (4) Resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly:

Resolution on the Adoption of the 4th AIPACODD Report and Resolution on Prevailing the Contemporary and Responsive Challenges Towards Drug-Free ASEAN

78. The Committee considered and adopted the Report of the meeting of the 4th AIPA Advisory Council on Dangerous Drugs (AIPACODD) and the Resolution on Prevailing the Contemporary and Responsive Challenges Towards Drug-Free ASEAN which was held via videoconference on 24th May 2021, hosted by the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam at the International Convention Centre, Berakas, Brunei Darussalam.
79. The Resolution emphasised on commanding the AIPA Member Parliaments to reaffirm its stance of zero tolerance approach, introduce effective measures, reinforce existing policies, promote further cross-border cooperation and strengthen cooperation with drug law enforcements agencies, national authorities and other institutional bodies to ensure the commitment of AIPACODD in its strive towards a drug-free ASEAN.

Resolution on Strengthening Cooperation and Enhancing Digital Inclusion to Mitigate the Impacts of Climate Change.

80. The Committee shared the same concern on the vulnerability of the region to the climate change threats that could affect the vital yet vulnerable segments of the economic sectors. In this subject, the Committee acknowledged the importance of regional cooperation and

the role of digital technology in advancing climate action and reducing the risk of climate change in the region. Further, the Committee unanimously agreed to collaborate in enhancing the management, monitoring, warning, reporting information on climate change mitigation, resilience, and adaptation, by making use of technology. The Committee also urged the ASEAN Member States to strengthen climate financing and enhance opportunities for technical assistance.

Resolution on Localising the Sustainable Development Goals for Effective National Implementation.

81. The Committee emphasized that Localising the SDGs will accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda to be relevant and beneficial to the people of ASEAN. Hence, the Committee agreed that as the people's elected representatives, Parliamentarians should play an active role to ensure laws and policies contributed to achieving the 2030 Agenda. In connection with the theme of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly, the Committee acknowledged the potential of digitalization in providing timely data availability, data accessibility, and data quality, so the progress of the implementation of the National Action Plan for the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda can be effectively monitored.

Draft Resolution on Technology to Facilitate Greater Election Participation.

82. Following objections from some AIPA Member Parliaments, and a proposal to postpone the deliberation of the Draft Resolution to the next AIPA General Assembly, complying with the principle of consensus, the Committee decided to not proceed with the deliberation of the Draft Resolution.

Committee on Organizational Matters

83. The Committee on Organizational Matters was presided over by Hon. Mr. Haji Abdul Hamid Sabli Haji Arshad. The Committee discussed and approved fifteen (15) Resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly:

Resolution on Financial Report 2020-2021.

84. The resolution of the Financial Report of the AIPA Secretariat was adopted by the Organizational Committee. The Members of the Committee shared their views, comments and suggestions to the AIPA Secretariat in managing the Special Fund and in absorbing expenditures covered from Regular Fund as well as in ensuring that expenses comply with the procedures and rules of AIPA Secretariat including to secure savings. AIPA Secretariat is also requested to prepare the list of fixed assets.

Resolution on Granting Permission to Use Special Funds for the Payment of Cost-Sharing of the New Premises of AIPA Secretariat and for the Minor Adjustment in the Salary of the Locally Recruited Staff of the AIPA Secretariat.

85. The Members of the Committee expressed their appreciation to AIPA that during the current global pandemic, AIPA is able to convene AIPA meetings and activities virtually. Hence, the Committee unanimously agreed to adopt the resolution. The Committee

reiterated its suggestion to transfer the Special funds to regular funds for accounting purposes.

Resolution on Budget Estimation 2021-2022.

86. The Committee reached consensus to adopt the resolution on the budget estimation for 2020-2021 and requested AIPA to ensure to utilize the budget in a prudent and conservative manner.

Resolution on Secretariat's Annual Report 2020-2021.

87. The Committee unanimously adopted the Annual Report of the AIPA Secretariat.

Resolution on Accrediting the Parliament of Ukraine as an Observer of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA).

88. The Committee welcomed the Parliament of Ukraine and agreed to grant them the Observer Status of AIPA. Hence, the Resolution was adopted.

Resolution on Accrediting the Parliament of Pakistan as an Observer of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA).

89. The Committee also agreed to grant the Parliament of Pakistan the Observer Status of AIPA. The Resolution was adopted accordingly.

Draft Resolution on Accrediting the Parliament of Georgia as an Observer of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA).

90. As consensus was not reached, the Committee decided to hold in abeyance the application of the Parliament of Georgia as an observer in AIPA.

Resolution on the Amendments of AIPA Statutes.

91. The Amendments to the AIPA Statutes were developed upon the discussion from the Working Group Meeting on the Guiding Rules and Procedure for the Hosting of the AIPA General Assembly on 5 May 2021. Through the discussion, the Committee acknowledged that amending the AIPA Statutes is important to maintain administrative order and uniformity in the proceedings. Hence, the committee agreed to adopt the amendment to the AIPA Statutes as proposed in the resolution.

Resolution on Guiding Rules and Procedures for the Hosting of the AIPA General Assembly.

92. Taking into consideration the outcome of the Working Group Meeting on the Guiding Rules and Procedures for the Hosting of the AIPA General Assembly on 5 August 2021, and following the adoption of the amendment to the AIPA Statutes, the members of the Committee of the Organizational Matters unanimously approved the Guiding Rules and Procedures for the Hosting of the AIPA General Assembly.

Resolution on Guidelines and Procedures of the AIPA-ASEAN Hearing.

93. The Committee welcomed the initiative and has adopted the resolution on Guidelines and Procedures of the AIPA-ASEAN Hearing. The Committee further proposed a study to be conducted to explore and discuss the best way possible for exchanges of ideas between the two institutions.

Resolution on Rules and Procedures of the Meeting of the Young Parliamentarians of AIPA.

94. In conjunction with the Resolution adopted in 2020, AIPA Secretariat has prepared the draft Rules and Procedures of the Meeting of the AYP. The Committee reiterated its support to have more Young Parliamentarians to be involved in the AIPA Meetings and agreed to organize an Ad Hoc Working Group to further discuss some provisions of the rules of procedure.

Resolution on Establishment of the AIPA-EP Dialogue.

95. The Committee welcomed and appreciated the initiative from the European Parliament to maintain communication and conduct a series of activities with AIPA through the establishment of AIPA-EP Dialogue. The Committee supported and approved the adoption of the resolution.

Resolution on AIPA Distinguished Service Award to H.E. Post. Dr. Kittisethabindit Cheam Yeap (Cambodia).

96. The Committee valued the outstanding contribution and service of H.E. Post. Dr. Kittisethabindit Cheam Yeap towards the pursuit of the goals and objectives of AIPA. Taking that into consideration, The Committee unanimously agreed to confer the AIPA Distinguished Service Award to H.E. Post. Dr. Kittisethabindit Cheam Yeap as recognition of his meritorious services to AIPA.

Resolution on AIPA Distinguished Service Award to Hon. Dr. Fadli Zon (Indonesia).

97. The Committee also valued the outstanding contribution and service of Hon. Dr. Fadli Zon towards the pursuit of the goals and objectives of AIPA. Further, the Committee unanimously agreed to confer the second AIPA Distinguished Service Award in this year's General Assembly to Hon. Dr. Fadli Zon as recognition of his meritorious services to AIPA.

Resolution on Appreciation of the President of AIPA

98. The Committee on Organizational Matters expressed its high appreciation to His Excellency Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib for his leadership during his term as the President of AIPA. Hence, the Committee unanimously adopted the Resolution.

Resolution on Date and Venue of the 43rd AIPA GA

99. The Committee adopted the Resolution on Date and Venue of the 43rd AIPA General Assembly to be held in the Kingdom of Cambodia in September 2022.

XI. 43RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AIPA

100. The General Assembly accepted the kind offer of Cambodia to host the 43rd General Assembly of AIPA in 2022.

XII. APPRECIATION TO HOST COUNTRY

101. The Delegations attending the General Assembly expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam for their excellent arrangements made for the 42nd General Assembly of AIPA.
102. The 42nd General Assembly of AIPA was held in the traditional ASEAN spirit of friendship, brotherhood and cooperation, to cohesive and responsive of ASEAN Community.



THE 42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (AIPA)
23RD – 25TH AUGUST 2021
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTRE
BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, BRUNEI DARUSSALAM



**“FORGING PARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION IN DIGITAL INCLUSION
TOWARDS ASEAN COMMUNITY 2025”**

JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE 42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AIPA

Signed in Brunei Darussalam on the Twenty Fifth Day of August,
in the Year Two Thousand and Twenty One:



For Legislative Council of
Brunei Darussalam
(BRUNEI DARUSSALAM)

**Hon. Pehin Orang Kaya Pendikar
Alam Dato Paduka Seri Awang
Haji Hasrin bin Dato Paduka
Awang Haji Sabtu**



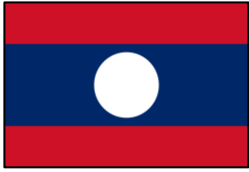
For the National Assembly of
the Kingdom of Cambodia
(CAMBODIA)

**Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei
HENG SAMRIN**



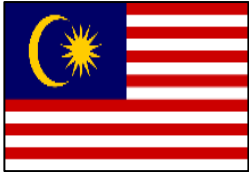
For the Dewan Perwakilan
Rakyat of the Republic of
Indonesia
(INDONESIA)

H.E. Dr (HC). Puan Maharani



For the National Assembly of
Lao PDR
**(LAO'S PEOPLE
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC)**

H.E. Dr Xaysomphone Phomvihane



For the Parliament of
Malaysia
(MALAYSIA)

H.E. Datuk Azhar Azizan Harun



For the Congress of the
Philippines
(PHILIPPINES)

Hon. Mr. Paulino Salvador "Doy"
C. Leachon



For the Parliament of
Singapore
(SINGAPORE)

H.E. Mr. Tan Chuan-Jin



For the National Assembly of
Thailand
(THAILAND)

H.E. Mr. Chuan Leekpai



For the National Assembly of
Viet Nam
(VIET NAM)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dinh Hue', written over a horizontal line.

H.E. Mr. Vuong Dinh Hue

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'A' followed by a long horizontal line.

**His Excellency Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia
Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib
THE PRESIDENT OF THE 42nd AIPA AND
SPEAKER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM**

ANNEX T

**CLOSING REMARKS BY
H.E. PEHIN DATO ABDUL RAHMAN TAIB**



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**CLOSING REMARKS BY
H.E. PEHIN ORANG KAYA SERI LELA DATO SERI SETIA AWANG
HAJI ABDUL RAHMAN BIN DATO SETIA HAJI MOHAMED TAIB,
PRESIDENT OF AIPA, ON 25 AUGUST 2021**

BISMILLAH-HIR-RAHMANNIR RAHIM,

Your Excellency Speakers and Presidents of AIPA Member Parliaments,

*Honourable Parliamentarians of AIPA Member Parliaments and AIPA Observer delegations,
Secretary-General of AIPA,*

Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh and Good Afternoon.

First of all, it has been a great pleasure for me to serve as the President of AIPA and preside as the Chair of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincerest appreciation to all of you for your active participation and valuable contributions in making the 42nd AIPA General Assembly a success. The 42nd AIPA General Assembly has now reached its conclusion after three days of productive and fruitful discussions, held in the traditional ASEAN spirit of friendship, unity and cooperation.

I am also pleased to note that our deliberations over the last few days have led to the formulation and adoption of the AIPA Joint Communique of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly, in which pertinent and overarching issues have been recorded. The resolutions that have been adopted underlines the importance of parliamentary cooperation and showcases AIPA Parliamentarian's commitment in the ASEAN Community-Building process, towards achieving sustained peace, security, stability and prosperity for our people. The Joint Communique will now serve as a sound reference for AIPA's future initiatives.

Notably, the 42nd AIPA General Assembly this year also welcomed two new AIPA Observers, namely the Parliament of Ukraine and the National Assembly of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. These new accreditations will help broaden AIPA's network and cooperation and displays its continued involvement in the regional and international arena. As AIPA nears its anniversary this year, it is important that we enhance parliamentary diplomacy to support AIPA's expansive scope of work. The Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam stands ready to support the future work and initiatives of AIPA.

Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

In this opportunity, I would also like to wish my successor, His Excellency Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin, President of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia, every success as the new incoming President of AIPA.

Once again, on behalf of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam and the Organising Committee of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly, let me express my sincerest appreciation to all of you for your cooperation and assistance in your kind remarks. Allow me to also extend my appreciation to the AIPA Secretary General, for her guidance and to the AIPA Secretariat for the steadfast assistance throughout Brunei Darussalam's AIPA Presidency. I would also like to thank AIPA Observers and AIPA Partners for their attendance at this year's General Assembly as well as to all those involved in helping to facilitate the work of this General Assembly.

Finally, I look forward to see you all in-person at the next convenient time in the future. I wish you all good health, happiness and much success. I hereby declare the 42nd AIPA General Assembly closed.

Thank you.

Wabillahi Taufique Walhidayah Wassalammualikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.

ANNEX U

INSTRUMENT OF TRANSFER



INSTRUMENT OF TRANSFER

Pursuant to Article 10 of the Statutes of the
ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA)
a transfer of the Office of the President of AIPA

from

H.E. PEHIN DATO ABDUL RAHMAN TAIB
Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam

to

SAMDECH AKKA MOHA PONHEA CHAKREI HENG SAMRIN
President of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia

Done in Brunei Darussalam this Twenty-fifth Day of August
in the Year Two Thousand and Twenty-One

H.E. PEHIN DATO ABDUL RAHMAN TAIB

**SAMDECH AKKA MOHA PONHEA CHAKREI
HENG SAMRIN**

ANNEX V

ACCEPTANCE SPEECH BY INCOMING PRESIDENT OF AIPA



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

**ACCEPTANCE SPEECH BY
SAMDECH AKKA MOHA PONHEA CHAKREI HENG SAMRIN
PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF CAMBODIA
AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY
ON 25TH AUGUST 2021**

Honorable Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Taib, President of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly,
Honorable Speakers and Members of Parliament of AIPA Member Countries,
Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again, I would like to congratulate the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam for successfully hosting the 42nd AIPA General Assembly via teleconference during the Covid-19 pandemic. On behalf of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia, I am very honored to accept the responsibility as incoming President of AIPA from the Honorable Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Taib, Speaker of the Legislative Council of Brunei.

I express my deepest appreciation to the Legislative Council, particularly the Honorable Speaker for his efforts and dedication as AIPA President in promoting parliamentary cooperation in digital inclusion towards achieving the ASEAN Community Vision 2025.

As we are all well aware, the Covid-19 pandemic has had serious impacts on public health and the global economy. ASEAN has recently been hit hard by the outbreak of Covid-19, which has severely affected our economies and societies. We therefore need to promote digitalization to ensure economic recovery and improve social welfare based on the new normal. We need to further enhance regional cooperation in digital connectivity, cross-border digital trade, safe and security data flows, cybersecurity and inclusive digitalization.

In such difficult times, it is even more important to strengthen our partnerships within the AIPA framework and with our regional and international dialogue partners. As the incoming President of AIPA, I look forward to working with all member parliaments, the AIPA Secretariat and dialogue partners to continue strengthening our good cooperation to ensure and achieve the vision and aspirations of ASEAN, especially working towards realizing a truly people driven and people-centred ASEAN Community.

Honorable Speakers and Members of Parliament

With regard to the 43rd AIPA General Assembly, I would like to advise that the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia will host the meetings from September 12 to 16, 2022. Amid uncertainty over the Covid-19 crisis, we will meet in any way possible, hopefully in person once the pandemic is well controlled.

Finally, I wish Honorable Speakers and Members of Parliament good health and success in all your endeavors. Thank you.