



**43RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
20-25 NOVEMBER 2022
Phnom Penh, Cambodia**

Advancing Together for Sustainable, Inclusive and Resilient ASEAN

(Res 43GA/2022/WAIPA/x)

**DRAFT RESOLUTION ON
GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT FOR A
SUSTAINABLE, INCLUSIVE AND RESILIENT COVID-19 RECOVERY**

Sponsored by Cambodia

The Forty-third General Assembly:

Recalling the AIPA Resolution No.39GA/2019/WAIPA/02 on “Empowering Women in ASEAN to Harness the Potentials of Industrial Revolution 4.0”, adopted at the 39th General Assembly; the AIPA Resolution No.40GA/2019/WAIPA/01 on “Promoting Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women in ASEAN”; the AIPA Resolution No.40GA/2019/WAIPA/02 on “Bridging the Gender Gap in Technology-based Disciplines”, adopted at the 40th General Assembly; the AIPA Resolution No.41GA/2020/WAIPA/01 on “Promoting the Role of Women Parliamentarians in Securing Jobs and Income for Women Workers”, adopted at the 41st General Assembly; and the AIPA Resolution No.42GA/2021/WAIPA/01 on “Promoting Women’s Economic Empowerment in the Future Work and Post Pandemic Recovery Through Digital and Financial Inclusion”, adopted at the 42nd General Assembly in Brunei Darussalam;

Recalling the First Virtual Meeting of Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians of AIPA (WAIPA) which was held via videoconference on 30 August 2022 hosted by the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia;

Recalling the ASEAN Member States’ commitment to promoting and implementing the equitable and effective participation of women, whenever possible, in all fields and at various levels of political participation as enshrined in the Declaration on the Advancement of Gender Equality in ASEAN;

Recalling the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW); the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 5; and the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 to promote equitable access to opportunities for all;

Acknowledging the Regional Framework and Action Plan on Implementing the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection, adopted in 2015, as well as the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint 2025;

Noting with concern that women and girls are disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic;

Recognising that women are more employed in lower-skilled and lower-paying jobs than men and that a majority of them are in vulnerable and informal sectors with limited access to benefits and social protection, cing thempla among the groups who have the least capacity to respond to natural and health hazards;

Noting that women conduct more than four times of unpaid care and domestic work than men in the Asia-Pacific region, and that this unpaid care work is a barrier to gender equality and women's economic empowerment;

Noting that women continue to be underrepresented in both the public and private sectors at the global, regional, and national levels;

Noting that women are underrepresented in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) and that the gender digital divide threatens to keep ASEAN women out of reach of many opportunities and paths to prosperity that digital technologies offer;

Noting that women in the corporate sector have limited opportunities to break the glass ceiling to occupy senior management positions;

Recognising that women's empowerment and gender equality are prerequisites for a sustainable, inclusive and resilient COVID-19 recovery;

Acknowledging that an increase in the number of women in Parliaments improves policy outcomes and promotes inclusivity, representation and effectiveness in decision-making processes;

Hereby resolves to:

Encourage the development of a gender-responsive recovery plan to remove barriers preventing women from fully participating in political, economic and social life;

Encourage the AIPA Member Parliaments to adopt, develop, and strengthen laws to support digital capacity for women and girls, ensure equitable access to technology, and promote participation of women and girls in digital literacy and STEM;

Urge the AIPA Members Parliaments to play a greater role in monitoring and evaluating the implementation of gender equality policy by exercising oversight over the executive branch;

Encourage the AIPA Member Parliaments to advocate for increasing women's participation and leadership in disaster risk management, climate change adaptation planning, and decision-making at all levels in order to build the resilience of people vulnerable to natural disasters, climate change, and pandemics;

Call upon the AIPA Member Parliaments to reassess and adjust the existing social protection policies and mechanisms to address existing gender inequalities and gaps;

Call upon the AIPA Member Parliaments to increase the number of women parliamentarians at AIPA events;

Encourage all AIPA Member Parliaments to work towards ensuring a full and equal access to formal financial services for women, adopt or review their financial inclusion strategies in consultation with relevant stakeholders, and consider including financial inclusion in the recovery plan; and

Encourage the increase in the number of women parliamentarians in the AIPA Member Parliaments so that the voices of women can be integrated into policy design for more effective implementation.

Adopted on the Twenty Fourth day of November 2022 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
