



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

Advancing Together for Sustainable, Inclusive, and Resilient ASEAN

(Res 43GA/2022/Eco/x)

DRAFT RESOLUTION ON

**PROMOTING CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR MICRO, SMALL
AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES IN DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION**

Sponsored by Cambodia

The Forty-Third AIPA General Assembly:

Supporting the Joint Media Statement of the ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting and the ASEAN Chair's Statement on Addressing Challenges Together, which was adopted on 15 September 2022 and on 13 November 2022, respectively, in Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia;

Acknowledging that in ASEAN Member States, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) are predominant in number and provide vital sources of income, employment, and economic security;

Recalling the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025 that supports the adoption of technology by MSMEs to ensure that MSMEs leverage digital technologies, ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2025 and its vision for ASEAN as a leading digital community and vibrant economic community of capable MSMEs in supporting post-pandemic economic recovery, especially in the age of digital transformation;

Committed to the Bandar Seri Begawan Roadmap on the ASEAN Digital Transformation Agenda to accelerate ASEAN's Economic Recovery and Digital Economy Integration and the ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2025 to achieve an inclusive, resilient and sustainable economic growth in ASEAN;

Underlining the importance of and necessity for building a resilient micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) as an engine of inclusive growth and sustainable recovery, while encouraging the AMS to operationalise the ASEAN SME Academy 2.0 as vehicle to promote upskilling, reskilling and cross-skilling of the MSMEs to embrace the inclusive digital society and economy; and

Recognising the necessity for enforcing and institutionalising the ASEAN SME Policy Index 2024, jointly developed by ASEAN through the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (ACCMSME), Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and Economic Research Institute of ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) which aims to contribute to the achievement of ASEAN's strategic goals

and desirable outcomes for MSMEs, as outlined in the Strategic Action Plan 2016-2025 for SME Development.

Hereby resolves to:

Proclaim our conscious and deliberate efforts to fully support the capacity development for MSMEs in the region for their active and inclusive participation in regional integration and regional connectivity;

Call upon the governments of the ASEAN Member States and all relevant stakeholders, including the parliaments, to promote capacity development for MSMEs such that they will be able to survive and remain economically active and resilient, continuing its contribution to inclusive and sustainable economic development. In fact, the parliaments of ASEAN Member States can work together to facilitate activities and/or programmes that promote the capacity of MSMEs;

Urge the AIPA member parliaments to support the lawmaking and adoption of legal frameworks about and related to the ASEAN regional economic integration, ASEAN Plus One Free Trade Agreement as well as the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement;

Call for governments, parliaments and the private sector to keep markets open, maintain supply chain resilience, support the development of MSMEs, and increase trade inter-linkages that will support the growth for MSMEs in the region;

Urge the governments of the ASEAN Member States to enact and act upon the digital connectivity plans and strategies under the Initiative for ASEAN Integration Work Plan IV (2021-2025) to expedite the acceleration of adoption of digital technologies in our economies and societies and fully embrace the Fourth Industrial Revolution (IR4.0) for ASEAN;

Commit to providing timely and effective support for legislation making in areas of MSMEs, including those in the informal sectors and related matters, such as intellectual property rights, taxation, women's and young entrepreneurship development and business-friendly policy interventions of the AMS in the process of enhancing the participation of MSMEs in the digital economy of the region as well as in cross-border trade and supply chains;

Encourage the ASEAN as a region to develop the capacities of the governments, private sectors and the public as a whole in embracing the digital transformation process in an inclusive manner as well as in governance of cybersecurity, artificial intelligence and cyberspace, so as to support regional efforts to advance regional digital connectivity that promote digital trade and cross-border e-commerce; and

Further encourage the governments and the private sectors in ASEAN to work together in enhancing the public-private partnership programmes in realising the ASEAN Economic Community Building and deepen investments in promoting productivity, technology and innovation, entrepreneurial education and skills, and social enterprises and inclusive MSMEs.

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