



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

*Advancing Together for Sustainable, Inclusive, and Resilient ASEAN*

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*(Res 43GA/2022/Soc/02)*

**RESOLUTION ON  
ENHANCING DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION FOR INCLUSIVE  
SOCIAL PROTECTION**

*Sponsored by Cambodia  
Co-Sponsored by the Philippines and Viet Nam*

***The Forty-Third AIPA General Assembly:***

***Recalling*** Resolution RES.37GA/2016/ SOC/02 on Strengthening Cooperation Among AIPA Member Parliaments on the Implementation of Plan of Action to Materialise ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection;

***Referring*** to the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection for reducing poverty, inequalities, and vulnerabilities, and the expansion of social insurance to the informal sectors, providing social assistance programs for people with disabilities, the elderly, children, and other vulnerable groups;

***Acknowledging*** the ASEAN Summit Joint Statement 2021, i.e., Statement on Advancing Digital Transformation in ASEAN, which aims to accelerate digital transformation for recovery and build long-term resilience against unprecedented future pandemics and calamity; including the Consolidated Strategy on the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) for ASEAN that urges ASEAN to capitalise on the 4IR to address socio-economics challenges that persist in the region and ensure that no one is left behind;

***Taking note*** of the rapid change of digital technology in which the delivery of basic public services from the governance of government apparatus to economic transactions, health, and education, and social development have been digitalised;

***Observing*** the existing socio-economic inequality, the digital divide within and between countries, lack of physical and digital infrastructure, financial support, public digital awareness, and access to digital devices and services in remote areas;

***Having the concerns*** that the digital revolution may widen the gap between the urban and rural and the rich and the poor, especially those living in areas with limited physical infrastructures for health, education, water, electricity, and other services; Digitalization also makes people, especially women children, and people with disabilities more vulnerable to invasions of their privacy if there is no effective cyber security mechanism in place;

***Affirming*** the importance of AIPA's roles in promoting digital transformation for inclusive social protection such as social welfare, social safety-nets, social insurance, social assistance, and social services, which would benefit and support rural and urban people, especially the poor, and contribute to sustainable and inclusive rural and urban development in Southeast Asia.

***Hereby resolves to:***

***Encourage*** AIPA member parliaments to provide legislative support to enable a conducive environment for the development of digital services supporting social protection; further to strengthen capacity building on digital development including raising public awareness and to apply digital technology into all sectors such as governance, agriculture, industry, trade, and service sectors;

***Call for*** AIPA member parliaments to promote proactive parliamentary diplomacy in advancing digital transformation for inclusive social protection, including the adoption of high-level interventions at international fora;

***Encourage*** the AIPA member parliaments to engage in policy advocacy and dialogues with relevant stakeholders to ensure that digital transformation serves inclusive social protection;

***Recommend*** the AIPA member parliaments to promote Public-Private-Partnership in digital transformation for inclusive social protection schemes, including digital infrastructure development, online marketing and employment, digital literacy, digital security, online vocational training for employees, health security and emergency assistance; [and]

***Urge*** The AIPA member parliaments for their government's cooperation with the private sector in providing resources, assets and services, as well as transforming agency operations by utilizing best practices from public and private sector organizations both local and international, in order to provide enhanced access to relevant government information and services in a manner consistent with laws regarding protection of personal privacy, national security, records retention, access for women, and persons with disabilities, and other relevant laws;

***Recommend*** the AIPA member parliaments to establish a digitalised system for recording and storing primary data of the population that can be utilised for facilitating and support for emergency and social development. In doing so, AIPA member parliaments are also encouraged to ensure their respective governments to respect human rights and democracy, as well as in maintaining the security of such data;

***Encourage*** ASEAN member states to accelerate the digital transformation process which is comprehensive, inclusive and towards a more sustainable future, soon applied for social protection and pandemic prevention and control; increase digital access for mountainous, remote, and ethnic minority areas so that no one is left behind;

***Encourage*** AIPA member parliaments to strengthen supervision of digital transformation activities in the field of social protection and social security in order to publicize and make transparent the implementation of these policies and control of government policies abuse;

***Calls*** for the AIPA Member Parliaments to strengthen supervision and promulgate policies, laws, and regulations to protect people, especially women, children, and people with disabilities on the internet, and contribute to comprehensive social protection;

***Call for*** the AIPA member parliaments to support the initiatives for culture-based development for rural digital transformation and ASEAN cultural corridor connectivity through the establishment and development of virtual museums and creative industries, as in the case of Cambodia's TECHO 100 Village, a culture-based development project guided by Technology, Education, Cooperation, Humanity, and Ownership for sustainable and inclusive rural development, and similar innovative projects in Southeast Asia;

***Encourage*** AIPA member parliaments to promote the use of internet, intranet, and emerging technologies within and across government agencies and be able to provide citizen-centric government information and services as well as push for the digitalization of paper based and other traditional modes of workflows for a more efficient and transparent public service;

***Call upon*** AIPA Member Parliaments to enhance cooperation to exchange best practices, experiences, regulations and implementation of digital transformation for inclusive social protection.

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

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