



**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/Soc/03)

**RESOLUTION ON
STRENGTHENING SOCIAL HEALTH PROTECTION
TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES IN ASEAN**

Sponsored by Thailand

The Forty-Third General Assembly:

Recognizing the particular and deepening inequality impacts of the Post COVID-19 on poor children, the elderly people, women and girls, people with disabilities, ethnic groups, migrant workers, informal workers, the vulnerable and marginalized groups, as well as the need to safeguard and promote their welfare while respecting their rights and dignity;

Recognizing the importance and significance of balancing the ecosystem between humans, animals and environment (One Health Concept), the AIPA Member Parliaments should encourage the government to promote One Health Concept in their respective countries;

Acknowledging the importance of Goal 3 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, ensuring and promoting the health and well-being for all at all ages, specifically Target 3.8 which aims to achieve universal health coverage (UHC), including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all;

Noting that the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint 2025 strengthens social protection for children, the elderly people, women and girls, people with disabilities, ethnic groups, the vulnerable and marginalized groups and others to reduce vulnerabilities in times of crisis by increasing the availability, affordability and sustainability of health care resources and promote a healthy community and has universal access to healthcare;

Recalling the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection adopted at the 23rd ASEAN Summit in Brunei Darussalam, in 2013 that underscores the importance of social protection principles that can be applied in accordance with the domestic laws and policies, and strategies and mechanisms to foster concrete actions towards improved quality, coverage and sustainability of social protection in ASEAN Member Countries;

Noting the resolution of the 15th ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting that strengthens cooperation to enhance regional health security, the ASEAN Center for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (ACPHEED) among three countries: Indonesia, Thailand, and Viet Nam was established, with its Secretariat Office based in Bangkok. The ACPHEED could serve as a regional resource and center of excellence for ASEAN Member States in the prevention, detection and response to public health emergencies and emerging diseases, which will contribute to social health protection in ASEAN Member States;

Recalling the AIPA Resolution RES.37GA/2016/SOC/02 on Strengthening Cooperation among AIPA Member Parliaments on the Implementation of Plan of Action to Materialize ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection, which strengthens the AIPA-ASEAN coordination in exploring potential cooperation for effective implementation of the plan of action, and request ASEAN Member States to make social protection related domestic legal instruments and policy frameworks in their respective countries stronger;

Recognizing the significance of social health protection systems in the Post COVID-19 pandemic recovery and emerging infectious disease preparedness in which AIPA Member Parliamentarians can monitor and hold governments accountable for the goals they have agreed to and ensure that necessary legislation and budgets are endorsed from the perspective of sustainable healthcare to address significant gaps in social health protection by progressing toward universal health coverage.

Hereby resolves to:

Encourage ASEAN Member States to accelerate the implementation of social health protection and primary health care services to ensure quality, accessibility, equality, equity, adequacy, affordability and sustainability for all with enhanced connectivity and intersectoral cooperation;

Encourage ASEAN Member States to explore and develop the assessment tools and regional statistical indicators, as appropriate, to measure the impact of social health protection on the holistic development of populations at risk for emerging diseases, public health emergencies, public health threats, disasters and other health events of public concern and the collection of health information systems including digital health technology;

Encourage ASEAN Member States to accelerate the process of digital transformation and build a system of social security policies in areas of disease prevention and control, control of pandemic impacts, and increase people's access to a number of essential social services when pandemic occur; reduce the digital access gap between rural and urban areas, especially remote mountainous areas, and ethnic minority areas;

Call on AIPA Member Parliaments to ensure accessible social health protection that prioritize primary health care services for the people, through their parliamentary duties;

Encourage AIPA Member Parliaments to promote social health protection through universal health coverage for all, including vulnerable groups to mitigate the impacts of the Post COVID-19;

Promote exchanging of best practices, technical expertise, resources and information on domestic laws among AIPA Member Parliaments to strengthen social health protection of ASEAN Member States;

Call upon AIPA member parliaments, to accelerate universal and equitable access to health care and protection, to ease the financial burden of individuals and families in case of sickness as well as ensure an efficient and effective delivery of health services for all;

Call upon AIPA Member Parliaments, as the legislative branch that represents the will of the people, to collaborate more closely with the executive branch on the social health protection agenda to ensure that accountability, transparency and participation are implemented and administered efficiently and effectively to safeguard the health and well-being of the people.

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