

Press Release ASEAN-AIPA Leaders' Interface Meeting Phnom Penh, 10 November 2022

The ASEAN-AIPA Leaders' Interface meeting, the highest level of dialogue between top leaders of ASEAN and AIPA, took place on 10 November 2022 in Phnom Penh, the Kingdom of Cambodia, to discuss the work of ASEAN and exchange information between the ASEAN legislative and executive branches. The meeting stressed the importance of further enhancing parliamentary diplomacy and cooperation and strengthening the partnership between the governments of ASEAN and AIPA in realising a more inclusive, sustainable and resilient ASEAN.

Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin, President of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia and President of the 43rd AIPA, raised five-point policy recommendations, including (1) the need to ensure sustainable and resilient recovery by enhancing climate resilience and investing more in clean and renewable energy transition as part of ASEAN Green Deal, (2) putting people at the centre of the recovery plan, (3) strengthening regional capacity and cooperation on disaster prevention and response, (4) establishing AIPA digital law library, and (5) promoting human rights, democracy, good governance and Women, Peace and Security Agenda.

In response, Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia and Chair of the 40th and 41st ASEAN Summits, expressed his full support to all the recommendations proposed by AIPA and emphasised the importance of "togetherness" in addressing common challenges and in realising the objectives of the unity, solidarity and development in ASEAN through the ASEAN Community building process. Samdech Techo Prime Minister also reiterated his proposed initiative for establishing the framework of the ASEAN Green Deal for promoting sustainability, resilience and inclusiveness for regional development and urged that ASEAN would need to continue to adhere to the fundamental principles of "Unity in Diversity" and "consensus-based dialogue".

The dialogue also benefitted from inputs by H.E. Chuan Leekpai, Speaker of the House of Representatives of Thailand, H.E. Ferdinand Martin Gomez Romualdez, Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Philippines, and leaders of the governments of ASEAN, including H.E. Joko Widodo, President of the Republic of Indonesia, H.E. General Prayuth Chan-o-cha, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, H.E. Tan Sri Azhar Azizan Harun, a special representative of the Prime Minister of Malaysia, and H.E. Kok Li Peng, Singapore Permanent Representative to ASEAN.