

# 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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# REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL MATTERS

Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei **HENG SAMRIN**, President of the 43<sup>rd</sup> AIPA General Assembly, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen

It is my great honor to submit the following Report of the Committee on Political Matters.

1. The Meeting was held physically in Phnom Penh, the Kingdom of Cambodia on 22 November 2022 at 8.00hrs. It was presided over by Hon. Mr. HUN Many as the Chairperson of the Meeting of Committee on Political Matters and served as Rapporteur by Hon. Mr. CHEAM Pe A. The Meeting was attended by delegates from eight (8) AIPA Member Parliaments as follows:

#### Brunei

- 1. Mr. Hj Mohammad Amalul Muttaqin Hj Ismail (Secretary)
- 2. Mr. Mohammad Faiq Haji Mohd Yassin (Secretary)

### Cambodia

- 1. Hon. Mr. Suos Yara
- 2. Hon. Mr. Ai Khan
- 3. Hon. Mr. Nim Chantara
- 4. Hon. Mr. Nguon Socheat
- 5. Hon. Mrs. Un Sokunthea

#### Indonesia

- 1. Hon. Dr. Fadli Zon
- 2. Hon. Mr. Gilang Dhielafararez
- 3. Hon. Mr. Fadhlullah

#### Lao PDR

- 1. Hon. Mr. Sanya Praseuth
- 2. Hon. Mrs. Vandy Bouthasavong
- 3. Hon. Dr. Hongkham Souvannavong

## **Philippines**

- 1. Hon. Ms. Maria Rachel J. Arenas
- 2. Hon. Mr. Ron P. Salo

#### **Singapore**

- 1. Hon. Ms. Jessica Tan
- 2. Hon. Mr. Edward Chia
- 3. Hon. Mr. Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim

#### Thailand

- 1. Hon. Mr. Kitti Wasinondh
- 2. Hon. Mr. Jakkaphon Tangsutthitham

#### Viet Nam

- 1. Hon. Mr. Don Tuan Phong
- 2. Hon. Mrs. Mai Thi Phuong Hoa
- 3. Hon. Mr. Trinh Xuan An
- 2. The Chairperson welcomed and appreciated the participation of AIPA Member Parliaments in the Committee Meeting on Political Matters. The Chairperson also briefly underscored key geopolitical and geostrategic challenges that are currently impacting regional and international peace, security, and prosperity. Nonetheless, ASEAN is able to maintain its relevance and centrality, especially against the backdrop of the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, cross-strait tensions, Korean Peninsula, Ukraine war and other traditional and non-traditional security threats, amongst others.
- 3. The Committee Meeting discussed five draft resolutions that were proposed for adoption in the Committee on Political Matters.
- 4. On the first draft resolution, the Committee Meeting discussed and adopted the **Report of the 13th AIPA Caucus Held via Videoconferencing Hosted by Parliament of Thailand**.
- 5. On the second draft resolution, the Committee Meeting discussed and adopted the **Report of** the ASEAN-AIPA Leaders' Interface at the 40<sup>th</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summit.
- 6. The Committee discussed at length the third draft resolution on **Promoting Peace**, **Solidarity and Multilateralism through ASEAN Centrality**, co-sponsored by Cambodia and Viet Nam. The Committee recognized that against the backdrop of unprecedented multiple and complex challenges unfolding in the Southeast Asian region, there is a need to strengthen ASEAN's relevance and proactive role to safeguard regional peace, security and stability by strengthening ASEAN centrality.
- 7. The Committee welcomed the outcome documents of the 40<sup>th</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summits held in Phnom Penh, including the ASEAN Leaders' Vision Statement on ASEAN A.C.T: Addressing Challenges Together, the ASEAN Leaders' Statement on the 55th Anniversary

- of ASEAN, and ASEAN Leaders' Statement on ASEAN Connectivity Post-2025 Agenda, which emphasized the need to working together to address common challenges in a timely, effective, and coherent manner, while enhancing people-to-people connection, fostering connectivity opportunities and advancing the ASEAN Women, Peace and Security (WPS) and ASEAN Youth, Peace, and Security (YPS) agenda, amongst others.
- 8. The Committee reiterated the support for ASEAN-led mechanisms and sub-regional cooperation mechanisms that benefit the Southeast Asian region by building synergies among them, while at the same time, promoting constructive engagement with dialogue partners and external partners based on the principles of mutual respect, mutual understanding, mutual trust and mutual interests for peace and prosperity for ASEAN and beyond. The Committee also reaffirmed the commitment to preserve Southeast Asia as region free of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction and committed to promoting the accession of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) and rule-based multilateralism to build regional resilience, maintain regional peace and security as well as promote regional prosperity. To solidifying our commitment, the Committee unanimously adopted the Resolution on **Promoting Peace, Solidarity and Multilateralism through ASEAN Centrality**.
- 9. The Committee discussed the fourth draft resolution on **Enhancing Parliamentary Diplomacy on Maritime Security to Foster Regional Stability in Southeast Asia**. The
  Committee acknowledged the proposal from Indonesia and emphasized the importance of
  maritime security in the Southeast Asia that is not only vital in maintaining regional peace,
  stability, and security, but also in cultivating the vast potentials for economic growth of
  ASEAN and livelihoods of its people. It is, thus, of AIPA's interest to advance parliamentary
  diplomacy on maritime security in all areas of common interests and shared concerns.
- 10. The Committee called upon AIPA Member Parliaments to continue working together in furthering engagement in constructive dialogue and cooperation on maritime security issues of common concerns, both traditional and non-tradition issues, in accordance with international law and relevant regional and international instruments such as the Declaration on the Conduct of the Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) to contribute to maintaining regional peace and stability. The participating delegations of AIPA Member Parliaments expressed their support for the draft resolution. The Committee, thus, adopted the Resolution on Enhancing Parliamentary Diplomacy on Maritime Security to Foster Regional Stability in Southeast Asia.
- 11. The Committee also discussed the fifth draft resolution on **Parliamentary Diplomacy for the Implementation of ASEAN Five-Point Consensus** proposed by Indonesia as an emergency item after it was approved by the Executive Committee. The Committee took note the concerning situation in Myanmar, which does not only affect Myanmar and its people but also ASEAN as a community. The Committee also expressed its support for the outcomes of the 40<sup>th</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summits related to Myanmar, including ASEAN Leaders' Review and Decision on the Implementation of the Five-Point Consensus. The Committee also took note of the statement issued on November 17, 2022, by the Special Envoy of the Chair of ASEAN on the release of 5,774 prisoners/detainees by the Myanmar Armed Forces, which included

opposition and activists, a former British ambassador, a Japanese filmmaker, and an Australian economist.

- 12. Building on this momentum, the Committee agreed on the need to call on all parties concerned to adhere to and fully implement the ASEAN Five-Point Consensus. The Committee, thus, agreed to adopt the Resolution on **Parliamentary Diplomacy for the Implementation of ASEAN Five-Point Consensus**.
- 13. I hereby present the Report of the Committee of Political Matters to the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly of AIPA.

Thank you.

HON. MR. HUN MANY CHAIRPERSON