



**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/Pol/04)

**RESOLUTION ON
ENHANCING PARLIAMENTARY DIPLOMACY ON MARITIME
SECURITY TO FOSTER REGIONAL STABILITY
IN SOUTHEAST ASIA**

(Sponsored by Indonesia)

The Forty-Third AIPA General Assembly:

Recalling AIPA Res. 24GA/2003/Pol/02 Resolution on ASEAN Maritime Cooperation adopted in Jakarta, Indonesia in 2003, AIPA Res. 28GA/2007/Pol/06 Resolution on Regional Maritime Security and Anti-Piracy Cooperation adopted in Kuala-Lumpur, Malaysia in 2007 and AIPA Res/37 GA/2016/Pol/05 Resolution on Enhancing Maritime Security Cooperation and Protection of Marine Resources in ASEAN adopted in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar in 2016, which emphasized the importance of cooperation in addressing maritime security issues and protecting marine resources;

Recognizing the importance of maritime security in Southeast Asia, given that maritime trade is one of the main sources of national income, fostering economic growth in the region;

Realizing that beside the maritime security issues, Southeast Asia lies in the centre of very dynamic Asia-Pacific and Indo-Pacific regions, which continue to experience complex geopolitical and geostrategic challenges and unsettled maritime issues, especially in the South China Sea;

Recalling the United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/76/72 emphasising in the Preamble, the universal and unified character of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and reaffirming that the Convention sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out and is of strategic importance as the basis for national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector, and integrity needs to be maintained;

Noting that the situation in the South China Sea continues to experience concerning developments, activities and serious incidents in the area, including damage to the marine environment, which have eroded trust and confidence, increased tensions and may undermine peace, security and stability in the region;

Reaffirming the importance of maintaining and promoting peace, security, stability, safety, and freedom of navigation in and overflight above the South China Sea, and recognized the benefits of having the South China Sea as a sea of peace, stability, and prosperity, and in this regard, emphasize the importance of the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) in its entirety;

Acknowledging the wide range of multi-faceted and cross-cutting maritime security issues in Southeast Asia of both traditional and non-traditional nature, including Illegal, Unreported, and

Unregulated (IUU) fishing, naval operations, sea piracy, terrorism, illicit drug trafficking, illicit trafficking of wildlife and timber, trafficking in persons and people smuggling, law enforcement as well as new developments mentioned in the 2025 ASEAN Political Security Community (APSC) Blueprint;

Acknowledging that Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing is still rampant in Southeast Asia and considered as a major issue to maritime and resource security that, if inappropriately addressed, could cause serious potential loss to ASEAN Member States. It also presents a serious risk to attain Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the region;

Recognizing AIPA Member Parliaments' vital role, through parliamentary diplomacy, in enhancing efforts to promote cooperation and constructive dialogue on maritime security issues of common interests and concerns.

Hereby resolves to:

Call upon AIPA Member Parliaments to support the strengthening and expansion of ASEAN-led maritime security initiatives and cooperation, while also encouraging them to continuously adapt to the latest developments of maritime security issues, in order to be able to address challenges and protect marine resources;

Call upon AIPA Member Parliaments to continue promoting cooperation and constructive dialogue on maritime issues of common interests and shared concerns ranging from traditional to non-traditional issues in the Southeast Asia region in accordance with international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS, and other relevant international maritime instruments and conventions;

Call upon AIPA Member Parliaments to reaffirm our commitment to working together to address maritime security issues and enhance mutual trust, confidence, exercise self-restraint in the conduct of activities that may further complicate or escalate disputes and affect peace and stability, to pursue peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with universally recognized principles of international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS fully respect legal and diplomatic processes in the settlement of any maritime issues amongst ASEAN Member States;

Call upon ASEAN Member States to prioritize diplomatic efforts, adhering to international law, including the United Nations Charter, ASEAN Charter, the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DoC), as well as the ASEAN Outlook on Indo-Pacific (AOIP) that envisages ASEAN Centrality in response to any geopolitical and geostrategic challenges, to ensure the region's stability;

Further urge AIPA Member Parliaments to contribute to maintaining and promoting an environment conducive to the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and the early adoption of a substantive, effective Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC), in accordance with international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS;

Call upon AIPA Member Parliaments to step up the efforts in addressing the IUU fishing through parliamentary roles on legislation, budgeting and oversight, as well as encourage the ASEAN Governments to prioritize the implementation of SDG 14: Life Below Water, and urge the immediate implementation of the Guidelines for Sharing, Access to, and Use of the Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing-Related Information on 26 October 2022 at the 44th Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry, ensuring humanitarian treatment at sea, especially toward vulnerable groups and sustainable livelihoods in the region.

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