****

**THE 34th GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY**

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, BRUNEI DARUSSALAM**

**17th - 23rd SEPTEMBER 2013**

**RES. 34GA/2013/SOC/01**

**NURTURING AND ENHANCING THE ROLE OF YOUNG PEOPLE TO MEET THE FUTURE CHALLENGES OF ASEAN**

***The Thirty-Fourth AIPA General Assembly:***

***Noting that*** young people constitute a major sector of the ASEAN population that is crucial for the current and future development of ASEAN;

***Recognising*** that the realisation of sustainable development requires the active participation and integration of young people for the future development and progress of ASEAN;

***Recalling*** the Chairman’s Statement of the 22nd ASEAN Summit issued in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam on 25 April 2013 which among others acknowledged the importance in nurturing the role of youth and ensuring development and sustainability in the region;

***Encouraged by*** the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on Youth Volunteerism and Entrepreneurship by the Eighth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth in Brunei Darussalam on 22 May 2013 which underlined the importance of promoting regional youth-related initiatives in ensuring development and sustainability in the region, and to shape our future together beyond 2015;

***Concerned with*** the high unemployment rate, lack of professional skills, drug abuse, unwanted teenage pregnancy and early marriage among young people in ASEAN Member Countries and its negative consequences on their social and economic life, as well as to the national and regional development and integration into society;

***Desiring to*** foster and nurture a healthier, more productive, creative and resilient new generation of young people through proper and equitable access to education and health care;

***Hereby resolves to:***

***support*** ASEAN Leaders’ commitments in emphasising the key role played by the young people in realising the ASEAN Community 2015;

***promote*** the involvement of young people in achieving a sustainable ASEAN Community and in responding to regional and international challenges;

***collaborate closely*** with ASEAN Leaders to develop further policies and legislations that will enable young people to attain better health, education and skills to become more actively involved in community building and create a sense of belonging towards ASEAN;

***urge*** their respective Governments to support the establishment of the ASEAN Youth Programme Fund and to encourage further mobilisation of existing resources for youth cooperation activities;

***encourage*** the involvement of young people and sharing of information on young people by improving channels of communications, particularly people to people exchange, amongst ASEAN Member Countries;

***facilitate*** the creation of enabling environments to develop and strengthen youth entrepreneurship, innovation and creativity through infomation and cultural exchanges and capacity building;

***support***the respective governments in developing and implementing targetted and integrated youth employment policies to overcome youth unemployment in the ASEAN region which include the promotion of entrepreneurship;

***request*** their respective governments to intensifythe various efforts, especially formal and non formal education, in developing the aptitude, capacity, well-being and responsibilities and volunteerism of youth to meet future challenges of ASEAN.

Adopted on the 22nd day of September 2013 during the 34th AIPA General Assembly in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam.