



ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

**35th AIPA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
14 – 20 SEPTEMBER 2014
VIENTIANE, LAO PDR**

RES.35GA/2014/WAIPA/01

**Resolution on
Strengthening Efforts in the Prevention of All Forms of
Discrimination and Violence Against Women and Children
in ASEAN**

The Thirty Fifth AIPA General Assembly;

Recalling the Resolution 23rdGA/2002/WAIP0/ on Promoting Gender Equality and Combating Domestic Violence Against Women, adopted at the 23rd GA in Hanoi Socialist Republic of Viet Nam in September 2002;

Reaffirming the increase of women's roles as stated in the 1988 Declaration of the Advancement of Women in the ASEAN region, the 1993 United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the 2005 Work Plan to Operationalize the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women in ASEAN;

Reminding the AIPA Resolution 28thGA/2007/WAIPA/ on the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Children adopted at the 28th GA in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in September 2007, and the 2008 Joint Statement of the ASEAN High Level Meeting on Good Practices in CEDAW Reporting and Follow Up;

Being aware of Inter Parliamentary Union's concern, that no society is immune to violence against women and children, knowing that violence can take on many

forms, and occurs everywhere: domestic violence, sexual abuse of girls and boys at school, early or forced marriage, genital mutilation, sexual harassment in the workplace, sexual assault, and rape as a weapon of war;

Recognizing that violence by an intimate partner is one of the most common forms of violence against women through physical, mental and, sexual abuses, and problems such as the trafficking of women and children resulting in reproductive, and maternal health issues, and HIV/AIDs concerns, among others;

Realizing that reducing the use of illicit drugs and alcohol will help to decrease intimate partners from committing violence against women and children in ASEAN;

Reiterating the significance of ensuring that legislation promoting and protecting the rights and welfare of women and children are endorsements of ASEAN Declarations and principles; particularly the 2013 Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Children in ASEAN, and 2012 ASEAN Human Rights Declaration that women parliamentarians of AIPA are working to achieve Millennium Development Goals in fostering maternal and child health, and to consider the Inter Parliamentary Union's strategy, for incorporation into national plans for women and young parliamentarians in ASEAN;

Hereby resolves to:

1. **Recommend** all ASEAN and AIPA member countries to use evidence-based and systematic public health approach involving four effective steps by defining nationally the magnitude of the violence, investigating the causes and correlation factors, exploring ways to deal with primary prevention, and widely disseminating information for society empowerment at large in ASEAN;
2. **Encourage** ASEAN and AIPA member countries to advocate the readiness to cope with secondary and tertiary prevention responses such as pre-hospital care, emergency and rehabilitation services, and treatment for sexually transmitted infections following a rape, sexual assault and sexual harassment as well as other longer term approaches to prevent domestic violence against women and children such as law adoption, consultation, information sharing, and law promulgation in community;
3. **Urge** ASEAN and AIPA member countries to eliminate exposure to violence, increase women and children access to education and legal services, formulate and enforce laws on the prevention of all forms of discrimination and violence against women and children, strongly amend

laws that discriminate against women and children, and implement more gender equitable policies, and gender sensitive parliaments;

4. **Call upon** ASEAN and AIPA member countries to review and amend all laws related to the protection of women and children's health and their welfare, and to undertake measures to enable cross border enforcement of laws against the trafficking of women and children, and protection of the women migrant workers and their families, women and children in conflict areas, and to provide mutual assistance to one another in the enforcement of such laws;
5. **Encourage** ASEAN and AIPA member countries to share best practices in legislative reform to promote gender equity and for the launching of regional initiatives and commitments such as parliamentary campaign to combat of all forms of discrimination and violence against women and children in ASEAN;
6. **Urge** ASEAN and AIPA member countries to foster and advance the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the Convention of the Rights of the Child (CRC), and encourage that state parties should take all appropriate measures towards the elimination of violence against women and children in ASEAN by 2015.
7. **Request** the AIPA Secretariat to monitor the implementation of this resolution and regularly submit progress report to the General Assembly of the AIPA.

Adopted on the day of the Nineteenth of September, Two Thousand and Fourteen in the 35th AIPA General Assembly in Vientiane Capital, Lao People's Democratic Republic.