



ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

**31ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HA NOI, VIET NAM, 19 - 25 SEPTEMBER 2010**

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**REPORT OF
THE COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL MATTERS**

Mr. President:

I have the honor to submit the following report of the Committee on Political Matters:

1. The Committee on Political Matters convened on 22 September 2010, with Hon. Mr. Ngo Quang Xuan as Chairperson and Hon. Mr. Ha Thanh Toan as Rapporteur. The following parliamentarians from the AIPA Member Countries attended the Meeting:

Brunei Darussalam

1. Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Haji Yusuf Pengiran Haji Abd. Rahim
2. Hon. Haji Othman Uking
3. Hon. Dato Paduka Haji Idris Haji Abas

Cambodia

1. Hon. Mr. Pen Pannha
2. Hon. Mr. Ung Huot
3. Hon. Mr. Nim Chantara
4. Hon. Mr. Chhit Kim Yeat
5. H.E. Mr. Leng Peng Long

Indonesia

1. Hon. Dr. M. Hidayat Nur Wahid
2. Hon. Sidarto Danusubroto
3. Hon. Anak Agung Jelantik Sanjaya
4. Hon. Al Muzammil Yusuf

Laos

1. Hon.Dr. Koukeo Akhamountry
2. Hon.Dr. Ounkeo Vouthilath
3. Hon.Prof.Dr. Ms. Bounngong Bouphe
4. Hon. Ms Vanpheng Keonakhone

Malaysia

1. Hon. Dr. Haji Mohd. Puad bin Zarkashi
2. Hon. Mr. Hj Hasbi bin Hj Habibollah
3. Hon. Datuk Billy Abit Joo
4. Hon. Datuk Bung Mokhtar bin Radin

Philippines

1. Hon. Mrs. Mylene Garcia-Albano

Singapore

1. Hon. Mr. Masagos Zulkifli
2. Hon. Ms. Sylvia Lim

Thailand

1. H.E. Col. Apiwan Wiriyachai
2. Hon. Asst. Prof. Perayot Rahimmula
3. Hon. Sirintorn Rammasute

Vietnam

1. Hon. Mr. Ha Minh Hue
2. Hon. Mr. Nguyen Duc Nhanh
3. Hon. Mr. Phan Trung Ly
4. Hon. Mr Tran Hoang Tham
5. Hon. Mr. Duong Anh Dien

Myanmar

1. H.E. Dr. Tun Shin

2. The Committee was held in the traditional ASEAN spirit of friendship, unity and cooperation.

3. The Delegation of Vietnam presented to the Committee the Report of the AIPA-ASEAN Meeting during the 16th ASEAN Summit and the Report of the 16th ASEAN Summit, which took place in April, 2010 in Ha Noi.

The Delegation of Indonesia emphasized that during the above-mentioned meeting, it was agreed that AIPA should be 'the most important partner of ASEAN'.

4. The Committee had extensive discussion and approved the following Resolutions:

a. Promotion of AIPA-ASEAN cooperation:

The Committee agreed that AIPA should take active involvement in the process of ASEAN evolution and should be given the opportunity to carry out this task. The parliamentarians were urged to maximize their active roles in building of the ASEAN Community, establishing ASEAN identity, serving as a linkage with ASEAN and an indispensable partner of ASEAN in the region, raising peoples' awareness of ASEAN identity and the significance of regional cooperation in securing peace and stability in the region and the world.

Other matters of concern relating to the implementation of AIPA's resolutions and the harmonization of legal frameworks in the field of transnational crimes like counter terrorism, money laundering, cyber-crime were raised in the Committee and the Resolution.

b. Global and Regional Situation:

The overall picture of Asia region was assessed as mainly about peace, stability, dialogue and cooperation for development. However, it was acknowledged that challenges to the regional security environment still exist. In addressing these common security challenges, it was important to make greater efforts in enhancing dialogue and cooperation among all countries. Over the years, ASEAN has made significant contributions to the promotion of dialogue and cooperation for peace, security and development in the Asia-Pacific region. The Committee called upon a closer collaboration between AIPA and ASEAN to enhance the utilization of ASEAN's existing tools and mechanisms to ensure regional peace and security such as the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (SEANWFZ), the Declaration of Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC), the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM), ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC) and the ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism. Attention was also paid to the forthcoming convening on a regular basis of the ADMM+8 meetings and the cooperation among national security agencies of ASEAN Member States.

Matters relating to peaceful resolution of differences, including territorial differences were raised in the Committee. The Committee agreed to have a new paragraph in the Resolution about peaceful settlement of differences through bilateral and/or multilateral dialogues, consultations, agreements in conformity with international law and in the spirit of ASEAN solidarity.

c. Enhancement of Solidarity and Unity in diversity in ASEAN

The global economic and financial crisis caused negative consequences, especially on socio-economic developments of all countries in the region. Signs of recovery were encouraging. However there was much to be done in order to achieve the full economic

recovery and sustained development. Other global challenges to regional security and development such as terrorism, transnational crimes, and non-traditional security issues including food and energy security, climate change, natural disaster, infectious diseases constitute matters of concern in the region. In order to overcome challenges and difficulties, AIPA should contribute to strengthening the solidarity and unity in diversity in ASEAN.

The Committee discussed the proposal of Indonesian Delegation on the rights of migrant workers and agreed to raise this issue in the Resolution in order to strengthen the promotion and protection of the rights of migrant workers and respect for laws of the country.

On the proposal of Malaysian Delegation, the Committee agreed to have a new paragraph in the Resolution to encourage bilateral consultation on various issues when necessary among ASEAN parliamentarians.

6 I hereby present the Report of the Committee on Political Matters to the 31st General Assembly.

Thank you.

**CHAIRPERSON
NGO QUANG XUAN**

**RAPPORTEUR
HA THANH TOAN**