

ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

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

Res31GA/2010/Soc/04

RESOLUTION ON

FACILITATING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (AIPA) RESOLUTIONS ON PREVENTING AND COMBATING ILLEGAL DRUGS, AND TO IMPROVE AIFOCOM ACTIVITIES

The Thirty First AIPA General Assembly:

Recalling previous resolutions adopted by AIPA and recommendations by the AIFOCOM to prevent and combat the drug menace and to ensure parliamentary contribution to the regional efforts to deal with the menace;

Recalling further that during the 28th AIPA General Assembly in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from August 19 to 20, 2007, Resolution No. 28GA/2007/Pol/07 on the ASEAN Extradition Treaty was approved, calling upon all AIPA Member Countries to compare notes and exchange information to harmonize substantial and procedural provisions of their respective laws on extradition and mutual assistance, in the light of newly emerging patterns of transnational crimes, especially drug trafficking;

Acknowledging the ASEAN Declaration for a Drug-Free ASEAN Community by 2015;

Concerned that the Southeast Asian nations continue to suffer from the detrimental effects of illegal drugs, the proliferation of which affects economic growth, poverty reduction, viability and vitality of the region;

Mindful that if it is not curbed, the problem of illegal drugs will escalate beyond control, further strengthening criminal networks, destabilizing the ASEAN Member States' political structure, and eroding the health and moral of the societies;

Recognizing the limited operational effectiveness of the AIFOCOM and seeing that the implementation of AIPA resolutions on preventing and combating illegal drugs has been wanting;

Reiterating the resolve of the ASEAN Leaders in fighting illegal drugs by enhancing cooperative efforts and devising new concerted measures at a regional level for closer monitoring and stricter implementation of laws on the matter;

Hereby resolves to:

Contribute actively to the development of a drug-free ASEAN Community in 2015, through the improvement of legal frameworks and the creation of enabling conditions for ASEAN member governments to successfully implement national and regional action plans to prevent and combat illegal drugs;

Call upon all AIPA Member Countries to harmonize substantial and procedural provisions of their respective laws and mutual assistance in combating illegal drugs;

Encourage all AIPA Member Countries to focus on mobilizing their resources for and giving emphasis to harm prevention programmes and information exchange and dissemination, with the view to a drug-free ASEAN;

Recommend that the AIFOCOM improve its operations through submission of country reports on preventing and combating drugs in a prescribed form as agreed upon by AIPA Member Countries and the selection of a specific theme in the annual AIFOCOM meeting;

Urge the drafting of an action plan against illegal drug trafficking to be pursued relentlessly by each country in the region;

Recommend that the 1st AIPA Caucus report on the harmonization of illegal drug laws focusing on the capture and seizure of assets used in or possessed from drug-related cases; on the control of reactants and precursors; and on demand reduction interventions be brought up for review and discussion at the 8th AIFOCOM to be held in 2011;

Entrust the AIPA Secretariat to work with Member Parliaments in the establishment of a Task Force that will study and recommend a prescribed format for the country reports on preventing and combating illegal drugs; to suggest methods and measures to harmonize ASEAN member countries' drug-related legal systems; and, when necessary, to seek technical and financial assistance from international organizations;