



**THE 46TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY**

16-22 September 2025
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

*Parliament at the Forefront for Inclusive Growth and
Sustainable ASEAN*

(Res 46GA/2025/Pol/05)

**RESOLUTION ON
STRENGTHENING INTER-PARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION TO
COMBAT TRANSNATIONAL CYBERCRIME**

Sponsored by Thailand and Viet Nam

Co-Sponsored by Cambodia

The Forty-sixth General Assembly:

Recalling the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Cybercrime through the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 79/243 of 24 December 2024, and welcoming the upcoming signing ceremony to be hosted by Viet Nam on 25–26 October 2025;

Reaffirming ASEAN's commitment to building a secure, resilient, inclusive, and sustainable digital community, as envisioned in the ASEAN Community Vision 2045, the ASEAN Political-Security Community Strategic Plan, and ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2025;

Acknowledging the Joint Communiqué of the 58th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting (9 July 2025, Kuala Lumpur) and welcoming ASEAN initiatives such as the ASEAN Cyber Capacity Programme (ACCP), the ASEAN-Singapore Cybersecurity Centre of Excellence (ASCCE), the ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Capacity Building Centre (AJCCBC), and the efforts by the ASEAN sectoral bodies such as the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC) and the Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC), and other collaboration with Dialogue Partners and International Organisations;

Recalling the discussions of the 16th AIPA Caucus, held on 15-16 July 2025 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, as reflected in its Report, which highlighted the importance of

parliamentary cooperation in supporting ASEAN's digital transformation agenda, including regional efforts to strengthen cybersecurity and enhance digital resilience;

Recalling relevant AIPA Resolutions on transnational crime, cybersecurity, and legal cooperation, particularly Resolution No. RES.42GA/2021/Pol/02 on Enhancing Cybersecurity and Data Protection towards a Resilient Cyberspace in ASEAN, and Resolution No. RES.37GA/2016/Pol/04 on Strengthening Cooperation to Ensure Cybersecurity in ASEAN;

Concerned by the increasing sophistication and frequency of cybercrimes, particularly online scams, fraud, extortion, ransomware, hacking of critical information infrastructure, data breaches, online child exploitation, and the use of cyberspace by terrorist organisations and transnational criminal networks, which pose serious threats to national security, border security, economic stability, individual privacy, human rights, and broader socio-economic development of all ASEAN Member States while underscoring the importance of upholding the rule of law and international law;

Recognising the interconnection between cybercrime and other transnational crimes, particularly, human trafficking, organised crimes and terrorism, and money laundering which exacerbate challenges to regional security, stability, the rule of law and international law;

Noting with concern the insufficiency and disparities of cybersecurity preparedness and legal frameworks among ASEAN Member States, which hamper coordinated responses and enable cybercriminals to exploit jurisdictional gaps;

Noting the need for ASEAN Member States to strengthen their legislation and law enforcement by ratifying and implementing relevant international conventions and instruments related to cybercrime, in order to establish the necessary transnational legal basis to combat these offenses;

Recognising the important role of parliaments in developing effective legal and policy frameworks, exercising oversight, ensuring accountability, and fostering inter-parliamentary and regional cooperation to combat cybercrimes;

Acknowledging AIPA's continuing efforts to align its mechanisms with ASEAN priorities, including the ongoing consideration of transforming the AIPA Advisory Council on Dangerous Drugs (AIPACODD) to expand its engagement to more areas of transnational crime, and underlining that cybercrime, as one of the most acute emerging forms of transnational crime, highlights the importance of such efforts.

Hereby resolves to:

Call upon and encourage AIPA Member Parliaments to support the timely ratification of the United Nations Convention against Cybercrime signed by their respective Governments, to strengthen regional and international cooperation;

Urge AIPA Member Parliaments to regard transnational cybercrime as a regional priority requiring sustained and coordinated action, through the alignment of national legislative frameworks with applicable best practices, with particular attention to digital technology and online platform regulation, cross-border digital transactions, asset recovery, and financial and banking laws, thereby strengthening the prevention, suppression, investigation, and prosecution of cybercrimes and related offences, including online scams, money laundering, and human trafficking;

Support the prevention and suppression of transnational cybercrime and its links with other crimes, as a regional priority requiring sustained and coordinated action;

Call upon AIPA Member Parliaments to support the protection and assistance of victims of cybercrimes and online scams, including measures for reporting, recovery, and redress in accordance with the respective laws and regulations of the ASEAN Member States;

Encourage AIPA Member Parliaments to strengthen information sharing and legal, cooperation with each other, and judicial coordination, including mutual legal assistance and extradition arrangements, where applicable, in order to address the transnational nature of cybercrime;

Promote parliamentary diplomacy and regional cooperation in cyber capacity-building initiatives, including the provision of technical assistance, exchanges of best practices and expertise, and training programmes among ASEAN Member States;

Encourage AIPA Member Parliaments to consider organising, including through the utilisation of existing mechanisms: inter-parliamentary dialogues, forums, or technical workshops on cybercrime legislation, policy development, oversight mechanisms, and strategies to combat cybercrimes and promote digital literacy, as needed, with the support of the AIPA Secretariat and the engagement of relevant stakeholders;

Emphasise the parliamentary functions of oversight and budgeting by ensuring the impartial enforcement of laws and strengthening scrutiny over national cybersecurity strategies and emergency cyber-response frameworks, while upholding democratic principles, good governance, and by securing adequate allocation of financial resources to support the effective implementation of measures to prevent and combat transnational cybercrime and related crimes, particularly money laundering and human trafficking;

Encourage AIPA Member Parliaments to continue monitoring the progress of ASEAN's joint efforts in combating cybercrime, with updated information sharing through AIPA's mechanisms, including indicators such as ratification status, harmonisation of legislation, and other relevant activities conducted by ASEAN Member States;

Express support for the ongoing consideration of transforming the AIPACODD to engage broader areas of cooperation on transnational crime, and encourage the establishment of a Study Committee to deliberate on this matter, recognising the relevance of emerging challenges such as cybercrime and other complex security threats in informing its discussions;

Encourage AIPA Member Parliaments to support community-level cybercrime awareness and prevention programs, particularly in rural and underserved areas, by integrating digital literacy into public education, community-level training, and local government initiatives;

Reaffirm the importance of human rights-based approaches in combating cybercrime, ensuring that laws and enforcement mechanisms respect privacy, freedom of expression, and due process;

Propose the development of voluntary legislative benchmarks to help AIPA Member Parliaments assess their progress in cybercrime legislation, enforcement, and victim support.

Adopted in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on the Twentieth Day of September, in the Year Two Thousand and Twenty-Five.



THE 46TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

16-22 September 2025
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

*Parliament at the Forefront for Inclusive Growth and
Sustainable ASEAN*

(Res.46GA/2025/Pol/05)

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Original Version

ASEAN continues to face fast-evolving cyber harms such as large-scale online scams and fraud, ransomware, data breaches, and attacks on critical information infrastructure, driven by groups that operate across borders and exploit gaps between national legal systems. These threats undermine public trust, drain economic value, and strain law-enforcement capacity. Because the problem is inherently cross-jurisdictional, purely domestic measures are no longer sufficient; sustained regional and international cooperation is required.

On 24 December 2024, the UN General Assembly adopted the United Nations Convention against Cybercrime (A/RES/79/243). The Convention opens for signature in Hanoi on 25–26 October 2025 and remains open at UN Headquarters in New York until 31 December 2026. Signature is a signals political commitment. Entry into force requires 40 ratifications/acceptances/approvals/accessions, making early uptake important. The Convention provides a global legal basis to strengthen international cooperation against specified ICT-enabled crimes and to facilitate the sharing of electronic evidence for serious offences, areas where practice is often slow or fragmented. By clarifying cooperation channels and standards, it is designed to make investigations and prosecutions faster and more reliable while complementing existing regional arrangements.

The Draft Resolution translates the ongoing UN Convention against Cybercrime process into practical regional action. It aligns with ASEAN/AIPA instruments, AIPA's 2016 and 2021 cybersecurity resolutions, the ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2025, the ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA), and recent AMMTC/SOMTC and AIPA Caucus outcomes, while leveraging the ASEAN Cyber Capacity Programme (ACCP), the ASEAN-Singapore Cybersecurity Centre of Excellence (ASCCE), and the ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Capacity Building Centre (AJCCBC).

Substantively, the Resolution seeks convergence of national legal frameworks on digital technologies and online platforms and clearer procedures on electronic evidence, so that offenders cannot exploit jurisdictional differences. It recognises the links between cybercrime and other transnational offences, especially money laundering and human trafficking, and treats them as part of the same policy problem requiring coherent national measures and region-wide cooperation.

The text strengthens the role of parliaments. It underscores impartial enforcement and calls for robust oversight of national cybersecurity strategies and emergency response frameworks, with safeguards for due process, privacy, transparency, and other civil liberties. This balance maintains public trust in digital systems while ensuring that rapid operational responses remain accountable.

Moreover, the Resolution improves information-sharing among law-enforcement, cybersecurity authorities, and the judiciary, and reinforces cross-border investigation and prosecution through mutual legal assistance, extradition, and practical cooperation tools. It scales training, technical assistance, and expert exchanges for legislators, committees, and parliamentary secretariats, particularly for Member States with limited capabilities, by making fuller use of ACCP, ASCCE, and AJCCBC. Adequate and sustained financing is highlighted so that reforms and cooperation can be implemented effectively and equitably across the region.

The Resolution emphasises structured engagement with the private sector, academia, and civil society; promotes digital literacy and public-awareness initiatives; and supports victim-centred measures that improve reporting, recovery, and redress. These elements complement enforcement by reducing harm, improving resilience, and enabling earlier detection.

To ensure continuity, the Resolution tasks the AIPA Secretariat, working with the ASEAN Secretariat and relevant sectoral bodies, to organise annual forums, technical workshops, and inter-parliamentary missions; to prepare model legislative guidance and a repository of parliamentary practices; and to present an annual progress report to the AIPA General Assembly. This creates an ongoing review loop, supports peer learning, and establishes a common reference point for future improvements.

Finally, the Resolution invites AIPA Member Parliaments to support timely signing in Hanoi and early ratification of the United Nations Convention against Cybercrime. Ratification will provide a common legal basis for faster, more reliable cooperation and electronic-evidence sharing; reduce gaps that criminals exploit between jurisdictions; signal political commitment and unlock technical assistance for domestic reforms; and allow ASEAN states to help shape emerging global practice from the outset.

Adoption of this Resolution, paired with early participation in the UN Convention, will strengthen ASEAN's cyber resilience, reinforce ASEAN centrality, and support the region's digital-economy ambitions. It offers a practical pathway to reduce legal and procedural frictions, normalise effective legislative oversight with rights safeguards, lift regional operational readiness, and provide better protection and remedies for victims, thereby advancing a secure, trusted, and inclusive digital future for ASEAN.