

## THE 46<sup>TH</sup> 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/03)

#### **RESOLUTION ON**

## ADVANCING THE PEACE INITIATIVES FOR PEOPLE AND THE PLANET

### Sponsored by Cambodia

#### The Forty-sixth General Assembly:

**Guided by** the purposes and fundamental principles enshrined in the <u>Charter of the United Nations</u>, the <u>ASEAN Charter</u>, and the <u>Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC)</u> and other relevant ASEAN instruments as well as principles of international law, which emphasise the peaceful settlement of disputes, mutual respect for sovereignty and independence, non-interference, and regional cooperation, as well as the Bandung Declaration, which underscores solidarity, peaceful coexistence, and friendship among nations;

**Reaffirming** the commitment expressed in the Message delivered by the President of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly at the 14<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-AIPA Leaders' Interface during the 46<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit on 26 May 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, which underscored AIPA's dedication to the principles of the TAC, the ASEAN Charter, the Charter of the United Nations, and international law; reaffirmed the importance of the peaceful settlement of disputes through dialogue, negotiation, reconciliation, and other peaceful means; and expressed support for peace initiatives in the region as part of AIPA's contribution to a peaceful, stable, cooperative and cohesive Southeast Asia;

**Recalling** the AIPA Resolution No. <u>43GA/2022/Pol/03</u> on Promoting Peace, Solidarity, and Multilateralism through ASEAN Centrality adopted in Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia on 23 November 2022 at the 43<sup>rd</sup> AIPA General Assembly, which called for an open and inclusive multi-stakeholder approach to peace grounded in international law and cooperation;

**Acknowledging** the Memorandum of Understanding between AIPA and the International Parliament for Tolerance and Peace (IPTP) of the Global Council for Tolerance and Peace, signed on 24 November 2024 in Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia, which provides a framework for cooperation and facilitates interparliamentary collaboration in areas of mutual interest, and recognising that any further implementation or ratification shall take place only upon ratification of the agreement by AIPA Member Parliaments;

**Recognising** the <u>Universal Peace Charter: For People and the Planet (UPC)</u>, adopted at the 11<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session of the IPTP in November 2024, as a non-binding, voluntary initiative document aimed at fostering solidarity and partnerships for peace, harmony, dignity, and sustainable development and noting its stated in complementarity with ASEAN's principles and priorities;

**Recognising** the importance of community-level peacebuilding efforts, including the role of local governments, ethnic groups, customary law communities, youth, and women in fostering sustainable peace and resilience across ASEAN Member States;

**Acknowledging** that climate change and environmental degradation pose significant risks to peace, stability, and human security, particularly in vulnerable communities across Southeast Asia.

#### Hereby resolves to:

**Take note of** the Universal Peace Charter as complementary, voluntary, and non-binding that may serve as a reference, can be utilised through existing AIPA mechanisms to promote mutual trust, confidence-building, crisis response, and initiatives aligned with ASEAN's vision and the TAC's guiding principles;

**Encourage** AIPA's continued engagement with relevant stakeholders, including ASEAN, the United Nations institutions, civil society organisations, and public-private partnerships, in accordance with the Guidelines and Procedures of AIPA engagement with externals adopted at the 45th General Assembly of AIPA, to advance shared objectives in peace, security, and sustainable development in line with AIPA's own work plans and priorities;

**Encourage** the AIPA Secretariat to facilitate the sharing of information on the Universal Peace Charter among AIPA Member Parliaments for their individual consideration and, where appropriate, cooperate with relevant partners to organise support for initiatives that advance the principles of the Universal Peace Charter;

**Encourage** AIPA Member Parliaments to support legislation and initiatives that empower local communities, especially marginalised groups, to participate

meaningfully in peacebuilding processes, including through education, dialogue platforms, and inclusive governance mechanisms;

**Promote** the integration of climate resilience and environmental sustainability into peace initiatives, including through parliamentary cooperation on disaster risk reduction, green recovery, and climate justice frameworks.

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



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#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Original Version

The 16<sup>th</sup> AIPA Caucus, hosted by the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia from 14–17 July 2025 in Phnom Penh, served as a constructive platform for AIPA Member Parliaments to engage in open dialogue on peacebuilding, conflict prevention, and the shared responsibility of addressing emerging challenges to regional stability. In accordance with the AIPA Caucus Terms of Reference, the meeting reviewed progress in the implementation of AIPA resolutions, facilitated exchanges with Observer Parliaments, and explored avenues for strengthening parliamentary contributions to ASEAN's peace and security agenda. The discussions underscored that peace is not only the foundation for political stability and economic growth but also a necessary condition for sustainable development and the protection of human dignity. This reaffirmed ASEAN's long-standing commitment, as enshrined in the ASEAN Charter and the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), to cooperation, non-interference, and the peaceful settlement of differences.

The meeting further highlighted the growing importance of parliamentary diplomacy in complementing intergovernmental efforts to maintain peace and security. Parliamentarians, by virtue of their representative role, can bridge diverse perspectives, foster mutual trust, and create space for inclusive and forward-looking solutions. This role becomes even more critical in the face of transnational issues, such as climate change, food insecurity, and humanitarian crises, that do not recognise borders and require collective responses grounded in solidarity and shared responsibility. In this regard, the Caucus discussions recognised that AIPA's engagement in broader peace frameworks can help strengthen ASEAN Centrality while enabling AIPA to contribute meaningfully to global conversations on peace and stability.

It was in this spirit that the Caucus took note of the Universal Peace Charter: For People and the Planet (UPC), adopted at the 11<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session of the International Parliament for Tolerance and Peace (IPTP) in Phnom Penh in November 2024. The UPC is a non-binding and open document that aims to foster solidarity and partnerships for peace, harmony, and sustainable development. It complements the UN Charter, the Bandung Declaration, and the TAC, and is built around key pillars that include conflict prevention, peacebuilding and good offices, transitional justice, post-conflict reconstruction and humanitarian response, and food security and sustainable development in response to climate change. For AIPA, supporting the UPC offers an opportunity to situate its parliamentary diplomacy within a broader,

cooperative framework that reinforces ASEAN's principles and priorities while signaling its commitment to the well-being of both people and the planet.

The UPC also reflects principles long championed by ASEAN and AIPA, such as dialogue over confrontation, consensus over division, and cooperation over isolation. Its emphasis on placing people and the environment at the centre of peacebuilding resonates with ASEAN's vision of a resilient, people-oriented, and inclusive community. Moreover, its non-binding nature ensures that participation is voluntary, allowing each Member Parliament to engage in ways consistent with national policies and priorities, while still benefiting from shared initiatives and the exchange of best practices.

By engaging with the UPC, AIPA would be in a position to further amplify the parliamentary dimension of peace and security within ASEAN and beyond. This includes exploring joint initiatives with the IPTP and other relevant partners, encouraging Member Parliaments to integrate peace and sustainability objectives into legislative work, and promoting regional cooperation that bridges political, economic, and socio-cultural divides. Such engagement would not only enrich AIPA's contributions to ASEAN community-building but also enhance its visibility as a responsible and proactive parliamentary organisation in the global arena.

Thus, this Draft Resolution seeks to approve the Report of the 16<sup>th</sup> AIPA Caucus, express AIPA's support for the Universal Peace Charter (UPC) as a complementary and voluntary framework, and authorize the Secretary General of AIPA to sign the UPC on behalf of AIPA. The Draft Resolution also encourages continued cooperation between AIPA, the IPTP, and other relevant partners in advancing peace, security, and sustainable development, in full accordance with AIPA's mandate and the principles of the ASEAN Charter and the TAC.