

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/Org/01)

RESOLUTION ON

THE AMENDMENT TO THE AIPA STATUTES

Sponsored by Malaysia

The Forty-sixth General Assembly:

Recalling Article 15, paragraph 1 of the AIPA Statutes stating that the Secretary General shall be appointed by the President of AIPA with the approval of the General Assembly for a term of three (3) years on a rotational basis and in alphabetical order;

Acknowledging Resolution No. 35GA/2014/Org/09 on the Date of Appointment of the Secretary General of AIPA, which stipulates that the term of office appointment of the Secretary General shall commence on 1 October and conclude on 30 September of the third year;

Further recalling Resolution No. 43GA/2022/Org/18 on the Extension of the then Incumbent AIPA Secretary General's Working Agreement for a period of three (3) months, from 1 October to 31 December 2022, which consequently resulted in the shortened term of office for the Sixth AIPA Secretary General, thereby departing from the term of office as prescribed under the AIPA Statutes;

Recognising that a transitional period following the General Assembly facilitates the timely fulfilment of reporting obligations, enables the alignment of administrative and operational functions with the commencement of the calendar year, and allows for an orderly and effective leadership transition from the outgoing to the incoming Secretary General;

Noting that the AIPA General Assembly is customarily convened between the months of August and November each year, with a commonly observed practice of holding the session in September;

Observing that a full three-year term of office of the Secretary General, commencing in January of the first year and concluding in December of the third year, would provide better administrative clarity and consistency, particularly in relation to the future scheduling of AIPA General Assembly, thereby avoiding the need for extensions of term of office of Secretary General;

Emphasising the need for clear transitional protocols and institutional memory mechanisms to ensure continuity of leadership and minimize disruption during Secretary General transitions.

Hereby resolves to:

Approve the amendment of the following article of the AIPA Statutes to read as follows:

Art. 15 (1)

 The Secretary General shall be appointed by the President of AIPA with the approval of the General Assembly for a term of three (3) years, commencing on 1 January of the first year and concluding on 31 December of the third year, on a rotational basis and in alphabetical order.

Further approve that this amendment shall take effect immediately upon its adoption, and that the term of the incumbent Sixth Secretary General of AIPA will be concluded on 31 December 2025;

Declare that, upon the adoption of this amendment, all prior provisions, practices, or interpretations inconsistent herewith shall be deemed superseded and rendered null and void;

Request the AIPA Secretariat to circulate a Guidance Note to all Member Parliaments detailing the implications of the amended term schedule, including adjustments to reporting cycles, budget planning, and General Assembly preparations.

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

Article 15(1) of the AIPA Statutes provides that the Secretary General shall be appointed by the President of AIPA with the approval of the General Assembly for a term of three (3) years on a rotational basis and in alphabetical order. This provision was further operationalised through Resolution 35GA/2014/Org/09, which specifies that the term commences on 1 October and concludes on 30 September of the third year.

Over time, the schedule of the AIPA General Assembly has varied, generally taking place between August and November each year, with a commonly observed practice of convening in September. This has created challenges in aligning the conclusion of the Secretary General's term with the Secretariat's operational and reporting cycle, particularly in the period following the General Assembly.

In 2022, to accommodate the schedule of the General Assembly, the outgoing Secretary General's term was extended, resulting in a shortened term for the incumbent (Sixth) Secretary General. This arrangement consequently resulted in the shortened term of office for the Sixth AIPA Secretary General, leading to an inconsistency with the term of office as prescribed under the AIPA Statutes

To enhance institutional coherence and provide greater clarity in the Secretariat's planning and implementation cycles, it is considered necessary to realign the Secretary General's three-year term with the calendar year. A fixed term running from 1 January to 31 December of the third year would ensure a more structured transition, avoid the need for interim extensions, and allow for more effective fulfilment of reporting and administrative responsibilities in the period following the General Assembly. This adjustment would also support a proper and timely leadership transition from the outgoing to the incoming Secretary General.

Accordingly, the draft resolution proposes that the Secretary General's three-year term be set to commence from 1 January of the first year and conclude on 31 December of the third year.

The amendment is proposed to take immediate effect upon adoption, and that the term of the incumbent Sixth Secretary General of AIPA will conclude on 31 December 2025. All prior

provisions, practices, or interpretations inconsistent with this amendment shall, upon its adoption, be deemed superseded and no longer applicable.