



**39TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
3-7 SEPTEMBER 2018, SINGAPORE**

Towards a Resilient and Innovative Community

(Res 39GA/2018/Econ/03)

**RESOLUTION ON
DEEPENING REGIONAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION IN ASEAN**

The Thirty-Ninth AIPA General Assembly:

Recalling AIPA Resolution on “*Promoting an Inclusive and Innovation-led Growth for the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC)*” adopted during the 38th AIPA General Assembly in the Philippines;

Recognising the importance of international trade to stimulate economic growth, support job creation and drive prosperity and development;

Recalling the vision of the AEC 2025 to create a deeply integrated and highly cohesive ASEAN economy that would support sustained high economic growth and resilience even in the face of global economic shocks and volatilities;

Acknowledging that the Fourth Industrial Revolution and the digital economy will bring about meaningful benefits and create new opportunities, and open up new markets for innovative products and services;

Recognising further that regional economic integration is a dynamic, ongoing process and is an instrumental element in sustaining ASEAN’s economic growth and development, as well as in reinforcing ASEAN centrality in the emerging regional economic architecture by maintaining ASEAN’s role as the centre and facilitator of economic integration in the East Asian region.

Hereby resolves to:

Reaffirm our commitment to highly integrated and cohesive economies in ASEAN and the importance of international trade to job creation and the improvement of living standards;

Call upon AIPA Member Parliaments to encourage ASEAN Member States to further broaden and deepen services integration within ASEAN, develop more facilitative regulatory regimes, enhance ASEAN Member States' competitiveness in services, and improve the services sector's contribution to ASEAN's economic development and growth;

Call upon AIPA Member Parliaments to urge their governments to review their domestic laws and regulations to facilitate the elimination or reduction of trade and investment restrictions, barriers, impediments and so as to further enhance ASEAN's openness and attractiveness as a trade and investment destination;

Emphasise the need for ASEAN Member States to ensure that their regulatory regimes remain relevant, robust, effective, transparent, and forward looking, in terms of regulatory structures, design and implementation, to support the growth of a dynamic and integrated ASEAN;

Underscore the importance for all ASEAN Member States to continue implementing policies and initiatives aimed at reducing cross-border trade costs, promoting predictability in customs procedures, and supporting trade facilitation in the ASEAN region, through simplified electronic processes at ports of entry via the National Single Windows and the ASEAN Single Window;

Reiterate our resolve to address non-tariff measures (NTMs) to reduce their trade restrictive and barrier effects;

Reaffirm our commitment to create an open, transparent and predictable investment environment, including improving investment restrictions and impediments, in order to enhance ASEAN's attractiveness as an investment destination;

Call upon AIPA Member Parliaments to urge their governments to strengthen cooperation between ASEAN Member States to promote good regulatory practices in the preparation, adoption and application of standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures, so as to create a conducive environment for doing business and minimise compliance cost for regulations;

Encourage closer collaboration within ASEAN Member States to promote cooperation to strengthen regulatory coherence and build capabilities in other areas, such as energy efficiency,

natural gas and renewable energy, as part of ASEAN's goals of energy security, accessibility and sustainability.

Adopted on the Sixth day of September 2018 in Singapore.
