



38TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

14-20 September 2017
Makati Shangri-La, Manila, Philippines

"AIPA and ASEAN: Partnering for Inclusive Change"



RES.38GA/2017/SOC/03

RESOLUTION
ON
COMBATTING MARINE PLASTIC DEBRIS AND MICROPLASTICS

The Thirty-Eighth AIPA General Assembly:

Recalling the ASEAN Political Security Blueprint 2025 which requires ASEAN Member States to promote closer maritime cooperation in the protection and preservation of the marine environment;

Further recalling Resolution 70/1, entitled "Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development," which includes Goal 14 on the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and maritime resources, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 25 September 2015;

Recognizing Articles 192 and 194 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), which provide that "States have the obligation to protect and preserve the marine environment" and "States shall take, individually or jointly as appropriate, all measures within this Convention that are necessary to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment from any source," respectively;

Acknowledging the importance of oceans to livelihood in ASEAN in keeping with our shared responsibility to maintain the sustainability and preserve the health of our oceans;

Noting with concern the rapid increase of plastic debris and microplastics in the Southeast Asia marine environment, an urgent need arises for a comprehensive multi-stakeholder response to the problem;

Resolves to:

Call upon the AIPA Member Parliaments to develop and strengthen their national legislation relating to marine plastic debris and microplastic management, and integrate marine plastic debris issues including recycling,

reuse, reduction and disposal, into national strategies in dealing with waste management in coastal zones, ports and maritime industries;

Call upon the AIPA Member Parliaments to strengthen their legal framework to prompt governments and other stakeholders into action, to coordinate and cooperate in removal of, disposal of, and remedial action on marine plastic and microplastic debris;

Call upon the AIPA Member Parliaments to provide adequate budget to sustain and strengthen their national efforts on preventing, reducing and controlling pollution of the marine environment;

Encourage the governments of AIPA Member Parliaments to promote communication activities to change consumers' behavior and habit of using plastic bags in partnership with the private sector and promote a more resource-efficient use and sound management of plastics and microplastics, up to the level that allows regulation or restriction of single-use plastic bags;

Encourage the AIPA Member Parliaments to support initiatives to raise awareness and facilitate dialogue between stakeholders and their constituencies in order to increase public education, secure consensus-building on the impact of marine waste, and strengthen the basis for behavioral changes.

Adopted on the 19th day of September 2017 in Manila, Philippines.