



**THE 45<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
OF ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY**  
17-23 October 2024  
Vientiane, Lao PDR

*The Role of Parliaments in Enhancing Connectivity and  
Inclusive Growth of ASEAN*

(Res.45GA/2024/Eco/01)

**RESOLUTION ON**  
**STRENGTHENING ASEAN CYBER RESILIENCE THROUGH**  
**PARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION: TOWARDS A FUTURE SAFE**  
**AND VIBRANT DIGITAL ECONOMY**

*Sponsored by Brunei Darussalam*

***The Forty-fifth General Assembly:***

***Recalling*** [AIPA Resolution Res.42GA/2021/Pol/02](#) on Enhancing Cybersecurity and Data Protection Towards a Resilient Cyberspace in ASEAN, adopted during the 42nd AIPA General Assembly from 23 to 25 August 2021 held virtually in Brunei Darussalam;

***Further recalling*** [AIPA Resolution Res.37GA/2016/Pol/04](#) on Strengthening Cooperation to Ensure Cybersecurity in ASEAN, adopted during the 37th AIPA General Assembly held from 29 September to 3 October 2016 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar;

***Further recalling*** the ASEAN Declaration to Prevent and Combat Cybercrime, adopted in 2017, which strengthened the commitment of ASEAN Member States to cooperate at the regional level in preventing and combating cybercrime;

***Reiterating*** the outcome of the 15<sup>th</sup> AIPA Caucus Meeting, hosted by the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam from 10 to 13 June 2024, and the exchanges during the Tripartite Forum in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, on 10 June 2024 on navigating digital transformation and cybersecurity;

***Further recalling*** the AIPA Resolution [Res.39GA/2018/Eco/03](#) on Deepening Regional Economic Integration in ASEAN; AIPA Resolution [Res.40GA/2019/Eco/01](#) on Fostering Inclusive Development in ASEAN; AIPA Resolution [Res.40GA/2019/Eco/03](#) on Improving Digital Connectivity to Support the Growth of MSMEs; and AIPA Resolution [Res.41GA/2020/Eco/01](#) on the Role of Parliaments in Promoting ASEAN Cohesiveness and Economic Recovery Post-Covid-19; adopted at the 39<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, and 41<sup>st</sup> AIPA General Assemblies, respectively;

***Acknowledging*** the [Bandar Seri Begawan Roadmap: An ASEAN Digital Transformation Agenda to Accelerate ASEAN's Economic Recovery and Digital Economy Integration](#) that outlines strategies in enhancing cybersecurity and integrating digital economies to boost economic recovery and resilience in the region;

***Reaffirming*** the collective efforts to support the substantial conclusion of the ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA), which aims to harmonise rules and

policies across ASEAN to streamline cross-border digital trade and e-commerce, that focuses on data protection, cybersecurity, and removing barriers to enhance regional economic growth and digital integration;

**Further reaffirming** the commitment of ASEAN to create a safe and secure digital environment for its users and consumers, so that the digital economy can thrive and contribute to the region's prosperity;

**Recognising** the increasing significance of ASEAN's digital economy on a global scale, with an estimated rapid growth of USD 1 trillion to significantly USD 2 trillion by 2030;

**Underscoring** the critical role of cybersecurity in safeguarding the digital economy, data security, and infrastructure within ASEAN Member States towards a resilient, sustainable, and inclusive digital future;

**Recognising** the disparities in cybersecurity readiness and regulatory frameworks among ASEAN Member States, which pose challenges to the region's overall digital resilience and the eventual implementation of the ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA);

**Further recognising** the commitment of ASEAN Member States to ensuring a comprehensive and forward-looking DEFA, with a target to conclude negotiations by 2025;

**Concerned** by the growing frequency and sophistication of cyberattacks and scams that pose immense harm to ASEAN Member States—affecting government agencies, businesses, and individuals—and undermining regional stability and trust in digital ecosystems, which may hinder ASEAN from fully realising its digital potential;

**Emphasising** the importance of multi-stakeholder collaboration, including the role of parliamentarians, in developing and enforcing robust cybersecurity strategies and frameworks to mitigate cybersecurity threats; and the importance of knowledge sharing, capacity building, and regional cooperation in addressing the challenges of cybersecurity and digital transformation.

**Hereby resolves to:**

**Support** the inclusion of cybersecurity as a central component of the ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA), with specific provisions on online safety and cybersecurity cooperation;

**Encourage** AIPA Member Parliaments to enhance national cybersecurity policies and legal frameworks by adopting best practices, increasing investment in infrastructure and talent development, and harmonising laws across ASEAN to improve capacity and readiness for a digital economy while addressing cross-border cyber threats effectively;

**Welcome** the establishment of the ASEAN Regional Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) cybersecurity task force to coordinate responses to cyber threats and scams, exchange information, and develop a regional platform for knowledge exchange and capacity building, facilitating collaboration on research, policy development, and technical expertise in cybersecurity, and encouraging regular cybersecurity exercises and simulations to boost preparedness and resilience;

**Promote** public-private partnerships and engage academic institutions, civil society organisations, and industry associations in crafting innovative solutions to cybersecurity challenges;

**Call on** ASEAN Member States to continue intensifying efforts to enhance digital literacy and awareness across ASEAN, promote a culture of security awareness and responsible data handling, to ensure that individuals and businesses understand the importance of cybersecurity and know how to protect themselves online;

**Adopt** the report of the [15th AIPA Caucus Meeting](#) and the First [Tripartite Forum](#) as attached.

Adopted on the twenty-first day of October 2024 in Vientiane, Lao PDR.



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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

**RESOLUTION ON STRENGTHENING ASEAN CYBER RESILIENCE  
THROUGH PARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION: TOWARDS A  
FUTURE OF SAFE AND VIBRANT DIGITAL ECONOMY**

The ASEAN region is witnessing unprecedented growth in its digital economy, projected to reach between USD 1 trillion to USD 2 trillion by 2030. This rapid expansion underscores the critical need for a robust cybersecurity framework that can safeguard digital infrastructure and data security across ASEAN Member States. The resolutions adopted during past AIPA General Assemblies, notably [Res.42GA/2021/Pol/02](#) and [Res.37GA/2016/Pol/04](#) highlight AIPA's commitment to enhancing cybersecurity and data protection.

Recent discussions at the [15th AIPA Caucus Meeting](#) and the [Tripartite Forum](#) have reinforced the importance of collective action in addressing cybersecurity challenges. [The Bandar Seri Begawan Roadmap](#) (2021-2025) outlines strategies to bolster cybersecurity and facilitate digital integration, emphasising the necessity of parliamentary cooperation in crafting effective policies.

Despite progress, disparities in cybersecurity readiness and regulatory frameworks among ASEAN Member States remain significant barriers. The increasing frequency and sophistication of cyber threats pose a direct challenge to the region's digital stability, leading to data breaches and ransomware attacks that undermine trust in digital systems.

**Objectives:** This resolution aims to enhance cybersecurity resilience in ASEAN through:

1. **Integrating Cybersecurity into the ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA):** Establishing cybersecurity as a fundamental component to ensure safe cross-border data flows and protect digital identities.
2. **Enhancing National Cybersecurity Policies:** Encouraging Member Parliaments to adopt best practices, strengthen legal frameworks, and harmonise laws across ASEAN for a cohesive approach to digital threats.
3. **Establishing a Regional Cybersecurity Task Force:** Coordinating responses to cyber threats, facilitating intelligence exchange, and promoting knowledge-sharing initiatives among Member States.
4. **Promoting Public-Private Partnerships (PPP):** Engaging academic institutions and civil society to develop innovative solutions to cybersecurity challenges.

5. **Enhancing Digital Literacy and Awareness:** Ensuring that individuals and businesses are informed about cybersecurity risks and protective measures.

The resolution seeks to foster a collaborative environment where ASEAN Member States can effectively address cybersecurity challenges and ensure a safe digital economy. By leveraging parliamentary cooperation, ASEAN can enhance its resilience against cyber threats, ultimately contributing to regional prosperity and stability.