(Res.45GA/2024/Eco/08)

RESOLUTION ON

ENCOURAGEMENT IN STRENGTHENING COLLABORATION AMONG ASEAN MEMBER STATES ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Sponsored by the Philippines

The Forty-fifth General Assembly:

Acknowledging that artificial intelligence (AI) is rapidly transforming societies and economies and has also become a fundamental part of the developmental agenda of world leaders as well as regional and international organisations;

Realising that AI has an immense potential to enhance connectivity and inclusive growth through financial inclusion, food security, gender equity, equitable healthcare delivery, and environmental sustainability;

Recognising that AI uptake is capable of contributing 10% to 18% to gross domestic product across ASEAN or equivalent to nearly USD 1 trillion by 2030, and also boost labour productivity by 0.1% to 0.6% annually through 2040;

Further recognising that the deployment of AI can enable the accomplishment of numerous targets enumerated in the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

Acknowledging of the related risks in the deployment of AI to individuals such as fraud, misinformation, biases and mis-profiling, misuse of personal information, and its greater societal impacts in terms of widening the digital divide, deepening income inequality and economic exclusion, the negative consequences on labour markets, the weakening of cybersecurity systems, and the adverse effects on the environment;

Mindful of the varying degrees in the development of AI governance and regulatory frameworks among ASEAN Member States and the eventual need to harmonise all these efforts post-2025 in order to foster an enabling environment within the region that fully leverages the benefits of AI while minimising its attendant risks and harm to society;

Cognisant of the varying degrees of ASEAN Member States to benefit from the rapid advancement and adoption of AI and the need to uplift the AI ecosystem in the region as a whole, with a view towards closing digital divide within and between countries and ensuring equitable benefits for AI for all;

Affirming the recent efforts within the region on AI such as the [ASEAN Guide on AI Governance and Ethics](#), as well as earlier global initiatives such as the [Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization](#);

Reiterating the [Statement on AI by the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science, Technology and Innovation](#) last June 2024 on the need to foster collaboration and partnerships among ASEAN Member States and with other stakeholder to share knowledge, expertise, and resources and to promote collaborative research and innovation in AI and related fields.

Hereby resolves to:

Call upon all ASEAN Member States and AIPA Member Parliaments to take the lead in mainstreaming AI aligned with the ASEAN Digital Masterplan, most especially in the region's digital integration initiatives;

Recommend ASEAN Member States develop their own National Strategies for research, development and application of AI, thereby enhancing the exchange of experiences among countries in the region;

Urge AIPA Member Parliaments to discuss and agree on encouragement and strengthening of collaboration among ASEAN Member States on AI.

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

**THE 45TH 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*

EXPLANATORY NOTE

RESOLUTION ON ENCOURAGEMENT IN STRENGTHENING COLLABORATION AMONG ASEAN MEMBER STATES ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

The potential of artificial intelligence (AI) to transform societies and economies has rapidly gained acceptance in 2023 with generative AI, in particular, taking centre stage with the launching of programmes such as ChatGPT. Together with its other applications and use cases, AI has the potential to contribute between USD 2.6 trillion to USD 4.4 trillion in value to the global economy annually.[1]

In the ASEAN region, AI is forecasted to increase gross domestic product by 10% to 18%, or nearly USD 1 trillion by 2030 and also boost labor productivity by 0.1% to 0.6% annually through 2040.[2] The deployment of AI can also help in meeting numerous targets under the [United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](.)[3] AI also has an immense potential to enhance connectivity and inclusive growth through financial inclusion, food security, gender equity, equitable healthcare delivery, and environmental sustainability.[4]

Despite these perceived benefits, the mainstreaming of AI also has its attendant risks. Individually, the risks include fraud, misinformation, biases and misrepresentation, misuse of personal information, among others. On the other hand, the adverse impact to greater society includes the widening of the digital divide, the further deepening of income inequality, the negative consequences on labour markets, the weakening of cybersecurity systems, and the adverse effects on the environment.

Recognising these risks and benefits, AI became one of the central themes among government leaders and industry players during the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos last January 2024. While global leaders marveled at its potential

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[1] ____. (2023). How generative AI could add trillions to the global economy. World Economic Forum and McKinsey and Company. https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2023/07/generative-ai-could-add-trillions-to-global-economy/

[2] _____. (2024). A Business-Friendly ASEAN Guide for AI Ethics and Governance. ASEAN for Business Bulletin, March 2024. ASEAN Secretariat. https://asean.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/ASEAN-for-Business-Bulletin-March-2024.pdf

[3] Vinuesa et al. (2020). The role of artificial intelligence in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. United States National Institutes of Health. https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31932590/

[4] Tjondronegoro et al. (2024). Artificial intelligence: a new driver for inclusive growth and development? Asian Development Bank Institute. https://www.asiapathways-adbi.org/2024/04/artificial-intelligence-a-new-driver-for-inclusive-growth-and-development/

benefits, however, regulating AI and the setting-up of the necessary guardrails to mitigate its unintended consequences seemed to have resonated even more.

It is important to highlight that prior to the Davos meet, the European Union was already in the advanced stages towards enacting the world's first comprehensive legislation on AI, which it eventually approved last May 2024 or nearly three years after it was initially proposed by the European Council in April 2021. Several global guidelines and standards have also already been put in place. These include the OECD AI Principles adopted last 2019 and the first-ever global standard on AI ethics released in November 2021 by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and adopted by 193 member countries.

The ASEAN bloc has also published its own Guide on AI Governance and Ethics last February 2024 which serves as a practical guide for organisations in the region that wish to design, develop, and deploy traditional AI technologies in commercial and non-military or dual use applications. It is expected that the ASEAN framework will hopefully help guide governments in ASEAN Member States to fine-tune their respective AI policies, while, at the same time, keeping in mind the shared principles and values of ASEAN.

With the impending conclusion of the 2025 Blueprint, parliamentarians must take the lead in mainstreaming AI post-2025, including digital integration frameworks. This can only be achieved if AIPA Member Parliaments share a common understanding and appreciation of AI. To foster this shared understanding, AIPA Member Parliaments need to strengthen the discussions and collaboration among ASEAN Member States while also playing a proactive role in supporting the development of national strategies on artificial intelligence that align with ASEAN's agenda.