



**42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021**

*Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion
Towards ASEAN Community 2025*

(Res 42GA/2021/Pol/02)

**RESOLUTION ON
ENHANCING CYBERSECURITY AND DATA PROTECTION
TOWARDS A RESILIENT CYBERSPACE IN ASEAN**

Sponsored by Brunei Darussalam

The Forty-Second AIPA General Assembly:

Recalling AIPA Resolution Res.37GA/2016/Pol/04 on “Strengthening Cooperation to ensure Cybersecurity in ASEAN” adopted during the 37th AIPA General Assembly on 29 September – 3 October 2016 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar;

Recalling further the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Blueprint 2025 adopted by the ASEAN Leaders during the 27th ASEAN Summit on 22 November 2015 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, which envisions the establishment of a coherent and comprehensive framework for personal data protection in recognition that global electronic commerce (e-Commerce) has become an increasingly vital element of the global economy as part of a retailer’s multi-channel strategy;

Reaffirming the ASEAN Leaders’ Statement on Cybersecurity Cooperation adopted during the 32nd ASEAN Summit on 27-28 April 2018 in Singapore, which recognized the growing urgency and sophistication of transboundary cyber threats and recommended the feasible options of coordinating cybersecurity policy;

Reiterating the commitment of the Heads of States/Governments of ASEAN Member States during the 35th ASEAN Summit on 2-3 November 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand, which called for the need to address cybersecurity challenges in a holistic manner;

Recognizing the importance of cybersecurity for ASEAN Member States to maximize the benefits of digitalization for socio-economic and political development; and regional and international cooperation to address the growing threats to cybersecurity;

Acknowledging the work done in fostering greater regional cybersecurity cooperation and capacity building through cross-pillar cybersecurity initiatives such as the ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Capacity Building Centre (AJCCBC) and the ASEAN-Singapore Cybersecurity Centre of Excellence (ASCCE);

Recognizing the vital role of AIPA Member Parliaments in ensuring cybersecurity in the region, in accordance with the domestic laws, policies and regulations of ASEAN Member States;

Fully Aware also that effective cybersecurity and data protection are not merely a matter of governments or parliaments, but should be addressed through prevention and supported throughout wider society.

Hereby resolves to:

Call upon AIPA Member Parliaments to urge ASEAN Member States to promote further engagement through relevant ASEAN-led mechanisms and sectoral bodies on cybersecurity such as the ASEAN Digital Ministers Meeting (ADGMIN), ASEAN Ministerial Conference on Cybersecurity (AMCC), ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Inter-Sessional Meeting on ICT Security, ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM)-Plus Experts' Working Group Meeting on Cyber Security and ASEAN Cybersecurity Coordinating Committee (ASEAN Cyber CC) for further enhancing cybersecurity cooperation in ASEAN;

Encourage ASEAN Member States to leverage on regional institutions related to cybersecurity such as the AJCCBC, ASCCE and other relevant regional collaboration frameworks to implement practical capacity-building and confidence-building measures and complement existing ASEAN efforts on cybersecurity towards the promotion of voluntary and non-binding norms of responsible State behaviours in cyberspace to enhance cybersecurity;

Urge ASEAN Member States to strengthen cooperation on cybersecurity and data protection within ASEAN and between ASEAN and its external partners and relevant stakeholders through exchanges, information sharing, collaboration mechanisms as well as Information and Communication Technology infrastructure development across strategic, policy and technical spheres; heading towards a common regional framework of cooperation to address issues of cybersecurity in conformity with relevant international laws and best practices;

Suggest that ASEAN Member States strengthen the capabilities of their respective national Computer Emergency Response Team (CERTs) and cybersecurity law enforcement agencies and encourage the undertaking of joint regional activities to enhance cooperation and collaboration in the areas of cybersecurity and data protection; and in supporting the relevant agencies in the efforts towards developing a long-term regional action plan to ensure the effective and practical implementation of the 11 voluntary, non-binding norms of State behaviours in cyberspace;

Recommend that AIPA Member Parliaments support the strengthening of relevant national policies and legal frameworks, as well as explore the possibility of harmonisation of laws in ASEAN on cybersecurity and data protection to safeguard and enhance the capacity and readiness of ASEAN towards a digital economy;

Underline that cybersecurity and data protection have become a matter of importance to every human life. Therefore, AIPA Member Parliaments are expected to actively take part in increasing awareness about the importance of cybersecurity and data protection among the people;

Urge AIPA Member Parliaments to ensure that their respective domestic legislations on cybersecurity will serve the purpose of enhancing democracy, human rights, and good governance.

Adopted on the Twenty Fifth Day of August Two Thousand Twenty One in Brunei Darussalam at the 42nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held virtually.
