



**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/ECO/03

**RESOLUTION
ON
PROMOTING AN INCLUSIVE AND INNOVATION-LED GROWTH FOR
THE ASEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY (AEC)**

The Thirty-Eight General Assembly:

Recalling AIPA Resolution on *"Strengthening the Growth of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in Entering and Optimizing the Global Value Chains by Improving Access to Finance and Technology, and Enhancing Productivity and Innovation"* and AIPA Resolution on *"Parliamentary Support for ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Implementation"* adopted during the 37th AIPA General Assembly in Myanmar;

Considering that globalization and rapid development of new technology have resulted in increased competition and opened up new markets for innovative products and services;

Acknowledging that innovation is a critical economic growth engine an important aspect for competitiveness and economic growth, and a key instrument in addressing global challenges such as climate change, environmental degradation and health;

Acknowledging also that innovation-led growth requires academic innovation whereby universities should provide qualified graduates to meet the need and demand of new economic activities and to bridge the gap between industry and the labour market;

Recognizing that innovation plays a strategic role in creating a more level playing field for start-ups and MSMEs and deepening regional integration through better connectivity, more competitive manufacturing and efficient supply chain, driving fair competition, as well as boosting investment flows to Southeast Asia;

Recognizing further that Southeast Asia is a diverse region with cultural and economic differences and that knowledge gap among and within ASEAN countries continues to hampering the creation of equality in social and economic;

Resolves to:

Call upon AIPA Member Parliaments to review their national laws and regulations as considered to be necessary to support widespread digital connectivity and the distribution of technological infrastructure across every sector and region;

Urge ASEAN Member States to support innovation performance through regulatory and institutional reforms while ensuring the creation of policies more conducive to enable innovation to grow;

Encourage ASEAN Member States to foster innovation by advocating public investments in science and technological research while nurturing entrepreneurship to increase economic activities;

Enjoin the private sector to fund research and smart innovation and to closely collaborate with government in promoting innovation and technical change and to ensure the protection of intellectual property rights;

Exhort AIPA Member Parliaments to formulate policies to allow start-ups, MSMEs and rural communities to benefit from affordable technology and communication services;

Collaborate with ASEAN Member States to improve basic computer and digital communication literacy for rural communities;

Encourage ASEAN Member States to support innovation-led growth by maintaining stable macroeconomic conditions and promoting low-cost environments for innovation.

Adopted on the 19th day of September 2017 at the 38th AIPA General Assembly in Manila, the Philippines.