

## 40<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY 25 - 30 AUGUST 2019 BANGKOK, THAILAND

Advancing Parliamentary Partnership for Sustainable Community

(Res 40GA/2019/WAIPA/01)

## RESOLUTION ON PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN IN ASEAN

## The Fortieth AIPA General Assembly:

**Recognizing** that the provisions of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, ASEAN Declaration on the Gender-Responsive Implementation of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and Sustainable Development Goals and other relevant conventions and treaties provide international legal frameworks for realizing gender equality and the empowerment of women;

**Emphasizing** the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with the core goal to ensure that "no one is left behind", particularly Goal 5 of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs) on Achieving Gender Equality and the Empowerment of all Women and Girls, which calls for action by all countries to promote gender equality and women and girls' empowerment;

**Recalling** the AIPA Res 36GA/2015/WAIPA/01 on Recognition of Post – 2015 Development Agenda on Gender Equality, adopted at the 36th General Assembly in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; Resolution 39GA/2018/WAIPA/01 on Promoting Women's Entrepreneurship for Development and Resolution 39GA/2018/WAIPA/02 on Empowering Women in ASEAN to Harness the Potential of Industrial Revolution 4.0, adopted at the 39th General Assembly in Singapore;

Affirming that gender equality and women's empowerment are part of the fundamental human rights and a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and stable society, while gender inequality is an impediment to achieving overall sustainable development;

Acknowledging also that providing women with equal access to education, healthcare, justice, economic and income opportunities, social protection and representation in decision-making processes is crucial to ending the gender inequality and helps spur inclusive economic growth which will benefit society and people as a whole;

**Recognizing** that ASEAN Countries have made significant efforts in addressing gender inequality, but barriers still remain;

**Recognizing** that responses to the challenges of gender equality and women's empowerment require political will, and continuous vigorous efforts including strong legal frameworks and enforcement, comprehensive approaches, mechanism, partnership and cooperation from all

## Hereby resolves to:

**Call on** AIPA Member Parliaments to contribute, facilitate, and monitor the implementation of the CEDAW, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, ASEAN Declaration on the Gender-Responsive Implementation of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and Sustainable Development Goals and other relevant conventions and treaties as well as previous AIPA Resolutions concerning gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls;

**Encourage** AIPA Member Parliaments to adopt, develop and strengthen laws and policies related to equal access to education, healthcare, justice, economic and income opportunities, social protection and representation in decision-making processes to end gender inequality and help spur inclusive economic growth which will benefit society and people as a whole;

**Support** the sharing of national research findings amongst AIPA Member Parliaments and continuously updating gender statistic database to measure and monitor the realities of the lives of women and men as a resource to perform the necessary functionality in order to formulate and monitor policies and plans, monitor changes, and inform the public;

**Urge** ASEAN Member States to redouble their efforts to ensure that gender equality and women's empowerment remain priorities in all plans and programs, and allocation from national budget/of appropriate resources in the field of women development;

**Urge** AIPA Member Parliaments to strengthen monitoring mechanism of the implementation of laws and policies on gender equality, and prevention of gender-based discrimination and violence;

Also Urge AIPA Member Parliaments to fight against gender stereotyping, discrimination, to promote gender-balanced program, and equal opportunities in the ASEAN region, including sharing knowledge, best practices and create awareness to advance gender equality and women's empowerment;

**Encourage** AIPA Member Parliaments to develop a gender-based innovation and an inclusive digital economy.