

## 42<sup>ND</sup> 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/Eco/02)

## **RESOLUTION ON**

## THE POST – COVID-19 ECONOMIC RECOVERY: TOURISM COOPERATION IN ASEAN

Sponsored by Thailand

The Forty-Second AIPA General Assembly:

**Recalling** AIPA Resolution Res 41GA/2020/Soc/03 on "Enhancing AIPA's Role in Supporting ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community in Responding to COVID-19" that AIPA deeply sympathizes with the unprecedented impact of the Corona Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, which tremendously affected the ASEAN socio-cultural community, particularly the people's health, well-being, safety, social welfare, income, employment, education, and other socio-cultural fields;

*Firmly Supporting* the resolution's aim which calls for ASEAN's resolve to consolidate the ASEAN Community; in achieving the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 of building a peopleoriented and people-centered ASEAN Community by stepping up the ASEAN Member States' efforts and cooperation through deepening the integration to mitigate the impacts of natural disasters and the pandemic on ASEAN's citizens;

*Recalling also* the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework and its Implementation Plan and the ASEAN Declaration on Digital Tourism adopted at the 37th ASEAN Summit on 12 November 2020, which provides coordinated and consolidated strategy for post-pandemic recovery, inter-alia in tourism sector, including through digital technology and innovation;

**Reaffirming** the commitment of AIPA to support the ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan 2016-2025, amended in February 2021 by re-prioritizing activities and projects aimed at revitalizing the tourism in the region after overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic; which reflects the strategic direction of future tourism cooperation in moving forward to sustainable, inclusive and resilient tourism in the region;

**Reaffirming** the ASEAN's commitment to care for its people and prepare for the future opportunities and challenges, in order to advance sustainable development for shared prosperity in the region as stated in the 54<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting (AMM);

*Welcoming* the development of a Post COVID-19 Recovery Plan for ASEAN Tourism linked and strengthened the ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan 2016-2025, which provides coordinated measures for ASEAN Member States to proactively respond to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on tourism sector with existing activities and new initiatives;

*Emphasizing* the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), particularly Goal 12 on Responsible Consumption and Production, so that tourism can and may play a significant role in delivering sustainable solutions for the people by creating jobs and enhancing the economic and social outcomes whereby the tourism sector must adopt Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) models of preserving energy, water, waste, and biodiversity, by creating jobs and enhancing the economic and social outcomes as well as cultural diversity;

*Welcoming* ASEAN initiatives to fight against the COVID-19 pandemic including the COVID-19 ASEAN Response Fund, the Strategic and Holistic Initiative to Link ASEAN Responses to Emergencies and Disasters (ASEAN SHIELD) as well as other post-pandemic recovery plans.

## Hereby resolves to:

*Call upon* AIPA Member Parliaments to closely engaged in the ASEAN post-pandemic recovery plans for the regional resilience and development as well as urge the Governments of ASEAN Member States to urgently implement the Action Plan for the ASEAN Vaccine Security and Self-Resilience, the ASEAN Regional Reserve of Medical Supplies and the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework;

*Strengthen* public health cooperation by creating vaccine security and self-reliance particularly in the implementation of the Regional Strategic and Action Plan on ASEAN Vaccine Security and Self-Reliance (AVSSR) 2021- 2025; to make the COVID-19 vaccines available and affordable as a public product and as global public goods, which would support the recovery of tourism sector in the post-COVID-19 era;

*Support* the vision for ASEAN Tourism to 2025 whereby ASEAN aim to be a safe and quality tourist destination offering a unique, diverse ASEAN experience, and commit to being a responsible, sustainable, inclusive and balanced tourism development, so as to contribute significantly to the socio-economic well-being of ASEAN people, especially during the post pandemic period of COVID-19;

**Encourage** the AIPA Member Parliaments to support and facilitate the integrated and coordinated approach towards the essential movement of people in the ASEAN region, for tourism and other travels, while safeguarding public health in line with the efforts to combat the pandemic;

*Encourage* innovation and research by ASEAN Member States to diversify tourism products and services to meet the new trend of post-COVID-19 tourism including safe destinations and healthcare tourism;

*Urge* all ASEAN Member States to successfully implement the ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan 2016-2025 and to strengthen the ASEAN Community by promoting green recovery, choosing not to exploit our resources and biodiversity and cultural diversity for the sole purpose of pursuing economic growth since the result of such action would come to a cost of resource degradation, the decline of biodiversity and a number of pollutions which would result to environmental damage and health problems as well as cultural conflicts in the long run;

*Encourage* AIPA Member Parliaments and ASEAN Member States to foster regional cooperation through sharing best practices and policies as well as capacity building such as providing better access to skill development, educational exchange programs and regional research networks for tourism professionals in areas such as digital technologies, innovation, eco-tourism and entrepreneurship, which will contribute to empowerment and resilience of

tourism sector in the post COVID-19 recovery and adversity of future crisis to build a more sustainable, inclusive and resilient tourism that can overcome future challenges;

**Encourage** tourism travel bubbles, by specializing routes to tourism sites in member countries. People traveling from and to different destinations are tested to make sure they are not infected with the novel coronavirus and go straight to the safe zones.

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