



ASEAN Inter - Parliamentary Organization

The 23rd General Assembly

8-13 September 2002, Ha Noi, Viet Nam

Res. 23GA/2002/Soc/Res02

RESOLUTION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ASEAN ANTI-POVERTY BANK

The Twenty-third General Assembly:

Realizing that globalization or the world-wide spread of trade, investment and industry, overleaping political frontiers and national cultures, has done far less to raise the income of Southeast Asia's poorest people than ASEAN's political and economic leaders had hoped;

Recognizing that despite the new round of multilateral market-opening negotiations within the World Trade Organization, ASEAN economies continue to suffer from the effects of the East Asian financial crisis, which prevents them from fully returning to the path of sustained growth and setting back their efforts to wipe out mass poverty from among their people;

Aware that mass poverty and social injustice in the developing countries are the breeding ground for political instability, social ills and crimes.

Believing that an ASEAN bank dedicated to funding national anti-poverty measures supported by the G7 countries and the European Union, as well as by China and Republic of Korea, could contribute towards the alleviation of the problems and want in the ASEAN region;

Noting that the International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank and the Asian Development Bank have focused on balance-of-payment problems and loans for

infrastructure and other major national and regional projects with minor focus on the problems of poverty-stricken families in the urban and rural communities of Southeast Asia.

Ensuring that the establishment of an ASEAN Anti-Poverty Bank will function initially by investing in and expanding existing successful co-operatives and supporting new ones and other pro-poor instrumentalities or groups in the region;

Resolves to Call on AIPO members to form a committee to study the setting up an ASEAN Anti-Poverty Bank.

