



# ASEAN Inter - Parliamentary Organization

The 23<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly

8-13 September 2002, Ha Noi, Viet Nam

23GA/2002/GARep

## Report of the 23<sup>rd</sup> AIPO General Assembly

### INTRODUCTION

1. The Twenty-third General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization (AIPO) was held from 8-13 September 2002, in Ha Noi, Viet Nam.

### PARTICIPANTS

2. The 23<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly was attended by Delegations from Member Countries: Cambodia led by H.R.H Samdech Krom Preah Norodom Ranariddh, President of the National Assembly; Indonesia led by H.E. Akbar Tandjung, Speaker of the House of Representatives; Lao People's Democratic Republic led by H.E. Samane Vignaket, President of the National Assembly; Malaysia led by H.E. Tan Sri Datuk Sen Amar Dr. Haji Sulaiman Daud, Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives; the Philippines led by H.E. Jose de Venecia, Jr., Speaker of the House of Representatives; Singapore led by H.E. Abdullah Tarmugi, Speaker of the Parliament; Thailand led by H.E. Uthai Pimchaichon, President of the National Assembly and Viet Nam led by H.E. Truong Quang Duoc, Deputy President of the National Assembly.

3. It also attended by Special Observer Delegations from Brunei Darussalam led by Hon. Pengiran Anak Haji Kemaludin Pengiran Anak Haji Mohd Yassin - Member of the Privy Council; and Myanmar led by H.E. U Aung Toe, Chairman of the National Assembly Convening Committee; and Observer Delegations from Australia led by H.E. Ian Causley; Canada led by Hon. Byron Wilfert; the People's Republic of China, led by Hon. Li Dao Yiu; the European Parliament led by Hon. Nassauer Hartmut; Japan led by Hon. Senator Koji Morimoto; the Republic of Korea led by Hon. Yu Jae Kyu; New Zealand led by Hon. Richard Worth; the Russian Federation led by H.E. Chilingarov Artur Nikolaevich; Guests of Honour consists of Hon. Dato' Ahmad Mokhtar Selat, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN and four (04) Mr. AIPO consist of Hon. Kharis Suhud; Prof. Dr. Prasop Ratanakorn; Dr. Robert Dennis Garcia for Hon. Manuel Garcia and Mr. Prashard Pathnamaban for the late Hon. Datu K. Pathnamaban.
4. The List of Delegates, Special Observers, Observers, Guest of Honour and four (4) Mr. AIPO are attached as **Annex A**.

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

5. The Executive Committee, comprising a Leader and two delegates of each AIPO Member Delegations as well as Special Observer Countries of Brunei Darussalam and Myanmar met on 8 September 2002 at 08:00 p.m., and considered and approved the following;
  - Reports of:
    - The First AIFOCOM Committee Meeting;
    - The AIPO Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting on Organizational Matters;
    - Official Visit of AIPO Delegation to Japan.
  - Programme of Activities for Delegates (attached as **Annex B**)
  - Draft Agenda Items for the 23<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly (attached as **Annex C**)
  - Draft Agenda Items for Dialogue with Observers (attached as **Annex C**)
  - Composition Committees and WAIPO (attached as **Annex D**)
  - Composition of the Panels for Dialogue with Observers (Attached as **Annex D**)
6. The Meeting agreed to hold the 24<sup>th</sup> AIPO General Assembly in Indonesia from 7 - 12 September 2003.
7. The Report of the Executive Committee is attached as **Annex E**.

**CALL ON H.E. NGUYEN VAN AN, PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM AND THE PRESIDENT OF AIPO**

8. On 9 September 2002 at 08:30 a.m., the Leaders of Delegations of the Member Countries, Special Observer Countries and the Leaders of Delegations of the Observer Countries, respectively, paid a courtesy call on H.E. Nguyen Van An, the President of the National Assembly and the President of AIPO.

**INAUGURAL CEREMONY OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

9. The Inaugural Ceremony of the 23<sup>rd</sup> AIPO General Assembly was held on 9 September 2002 at 09:00 a.m. at the Ba Dinh Hall (Parliament Building). The General Assembly was declared open by H.E. Nguyen Van An, the President of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.
10. The Program of the Inaugural Ceremony is attached as **Annex F**.

***Inaugural Address by H.E. Nguyen Van An, President of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and President of AIPO.***

11. The text of the Inaugural Address is attached as **Annex G**.

***Welcome speech by H.E. Tran Duc Luong, President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.***

12. The text of the Welcome Speech is attached as **Annex G**.

***Written Messages from Heads of States/Governments***

13. Written Messages from Heads of State/Government of Member Countries were distributed to the delegates pursuant to the Resolution No. 19 WC-GA/0/98/06 on the Hosting of AIPO General Assemblies,

**Heads of State/Government**

H.E. Norodom Sihanouk

H.E. Megawati Soekamo Purti

H.E. Khamtay Siphandon

**Member Countries**

Cambodia

Indonesia

Lao PDR

H.E. Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad	Malaysia
H.E. Gloria Macapagal - Arroyo	The Philippines
H.E. S.R. Nathan	Singapore
H.E. Thaksin Shinawatra	Thailand
H.M. Sultan Haji Hassanah Bolkuah Muizzaddin Waddaulah	Brunei Darussalam
H.E. Than Swe	Myanmar

14. The texts of the Written Messages are attached as **Annex H**.

### **FIRST PLENARY SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

15. First Plenary Session of the General Assembly was held on 9 September 2002 at 10:30 a.m. It was presided over by H.E. Nguyen Van An, President of AIPO.

#### *Nomination of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly*

16. Pursuant to Article 6 of the Statutes of AIPO, the General Assembly nominated the following as Vice-Presidents: Cambodia H.R.H Samdech Krom Preah Norodom Ranariddh; Indonesia H.E. Akbar Tandjung; Lao People's Democratic Republic H.E. Samane Vignaket; Malaysia H.E. Tan Sri Datuk Sen Amar Dr. Haji Sulaiman Daud; the Philippines H.E. Jose de Venecia, Jr.; Singapore H.E. Abdullah Tarmugi; Thailand H.E. Uthai Pimchaichon.

#### *Statements by Leader's of Delegations and Guests of Honour*

17. The Leader of Delegations of the Member Countries, Special Observer Countries and Observer Countries and Guests of Honour made their respective statements.

<b><u>Leader of Delegation</u></b>	<b><u>Countries</u></b>
H.R.H Samdech Krom Preah Norodom Ranariddh	Cambodia
H.E. Akbar Tandjung	Indonesia
H.E. Samane Vignaket	Lao PDR
H.E. Tan Sri Datuk Sen Amar Dr. Haji Sulaiman Daud	Malaysia
H.E. Jose de Venecia, Jr.	The Philippines
H.E. Abdullah Tarmugi	Singapore
H.E. Uthai Pimchaichon	Thailand

H.E. Truong Quang Duoc	Viet Nam
H.E. Pengiran Anak Haji Kemaludin Pengiran Anak Haji Mohd Yassin	Brunei Darussalam
H.E. U Aung Toe	Myanmar
H.E. Ian Causley	Australia
Hon. Bryon Wilfert	Canada
Hon. Li Dao Yin	P.R China
Hon. Nassauer Hartmut	European Parliament
Hon. Senator Kojo Morimoto	Japan
Hon. Yu Jae Kyu	R. Korea
Hon. Richard Worth	New Zealand
H.E. Chilingarov Artur Nikolaevich	Russian Federation

**Guests of Honour**

Hon. Dato' Ahmad Mokhtar Selat ASEAN Secretariat

18. The texts of the Statements by Leaders of Delegations of Member Countries, Special Observers Countries, Observer Countries and Guests of Honour are attached as **Annex I**.

***Adoption of Items in Order of Business***

19. The General Assembly considered and adopted the following items in the Order of Business;
- Program of Activities for Delegates;
  - Draft Agenda Items for the 23<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly;
  - Draft Agenda Items for Dialogue with Observers;
  - Organization and Membership of Committees;

Draft Resolution on Criteria and Guidelines for "AIPO Distinguished Service Award". This draft was unanimously adopted by the General Assembly as an instrument to the presentation of the "AIPO Distinguished Service Award" to four Mr. AIPO;

***Presentation Speech by President of AIPO, H.E. Nguyen Van An at the Ceremony to present AIPO Distinguished Service Awards***

20. The text of his speech is attached as **Annex T**.

### ***Presentation of Awards***

21. The AIPO Distinguished Service Award was presented by H.E. Nguyen Van An, President of AIPO separately to each of Mr. AIPO:
  - Hon. Prof. Prasop Ratanakorn (Thailand);
  - Hon. M. Kharis Suhud (Indonesia);
  - Dr. Robert Dennis Garcia for Hon. Manuel M. Garcia (the Philippines);
  - Mr. Prashard Pathnamaban for the late Hon. Dato K. Pathmanaban, (Malaysia)

### ***Address by Prof. Prasop Ratanakorn on behalf of the Awardees***

22. The text of the Response Address is attached as **Annex T**.

### ***The 25<sup>th</sup> AIPO Anniversary Celebration***

23. On the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Founding of AIPO, a Ceremony to commemorate the event was organized on the 9th September 2002, by the National Assembly of Viet Nam.
24. After reviewing the history of existence and development of AIPO over the past 25 years, H. E. Mr. Nguyen Van An, President of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, President of AIPO, stated that so far, AIPO had grown to embrace eight Member Parliaments and two Special Observers, realizing the aspirations of South East Asian Nations for a full participation of legislatures and Legal Consultative Councils of all ten ASEAN Members. He stated that in the addition, AIPO had dialogue partnership with 10 Observer Parliaments from Asia, Asia-Pacific and Europe, which shared the same wish for cooperation despite geographical distance. He noted that this clearly demonstrated the unceasing growth of our Organization and its ability to undertake more challenging tasks in its activities and that over the past 25 years, Parliamentarians of AIPO Members had made tireless efforts to contribute to the development of AIPO.
25. He emphasized the belief in a brighter future of South East Asia, and a growing worthy position of AIPO in the region and the world at large.
26. The text of the Speech is attached as **Annex U**.

### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

27. The Committees on Political Matters, Economic Matters, Socials Matters, Organizational Matters and Women Parliamentarians of AIPO (WAIPO) met on 10 September 2002 at 08:30 a.m. The Committee on Dialogue with Observers met on 10 September 2002 at 01:30 p.m. and 03:30 p.m. The Committees and WAIPO considered the Agenda assigned

to them by the General Assembly. The Committee on Joint Communiqué met on 10 September 2002 at 03:30 p.m. and continue at 09:00 a.m. 11 September 2002 to draft the Joint Communiqué of the 23<sup>rd</sup> AIPO General Assembly.

### ***Committees on Political Matters***

28. The Committee on Political Matters was chaired by Hon. Ton Nu Thi Ninh (Mrs.) with Hon. Do Ngoc Quang as Rapporteur.
29. The Committee approved six (6) resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly;
  - Resolution No. 23GA/2002/Pol/01 on Strengthening of the Regional Integration through Increasing Co-ordination and Co-operation between Inter-parliamentary and Inter-governmental Mechanism in the region;
  - Resolution No. 23GA/2002/Pol/02 on The Importance of the United Nations' Charter in the Maintenance of World Peace: Situation relating to Iraq;
  - Resolution No. 23GA/2002/Pol/03 on The Expansion and Deepening of ASEAN+3 Co-operation;
  - Resolution No. 23GA/2002/Pol/04 on The Report of the 35<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Ministerial Meeting in July 2002, Brunei Darussalam;
  - Resolution No. 23GA/2002/Pol/05 on Peace and Security in the region;
  - Resolution No. 23GA/2002/Pol/06 on ASEAN Co-operation to Combat the Transnational Region.

### ***Committee on Economic Matters***

30. The Committee on Economic Matters was chaired by Hon. Vu Tien Loc with Hon. Mai Anh as Rapporteur.
31. The Committee approved five (5) draft resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly.
  - Resolution No. 23GA/2002/Eco/01 on AFTA Implementation Roadmap;
  - Resolution No. 23GA/2002/Eco/02 on Narrowing the Development Gap among ASEAN Member Countries;
  - Resolution No. 23GA/2002/Eco/03 on Co-operation in ICT and ECommerce among ASEAN Member Countries;
  - Resolution No. 23GA/2002/Eco/04 on Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development;
  - Resolution No. 23GA/2002/Eco/05 on Economic Matters.

### ***Committee on Social Matters***

32. The Committee on Social Matters was chaired by Hon. Prof. Dr. Le Quang Minh with Hon. Prof. Dang Duc Trach as Rapporteur.
33. The Committee approved eight (8) draft resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly.
  - Resolution No.23GA/2002/Soc/01 on Co-operation and Experience Sharing in Poverty reduction or Eradication Policies;
  - Resolution No.23GA/2002/Soc/02 on Establishment of an ASEAN Anti-Poverty Bank;
  - Resolution No.23GA/2002/Soc/03 on Human Resource Development;
  - Resolution No.23GA/2002/Soc/04 on The Expansion of ASEAN Network of University;
  - Resolution No.23GA/2002/Soc/05 on Co-operation in Production and Distribution of Drug for AIDS Treatment;
  - Resolution No.23GA/2002/Soc/06 on The Preservation of ASEAN Cultural Identity;
  - Resolution No.23GA/2002/Soc/07 on The Terms of Reference of AIPO Fact-Finding Committee (AIFOCOM) to Combat the Drug Menace;
  - Resolution No.23GA/2002/Soc/08 on The Establishment of a Dialogue with Drug-Fighting Agencies.

### ***Committee on Organizational Matters***

34. The Committee on Organizational Matters was chaired by Hon. Ngo Anh Dzumg with Hon. Le Thi Tuong Van (Mrs.) as Rapporteur.
35. The Committee approved eleven (11) draft resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly.
  - Resolution No.23GA/2002/Org/01 on Report of the Secretary General for FY 2002-2003;
  - Resolution No.23GA/2002/Org/02 on Financial Report of the AIPO Secretariat for the period 1 Jul 2001 to 30 Sep 2001; 1 Oct 2000 to 30 Sep 2001 and 1 Oct 2001 to 30 Jul 2002;
  - Resolution No.23GA/2002/Org/03 on Budget Proposal for the AIPO Secretariat for the period 01 Oct 2002 to 30 Sep 2003 (FY 2002/2003);

- Resolution No.23GA/2002/Org/04 on Expansion of Gratitude to the Government of Brunei Darussalam for its Donation of US\$ 10,000.00 to AIPO in 2002;
- Resolution No.23GA/2002/Org/05 on Appreciation of the Service of His Excellency Nguyen Van An, President of AIPO;
- Resolution No.23GA/2002/Org/06 on Appreciation of the Service of Honourable Vu Mao, Secretary General of AIPO;
- Resolution No.23GA/2002/Org/07 on Date and Venue of the 24 - AJPO General;
- Resolution No.23GA/2002/Org/08 on The Use of AIPO Surplus Funds;
- Resolution No.23GA/2002/Org/09 on Criteria and Guidelines for “AIPO Distinguished Service Award”;
- Resolution No.23GA/2002/Org/10 on Monitoring the Implementation of the AIPO Resolutions;
- Resolution No.23GA/2002/Org/11 on The 25<sup>th</sup> AIPO Anniversary Celebration.

***Committee on Dialogue with Observer Countries***

36. The Committee on Dialogue with Observer Countries was chaired by Hon. Dang Vu Minh with Hon. Nguyen Sang Vang as Rapporteur.
37. This Committee considered the topics for discussion with Observer Countries. Eight dialogue panels were formed and met in separate meetings with Observer Countries. Each panel was given a free hand in selecting items in the agenda approved by the General Assembly at its First Plenary Session.
38. The eight (8) AIPO panels were each chaired by delegates from Viet Nam.

<b><u>Chairperson</u></b>	<b><u>Panel for Dialogue with</u></b>
1. Hon. Nguyen Thi Kim Thoa (Mrs.)	Australia
2. Hon. Le Thi Tuong Van (Mrs.)	Canada
3. Hon. Mai Anh	People's Republic of China
4. Hon. Nguyen Ngoc Tran	European Parliament
5. Hon. Nghiem Vu Khai	Japan
6. Hon. Dang Vu Minh	Republic of Korea
7. Hon. Dang Duc Trach	New Zealand

***Meeting of Women Parliamentarians of AIPO (WAIPO)***

39. The meeting of Women Parliamentarians of AIPO (WAIPO) was chaired by Hon. Nguyen Thi Kim Thoa (Mrs.) with Hon. Tran Thi Mai Phuong (Mrs.) as Rapporteur.
40. The Committee approved three (3) draft resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly.
  - Resolution No.23GA/2002/Waipo/01 on Woman Participation in ASEAN's Political Affairs and in the Development Process, Enhancement of Women Parliamentarians' Capacity – Implementation Strategies;
  - Resolution No.23GA/2002/Org/02 on Promoting Gender Equality and Combating Domestic Violence Against Women;
  - Resolution No.23GA/2002/Org/03 on The Roles of Women in Conflict Resolution at the Community, National and Regional Levels.

***Committee on Joint Communiqué***

41. The Committee on Joint Communiqué was chaired by Hon. Ton Nu Thi Ninh (Mrs.) with Hon. Le Quang Minh as Rapporteur.
42. The Committee drafted the joint Communiqué of the 23<sup>rd</sup> AIPO General Assembly and submitted the same for approval by the General Assembly.

**SECOND PLENARY SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

43. The Second Plenary Session of the 23rd General Assembly was held on 11 September 2002 at 02:00 p.m. and was presided over by H.E. Nguyen Van An, President of AIPO.

***Presentation of Reports of the Committees and Meeting of WAIPO***

44. The Chairpersons of the Committees on Political Matters, Economic Matters, Social Matters, Organizational Matters, Dialogue with Observer Countries, WAIPO and Joint Communiqué presented their respective reports. The reports were approved by the General Assembly.
45. The Reports of the Committees are attached as **Annexes J, K, L, M, N and O**.

*Date and Venue of the 24<sup>th</sup> AIPO General Assembly*

46. It was agreed that the 24<sup>th</sup> AIPO General Assembly would be held in Indonesia from 7-12 September 2003.

*Signing the Joint Communiqué*

47. The Joint Communiqué signed by H.E. Nguyen Van An, President of AIPO and the Leaders of Delegations of the AIPO Member Countries.
48. The Joint Communiqué is attached as **Annex P**.

*Closing Remarks of H.E. Nguyen Van An, President of AIPO*

49. H.E. Nguyen Van An, President of AIPO delivered his closing remarks.
50. The text of the Closing Remarks is attached as **Annex Q**.

*Transfer of Offices of President and Secretary General of AIPO*

51. H.E. Nguyen Van An, outgoing President of AIPO handed over the AIPO Gavel to the incoming President of AIPO, H.E. Akbar Tandjung, Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia. Similarly, Hon. Vu Mao, outgoing Secretary General of AIPO, handed over the office of the Secretary General to Mrs. Sitti Nurhajati Daud.
52. The Instruments of Transfer of Offices of the President and Secretary General of AIPO are attached as **Annex S**.

*Acceptance Speech by H.E. Akbar Tandjung*

53. Acceptance Speech by H.E. Akbar Tandjung, Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia delivered his acceptance speech as President of AIPO 24.
54. The text of the Acceptance Speech is attached as **Annex R**.
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