



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Delegation for relations with the countries of Southeast Asia and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

**33RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
(AIPA)**

17-21 SEPTEMBER 2012

Lombok, Indonesia

Feedback note

Mr Robert Goebbels

The European Parliament has observer status at the ASEAN Inter-parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) and has participated regularly at its meetings. Over the years, AIPA has become a more visible and assertive parliamentary dimension in ASEAN, and the European Parliament has consistently supported this trend. The 2012 AIPA meeting took place in Lombok on 17-20 September and was hosted by the Parliament of Indonesia. The European Parliament was represented by Mr Robert Goebbels. It is customary for the European Parliament to be represented at AIPA by the Bureau of the Delegation for Relations with ASEAN, or by a member thereof.

The structure and format of AIPA meetings normally follow a similar pattern. The main events are the plenary meeting, with opening statements by leaders of member parliaments and observer parliaments, meetings of the committees that will then report to plenary, and the bilateral dialogue meetings with observer parliaments. The latter is among the most useful meetings in our relations with ASEAN. This meeting is attended by a member of each of the ASEAN parliaments and provides a unique platform for discussing bilateral and regional issues. The meeting was chaired by a member of the hosting Indonesian parliament, who then also reported to plenary.

Some times, the plenary meeting has been a more ceremonial event, but not so this time. More and more, AIPA delegations use this platform for conveying important political messages that go beyond the celebration of ASEAN and AIPA cooperation. This is a very important trend, and the European Parliament has always supported a more vocal and assertive AIPA, with a view to establishing a strong parliamentary dimension in ASEAN that provides parliamentary scrutiny and guidance.

It is not often the case that ASEAN and AIPA show divergences of opinion. The 45th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting which took place on 8-13 July 2012 in Phnom Penh set an important milestone in EU-ASEAN relations, not only because the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Catherine Ashton participated at the subsequent post-ministerial meeting, but most importantly because the accession of the European Union to ASEAN's Treaty of Amity and Cooperation was signed on that occasion. This is an important step in further strengthening relations between the EU and ASEAN, but also a pre-condition for making progress towards membership of the EU at the East Asian Summit meeting. The European Parliament's Delegation for Relations with ASEAN has regularly called for the participation of the EU at this regional instrument, following the accession of the United States and the Russian Federation.

In this context, it should also be mentioned that the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting in Phnom Penh was preceded by another important development in EU-ASEAN relations, namely the adoption of the Bandar Seri Begawan Plan of Action to strengthen the EU-ASEAN enhanced partnership (2013-2017). The plan of action envisages a wide range of cooperation areas, such as enhancing political dialogue, promoting regional integration in ASEAN, support ASEAN's centrality in the regional architecture, contributing to regional stability, maritime security, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, continued support for the implementation of the ASEAN Economic Blueprint, which will establish an ASEAN Economic Community by 2015, encourage the European Investment Bank to invest in ASEAN Member States, and reaffirm the ultimate goal of

a regional EU-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement, following the current bilateral FTA negotiations between the EU and Singapore, Malaysia and Vietnam.

Despite all these important developments, the Phnom Penh Ministerial of July 2012 gained international notoriety for the "failure" of adopting a joint statement due to the issue of the South China Sea. Given the spirit of cooperation, consensus and non-interference in internal affairs that has always characterised ASEAN decision-making, it was not surprising that most analysts described it as "failure". However, another way of looking at this is possible. ASEAN is making very considerable progress in its integration process, its decision-making is maturing, and so is the way ASEAN Member States interact.

As could have been expected, the South China Sea issue was also one of the most important issues at the AIPA meeting in Lombok. A number of AIPA delegations requested that the matter be discussed at this AIPA meeting and referred to in the joint communiqué. Others, mainly the delegation of the Cambodian parliament (Cambodia currently holds the rotating chairmanship of ASEAN and therefore hosted the Phnom Penh Ministerial), and the Chinese delegation, which also has observer status at AIPA, insisted that the South China Sea issue should not be discussed at this regional body. Indeed, the Chinese delegation underlined that the various territorial disputes were to be dealt with bilaterally. The European delegation made it clear that it would not take any side as regards the territorial disputes, but called upon all parties to find a diplomatic solution. Indeed, the European Parliament delegate also expressed the view that AIPA and ASEAN as a whole have all legitimacy as regional bodies to raise the matter. At the end, however, it was agreed not to discuss the question, in order to avoid further tensions.

EU-ASEAN relations have reached a high cruising speed. Partnership and Cooperation Agreements (PCA) have been signed with the Philippines, Indonesia, Vietnam and are under negotiation with Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand. Bilateral Free Trade Agreements are currently under negotiation with Singapore, Malaysia and Vietnam, and some ASEAN partners are considering this option, such as Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines. As these instruments would be submitted to parliamentary scrutiny, AIPA delegations used the opportunity to exchange information on the state of deliberations. The European Parliament delegate explained that the European Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee had begun the process of scrutiny as regards the various PCAs and that the European Parliament's International Trade Committee was in the process of monitoring the various FTA negotiations. Both, the PCAs and the FTAs would have to be submitted for approval to the European Parliament's plenary.

Lombok also provided the opportunity to examine the state of affairs in EU-ASEAN cooperation. Bilateral EU cooperation programmes are significant. A total amount of EUR 1.3 billion have been earmarked for individual ASEAN Member States during the period 2007-2013. Besides that, the EU supports ASEAN regional integration as such with a number of projects on economic partnership, protection of intellectual property rights, the ASEAN Air Transport Integration Project, the ASEAN Statistical Capacity Building Programme and Migration and Border Management. Up to EUR 70 million have been earmarked for these regional projects.

As indicated above, an important part of the usual programme is the bilateral dialogue between AIPA and the observer parliaments. The AIPA delegation is composed by one or several

parliamentarians from every AIPA member parliament and the meeting is chaired by a member of the hosting parliament. This meeting offers the opportunity of reviewing the state of affairs in EU-ASEAN relations from a regional perspective, but also bilateral issues between the EU and ASEAN Member States. Besides the state of negotiations on various PCAs and FTAs, AIPA parliamentarians were most interested in hearing about the state of affairs as regards the sovereign debt crisis in Europe. The European delegate updated AIPA interlocutors on the catalogue of measures that had been adopted and or were in the process of being so, and about the role of the European Parliament therein. In general, the message conveyed was one of trust in the European common currency and in the capacity of the EU to adopt all the necessary measures. Most member states of ASEAN have export-driven economies, and some have already been affected by the global slowdown and, more in particular, by fewer orders from Europe. So far, the ASEAN region has been remarkably resilient, but a contagion is not excluded. It was noted that under current circumstances, it is all the more important to conclude negotiations on the Free Trade Agreements, currently under negotiation with Singapore, Malaysia and Vietnam. The European delegation also reminded in that context that a wider region-to-region EU-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement remains a mid-term objective.

Some AIPA delegations also requested the European Parliament to provide parliamentary capacity building, and the possibility for parliamentarians and staff of their respective assemblies to visit the European Parliament on a study tour. The European delegate underlined that the European Parliament very much supports all measures aimed at strengthening parliaments at national level and AIPA at regional level in ASEAN and that a number of initiatives had been either envisaged or had already taken place.

To conclude, and in line with the above and the main official theme of AIPA 2012, namely *"Strengthening the Parliamentary Roles towards the ASEAN Community 2015"*, it was proposed to organise an AIPA-EP meeting in either Brussels or Strasbourg, to complement the regular bilateral inter-parliamentary meetings that already take place.

The next meeting of AIPA is scheduled to take place in September 2013 in Brunei Darussalam.

Robert GOEBBELS

Enclosed:

Annex 1: Statement by Mr Goebbels on behalf of the European Parliament delegation

Annex 2: Report of the General Assembly as prepared by the AIPA secretariat

Annex 3: AIPA Joint Communiqué



ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

**33rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
16-22 SEPTEMBER 2012, LOMBOK, INDONESIA**

**STATEMENT BY HON. MR. ROBERT GOEBBELS
DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

*Honorable Mr. Speaker
Your Excellencies
Ladies and Gentlemen*

I have the pleasure of conveying the sincere greetings and best wishes of the European Parliament to the members of Parliament from the ASEAN countries. In particular, the heartfelt greetings from the President of the European Parliament, Mr. Martin Schulz.

We take our privilege as observers in AIPA very seriously. The European Parliament, and the European Union in general, have consistently supported the integration process in ASEAN, and in that context, a strong parliamentary dimension. The regular participation of the European Parliament at this important gathering reflects our consistent support and we are grateful for the opportunity of being here.

This year's main theme is one that the European Parliament has been promoting for many years. We have always believed that a strong ASEAN, which is in our interest, needs a strong parliamentary dimension. ASEAN has given itself a very ambitious agenda. ASEAN has

proclaimed its wish to be a people-oriented organization, but the reality is that it remains government-driven.

Regional cooperation and integration cannot be successful without a strong parliamentary dimension, which provides parliamentary oversight, political support and guidance. This is a s true for Europe as it is for ASEAN.

In the beginning, the role of the European Parliament was not very strong. However, we developed from consultative assembly to a true co-legislator today. To illustrate that, about 70% of legislation that affects European citizens today is adopted in Brussels, by the Council and the Parliament. But equally important to legislation is accountability. The more progress ASEAN makes, the more necessary it will become to establish appropriate parliamentary scrutiny.

The European Parliament will be on your side to support that unavoidable trend to a stronger parliamentary dimension in ASEAN. THE European Parliament welcomes the accession of the European Union to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in July 2012. I am pleased to announce that the European Parliament very much supported this important milestone in the relations between ASEAN and the- EU and paved the way for its signature by the High Representatives Catherine Ashton in Phnom Penh. This is also an important step towards achieving Membership of the EU at the East Asia Summit where Russia and the US are already present. We hope that ASEAN leaders will support us in this objective.

The European Parliament welcomes the adoption of the BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN Plan of Action to strengthen the ASEAN-EU enhanced partnership (2013-2017), which will serve as a vehicle to further develop. EU-ASEAN relations, improve the presence and visibility of Europe in this increasingly important world region, and support ASEAN's integration process. In this context, the EU will continue to support ASEAN's centrality in the regional architecture, help to enhance the role of the ASEAN Region Forum as the primary platform for regional political security dialogue, and not least contribute in the areas of maritime security, disaster relief and humanitarian assistance.

The European Parliament is pleased that the European Union has been able to make a contribution to peace and stability in the region, such as our involvement in the peace process in Aceh, the reconstruction work in Aceh following the disastrous tsunami. We are now making contribution, however modest, to the conflict resolution activities in Mindanao and Southern Thailand.

We have been following developments on the South China Sea issue with great interest, and not without a certain amount of concern. Our position is clear: without taking any side in the territorial disputes, we encourage all parties involved to find a peaceful and diplomatic solution and to make progress on the code of conduct.

There has been a lot of media attention on the failure of the Phnom Penh meeting to adopt a Final Declaration, and many observers spoke of an increasing rift among different interest in ASEAN. However, there is another way of looking at this. ASEAN has always been a very diverse region, and reaching consensus on all issues is not always possible. Maybe, this situation rather reflects a further maturing of ASEAN mechanics, as you move to establishing an ASEAN Community by 2015.

The bilateral relations between the EU and the individual ASEAN Members have never been as dynamic as they are now. We have signed Partnership and Cooperation Agreements last July with the Philippines and Vietnam, concluded negotiations with Indonesia, and are in the process of negotiating further ones with Malaysia, Thailand and Singapore.

We are also in the process of negotiating Free Trade Agreements with Singapore, Malaysia and Vietnam. A number of ASEAN partners may also decide in the close future to also launch negotiations with us, once the ongoing scoping exercises are concluded and your relevant parliaments have approved the negotiating mandates. Of course, the long-term goal remains a Free Trade Area that comprises the entire ASEAN region.

Under the terms of the Lisbon Treaty, Free trade Agreements concluded by the European Union have to be approved now by the European Parliament. This is an important step forward in

strengthening the parliamentary dimension at European level. The first such FTA was endorsed one year ago with South Korea. It is likely that we will vote soon on the first FTA with an ASEAN partner, most probably with Singapore.

As you know, the protection of human rights is a high priority in the work of the European Parliament. We have been encouraged with the establishment of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights a couple years ago, and we have had the opportunity of meeting your representatives and learn about their work.

An important next step is now forthcoming with the adoption of an ASEAN Declaration of Human Rights. The drafting process, we hear, has not been free of criticism by civil society, due to lack of consultation. We also hear that the draft is now ready, but will not be published before next summit. This is a decision for ASEAN leaders to take. Having said that, let me express our invitation to take a more ambitious and pro-active stance towards the protection of human rights. The principle of non-interference in internal affairs should not hinder ASEAN in making further progress.

We have been most encouraged by the positive developments in the last couple of years in the country that is the newest Member of ASEP, Myanmar. The pace of transition towards democracy has been remarkable, and we are aware that ASEAN's policy of constructive engagement has contributed considerably. The European Parliament visited Myanmar last February. In a resolution the European parliament asked the European Union, following the positive result of the by-elections, to suspend existing sanctions. This was done last April. We hope that the process of transition will be an irreversible one.

We wish ASEAN all success with its ambitious objectives, including the creation of a single market by the 2015. We in Europe have gathered experience in regional integration. There is a lot of potential for both sides to exchange our experience and best practices.

We are important partners for each other. On the one hand, the EU has the biggest single economic market with no internal border and some 500 million consumers. On the other hand,

ASEAN is an economic area with almost 600 million inhabitants which has set itself the goal of introducing a single market by 2015 – an economic area of ever increasing importance for the European Union.

Let me conclude by thanking our Indonesia hosts for their gracious hospitality and for organizing this very important meeting in such and efficient manner. I wish the 33rd AIPA General Assembly every success!

ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

33RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

16 – 22 SEPTEMBER 2012, LOMBOK, INDONESIA

REPORT OF THE 33RD AIPA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

I. INTRODUCTION

The 33rd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) was held from 16 – 22 September 2012 at the Santosa Villas & Resort, Lombok, Indonesia.

II. DELEGATIONS

The 33rd AIPA General Assembly was attended by delegations from AIPA Member Countries: **Brunei Darussalam** led by H.E. Mr. Pehin Dato Haji Isa Ibrahim, Speaker of the Legislative Council, **Kingdom of Cambodia** led by H.E. Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin, President of the National Assembly; **Republic of Indonesia** led by Hon. Mr. Priyo Budi Santoso, Vice Speaker of the House of Representatives; **Lao People's Democratic Republic** led by H.E. Mme. Pany Yathotou, President of the National Assembly; **Malaysia** led by H.E. Tan Sri Datuk Seri Panglima Pandikar Amin Hj Mulia, Speaker of the House of Representatives; **Myanmar** led by Hon. Mr. Nyunt Tin, Chairman of the Committee of the ASEAN Political-Security Community Committee, Amyotha Hluttaw; **Republic of the Philippines** led by Hon. Mr. Victor F. Ortega, Chairman for the Inter Parliamentary Relations and Diplomacy; **Republic of Singapore** led by H.E. Mr. Michael Anthony Palmer, Speaker of the Parliament; **Thailand** led by H.E. Mr. Somsak Kiatsuranont, President of the Thai National Legislative Assembly; and the **Socialist Republic of Viet Nam** led by H.E. Ms. Tong Thi Phong, Vice President of the National Assembly.

The 33rd AIPA General Assembly was also attended by Observer Delegations from **Australia** led by Senator Lisa Singh; **Belarus** led by Hon. Mr. Viktor Guminsky; **Canada** led by Hon. Donald Neil Plett; **People's Republic of China** led by Hon. Mr. Zha Peixin; **European Union Parliament** led by Hon. Mr. Robert Goebbels; **India** led by Hon. Mr. Mohammad Asrarul Haque; **Japan** led by Hon. Mr. Nataniya Masayoshi; **Republic of Korea** led by Hon. Choung Byoung-gug; and **Russian Federation** led by H.E. Mr. Iliyas Umakhanov.

Representatives from **ASEAN Secretary General**, Mr. Bagas Hapsoro; **Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)**, Hon. Mr. Nhem Thavy; **ASEAN Supreme Audit Institution (ASEAN SAI)**, Mr. Hasan Bisri; **Timor Leste**, H.E. Mr. Vicente Guterres; **Pan African Parliament (PAP)**, Hon. Ms. Juliana Katengwa; **Indonesian House of Regional Representatives (DPD RI)**, Hon. Mr. La Ode Ida and Mr. Manop Lauprasert from **ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (WEN)/Freeland/ARREST** attended the assembly as Guests of the Host.

The list of delegates from AIPA Member Countries, Observer Countries and Guests of the Host is attached as **Annex A**.

III. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Executive Committee, comprising the Leaders of Delegations and two delegates from each AIPA Member Delegation met on 18 September 2012 at 08.00 a.m. The meeting presided by H.E. Dr. Marzuki Alie, President of the 33rd General Assembly of AIPA.

The Executive Committee discussed the agenda items for the 33rd General Assembly of AIPA, and agreed to change the topic on Solution to South China Sea Problem to the item entitled Maintaining Peace and Stability in the Region, to enable AIPA to take on broader role to persuade respective executive bodies to pursuit peaceful and meaningful resolutions.

The Report of the Executive Committee Meeting is attached as **Annex G**.

IV. CALL ON H.E. Dr. MARZUKI ALIE, PRESIDENT OF AIPA AND SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA.

On 18 September 2012, at 08.00 a.m. and at 04.30 p.m., the Leaders of Delegations of the Member Countries, Observer Countries and Guests of the Host, respectively, paid a courtesy call on H.E. Dr. Marzuki Alie, President of AIPA and Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia.

V. WRITTEN MESSAGE FROM HEADS OF STATE/GOVERNMENT

Written messages from the Heads of State/Government of AIPA Member Countries were submitted to be included in this report. The texts of the Messages are attached as **Annex K**.

VI. OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 33rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AIPA

Speech by H.E. Dr. Marzuki Alie, President of AIPA/Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia

The opening Ceremony of the 33rd General Assembly of AIPA was held on 18 September 2012, commencing at 07.00 p.m. in the Governor Office Hall, Mataram, Lombok, West Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia. H.E. Dr. Marzuki Alie, President of AIPA and Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia presided the General Assembly.

In his Welcome Speech, the Speaker of the Indonesian House of Representatives, H.E. Dr. Marzuki Alie, briefly mentioned that the 33rd AIPA General Assembly is convened under the above theme to signify the vital role of the legislatures in the transformation of ASEAN towards the integration of ASEAN through the establishment of ASEAN Community in 2015.

He noted that it is important for AIPA to understand its position and influential role in the transformation of ASEAN. Therefore, AIPA has always been and will always adapt itself to the development of ASEAN in the forty-five years of its establishment. Consistency of the cooperation between ASEAN and AIPA is one of the aspects that also determine the success of various activities and efforts done by AIPA since the existence of AIPA is directly linked with the goals and existence of ASEAN, especially when it comes to the issues that directly impact the people in the region.

As the current President of AIPA, he shared the concerns of his predecessors on the need to contemplate on how to implement the main resolutions that we produced, especially the ones that are directly linked with the transformation of ASEAN. We need to build an appropriate mechanism so that all the resolutions can be well implemented in both AIPA and ASEAN systems.

The full text of the Speech is attached as **Annex H**.

Speech by H. E. Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Chairman of ASEAN/Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia

In his speech as the Chairman of ASEAN, H.E. Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, extended his gratitude to H.E. Dr. H. Marzuki Alie for the invitation to this important General Assembly and expressed his appreciation of the organization of the 33rd General Assembly of AIPA. The Meeting coincided with the 45th Anniversary of ASEAN and conveyed ASEAN's ongoing efforts toward building the ASEAN Community by 2015.

He mentioned that despite the aforementioned great achievements, ASEAN still continues to face many challenges globally and regionally. Global challenges include, among others, fragile economic recovery of developed countries coupled with prolonged crisis in Europe, ongoing social and political turmoil in the Middle East and North Africa,

high oil prices, food and energy security, climate change, natural disasters, terrorism and international crime.

In addition to providing necessary supports for ASEAN, as the legislative institution representing the people, AIPA can also effectively convey the message to our people about what ASEAN has done for the benefit of our nations so as to inspire the spirit of “We Belonging to ASEAN”

The full text of the Speech is attached as **Annex I**.

Opening Address by H.E. Prof. Dr. Boediono, Vice-President of the Republic of Indonesia

In his opening address, the Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia, H.E. Prof. Dr. Boediono, welcomed honorable delegates and distinguished guests. The Vice President highlighted the important role of AIPA as the frontline institution to strengthen the position of ASEAN as people oriented organization. Parliamentarians, as representatives of their constituent, could disseminate the ASEAN vision, mission and development to their constituent in order to solidify the integration of ASEAN.

He noted the support extended by AIPA toward the realization of *Drug Free ASEAN* 2015. It is expected that AIPA could implement the resolutions of AIPA Fact Finding Committee to Combat the Drugs Menace in Yogyakarta in July 2012.

He pointed out that the key to achieve the common goals of ASEAN is synergy between different components within ASEAN. It is expected that AIPA-ASEAN relationship and cooperation will be further developed as reflected through annual meeting between Head of AIPA Member States and ASEAN Leaders during ASEAN Summit. The strong commitment of AIPA and ASEAN has been shown through inter-alia the attendance of ASEAN Chair H.E. Samdech Hun Sen in the 33rd General Assembly of AIPA.

The Vice President declared the Assembly opened and extending his expectation that the results achieved in the AIPA could be conveyed regularly to the Chairman and leaders of ASEAN to ensure that the results receive the attention of all ASEAN’s stakeholders.

The full text of the Address is attached as **Annex J**.

VII. FIRST PLENARY SESSION

The First Plenary Session of the 33rd General Assembly of AIPA was held on 21 September 2012 at 09.00 a.m. It was presided by H.E. Dr. Marzuki Alie, President of AIPA and Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia.

Nomination of the Vice-President of the General Assembly

Pursuant to Article 8 of the Statutes of AIPA, the Heads of Delegations of AIPA Member Parliaments are appointed as Vice-Presidents of the 33rd General Assembly of AIPA.

Statements by Leaders of Delegations

The Leaders of Delegation of AIPA Member Parliaments, Observer Countries and Guests of the Host made their respective statements.

The texts of the Statements by Leaders of AIPA Member Delegations, Observer Delegations and Guests of the Host are attached as **Annexes L and M**.

Adoption of Items in the Order of Business

The General Assembly considered and adopted the following items in the Order of Business:

- Programme of Activities of the 33rd General Assembly;
- Agenda Items for the 33rd General Assembly;
- Topics for Dialogue with Observers;
- Composition of Committees and Dialogue with Observer Countries.

VIII. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The respective Standing Committees on Political Matters, Economic Matters, Social Matters, and Organizational Matters met on 19 September 2012 at 09.00 a.m. The Committees considered the agenda assigned by the General Assembly. The Committee on Joint Communiqué met on 19 September 2012 at 06.30 p.m. and discussed the draft of the Joint Communiqué of the 33rd AIPA General Assembly.

Committee on Political Matters

The Committee on Political Matters was chaired by Hon. Mr. Hayono Isman as Chairperson and Hon. Dr. Susaningtyas Nefo Handayani Kertopati as Rapporteur.

The Committee discussed and approved three draft resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly:

- **Encouraging ASEAN Member States to Actively Enhance Public Awareness and Promote Greater People Participation Including Civil Society in ASEAN Community Building.**

The main objective of this draft session was based on the common goal and target set by members of delegations from each respective countries. The main focus is to create involvement of greater civil society in ASEAN's effort to

establish ASEAN Community by 2015. Leveraging on the common goal of One ASEAN, One Community.

- **Maintaining Peace and Stability in the Region.**

The meeting has unanimously adopted the Resolution on Maintaining Peace and Stability. The discussion was conducted in a dynamic atmosphere to seek a consensus in line with the spirit of ASEAN Way. The resolution focuses on the commitment and its moral authority as well as the obligation of AIPA Member Parliaments to provide inputs and suggestions to ASEAN in its efforts to maintain peace and stability in the region. Mindful that the creation of more conducive atmosphere is critical in addressing challenges which require concerted and coordinated responses, the AIPA call upon all its member parliaments to take part in the promotion of peace and stability in the region based on the agreed basic principles in ASEAN and with respect to the universally recognized international laws as well as the applicable domestic laws.

- **The adoption of the Report of the 20th ASEAN Summit**

The Committee Meeting agreed to adopt the Report of the 20th ASEAN Summit held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. All delegation support to the idea of adopting the Report of the 20th ASEAN Summit as submitted by the Cambodian Delegation.

The report and resolutions of the Committee on Political Matters are attached as **Annex O**.

Committee on Economic Matters

The Committee on Economic Matters was chaired by Hon. Mr. Helmi Fauzy as Chairperson and Hon. Mr. Emil Abeng as Rapporteur.

The Committee discussed and approved four draft resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly:

- **Regional Efforts & Cooperation against Money Laundering**

The draft resolution focuses on the need for collective response against money laundering practices. The parliamentarians from AIPA Member highlighted the fact that practices of money laundering cause dire impact to macroeconomy of States.

Subsequently, the Meeting agreed that ASEAN Member States are called on to strengthen their bilateral mutual legal assistance. AIPA Member parliament then strengthens their national legislative measure in combating money laundering and other transnational economic crimes.

- **Creation of a Green Economy to Promote Sustainable Development**

The draft resolution emphasises on the implementation of green economic policies based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. The Meeting believed that the implementation of green economic policies will help to reduce poverty and to promote social equity, while at the same time help to promote sustainable development.

- **Adopting strategies for poverty eradication and an institutional framework for sustainable development**

The meeting agreed to encourage ASEAN Member States to implement regional cooperation on poverty eradication and narrowing the development gap such as the Initiative for ASEAN Integration, the ASEAN Framework for Equitable Economic Development and the ASEAN Framework Action Plan on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication.

Further, it also encourages ASEAN Member States to make use of the ASEAN Free Trade Agreements to enhance well-being and livelihood of its people.

- **Better Access to Technology, Market and Especially Financing, for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)**

The draft resolution acknowledges Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) as an important engine of the economic development in ASEAN. SMEs are also considered as an instrumental element in sustaining ASEAN's economic growth.

Accordingly, the Meeting agreed for Parliaments to enhance their roles to help provide better access to technology, markets and financing for SMEs. This way SMEs could strengthen their competitiveness in the global market, and eventually could benefit from the trade, economic, and investment booming in the region.

The report and resolutions of the Committee on Economic Matters are attached as **Annex P**.

Committee on Social Matters

The Committee on Social Matters was chaired over by Hon. Mr. Atte Sugandi as Chairperson and Hon. Ms. Ida Ria Simamora as Rapporteur.

The Committee discussed and approved three draft resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly:

- **Enhancing public awareness and promoting public participation in programs related to disaster risk reduction and emergency response to promote community resilience to disasters.**

Being aware of the serious threats posed by climate change and natural disasters, this resolution highlights that enhancing public awareness and promoting public participation in programs related to disaster risk reduction and emergency response is of high importance.

The resolution focuses on some strategies to increase public awareness on disaster risk reduction and promote measures in preparedness, prevention, mitigation, and adaptation to climate change, including by exploring local values and practices. It also stresses the importance of cooperation among all stakeholders, including parliaments, to build disaster-resilience communities and provide assistance and resources for emergency response.

Some amendments were made to the draft resolution. The resolution was then adopted unanimously.

- **Promoting the development and transfer of low-carbon and other environment-friendly technology research**

This resolution focuses on the need to increase efforts to mitigate climate change and environmental degradation impacts, among others by diversification of energy with the use of alternative fuels, promotion of energy conservation and energy efficiency, and implementation of low-carbon activities in every scale of industrial sector.

The resolution also encourages the AIPA Member Countries to promote public participation in low-carbon growth and encourage more research and development (R&D) on low-carbon technology.

The draft resolution was adopted after including some suggested amendments from the Committee.

- **The adoption of the Report of the Ninth Meeting of AIFOCOM**

The Committee Meeting agreed to adopt the Report of the Ninth Meeting of AIFOCOM held in Indonesia and proposed Format of Country and Parliamentary Progress Report as mandated by the Ninth Meeting of AIFOCOM.

The report and resolutions of the Committee on Social Matters are attached as **Annex Q**.

Committee on Organizational Matters

The Committee on Organizational Matters was chaired over by Hon. Dr. Surahman Hidayat as Chairperson and Hon. Ms. Okky Asokawati as Rapporteur.

The Committee meeting approved the following reports and resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly:

- ***Secretariat's Annual Report FY 2011-2012***

The Committee approved the Secretariat Annual Report FY 2011-2012 submitted by Secretary General.

- ***Secretariat's Financial Reports for periods 1st July 2011 to 30th September 2011, 1st October 2010 to 30th September 2011, 1st October 2011 to 30th June 2012 and estimated expenditure for 1st July 2012 to 30th September 2012***

The Committee approved the Financial Report of the AIPA Secretariat for the periods, 1st July 2011 to 30th September 2011, 1st October 2010 to 30th September 2011, 1st October 2011 to 30th June 2012 and estimated expenditure for 1st July 2012 to 30th September 2012. The Committee urged the AIPA Secretariat General to operate with surplus budget rather than deficit budgets unless it is necessary.

- ***AIPA Secretariat's Budget Proposal for the period 1st October 2012 to 30th September 2013 (FY 2012/2013)***

The Committee approved the budget proposal for FY 2012-2013 in the amount of USD 382,877.50 (Three Hundred and Eighty Two Thousand, fifty US Dollars), which is an increase of USD 83,162.50 (Eighty Three Thousand and Hundred Sixty Two, Fifty). The Committee emphasized the AIPA Secretary General to exercise prudence in managing the finances and to stay within the budget.

- ***The Secretary General's Term of Office***

The Committee acknowledged that the three-year term of office of the second AIPA Secretary General, Antonio Veloso Cuenco, from Philippines will conclude on 5 February 2013 according to the Working Agreement of the Secretary General. Accordingly, the Committee requested Singapore to nominate the Third Secretary General to be appointed by the President of AIPA. The term of office of co-terminus position will also end on 5 February 2013. The new Secretary General should begin his/her term of office on 1 March 2013.

The Committee suggested that the term of office of the Secretary General should be well defined in the Statutes of AIPA, as to when it will commence and conclude.

The Committee expressed its appreciation to Hon. Antonio Veloso Cuenco for the leadership during his term of office. The Committee also expressed its confidence for Singapore to effectively fulfill the mandates of the office of the third Secretary General of AIPA.

- ***Report of the 4th AIPA Caucus held in Thailand***

The Committee adopted the Report of the 4th AIPA Caucus hosted by Thailand in Bangkok from 30 April to 3 May 2012. The committee congratulated the National Assembly of Thailand for successfully hosting the 4th AIPA Caucus. The Committee also noted that the National Assembly of Vietnam will host the 5th AIPA Caucus.

- ***Establishment of Technical Working Group of AIFOCOM***

The Committee agreed to establish this proposed Technical Working Group mandated to support and assist the work of AIFOCOM and to enhance AIPA contribution to the regional efforts in addressing the menace of illicit drugs and realizing a Drug Free ASEAN 2015.

- ***Establishment Cooperation between AIPA and ASEAN Foundation***

The Committee agreed to establish cooperation between AIPA and ASEAN Foundation with the purpose of supporting ASEAN Community Building by promoting greater awareness of the ASEAN identity, people-to-people interaction and close collaboration among ASEAN stakeholders.

- ***Relation and Cooperation between AIPA and Pan African Parliament***

The Committee expressed unanimous approval of the establishment of relations and cooperation between the AIPA and the Pan-African Parliament

to promote solidarity, understanding, cooperation and close relations among parliamentary organizations.

- ***Proposal of the ASEAN-Wildlife Enforcement Network and Freeland Foundation/ARREST for a technical cooperation with the AIPA to develop a “green legislative agenda” to save from further decline ASEAN’s bio-diversity***

The proposal of the ASEAN-Wildlife Enforcement Network and Freeland Foundation/ARREST for a technical cooperation with the AIPA to develop a “green legislative agenda” to save from further decline ASEAN’s bio-diversity was unanimously approved by the Committee.

- ***Date and Venue of the 34th AIPA General Assembly***

The Brunei Darussalam Delegation informed the meeting that the 34th General Assembly of AIPA will be held in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam from 15 to 21 September 2013.

- ***Appreciating the Leadership of H.E. Dr. Marzuki Alie as AIPA President from September 2011 to September 2012***

The Committee expressed its appreciation and gratitude to H.E Dr. Marzuki Alie for his excellent leadership to the organization during his term of office as the President of AIPA.

The report and resolutions of the Committee on Organizational Matters are attached as **Annex R**.

Committee Meeting of Women Parliamentarians of AIPA (WAIPA)

The Committee Meeting of Women Parliamentarians of AIPA (WAIPA) was chaired by Hon. Dr. Nurhayati Ali Assegaf as Chairperson and Honorable Ms. Evita Nursanty as Rapporteur.

The Committee discussed and approved three draft resolutions for adoption by General Assembly:

- **Supporting the ASEAN member states in strengthening their collaboration in implementing the MDGs to narrow development gaps within and among ASEAN member states**

The Resolution focuses on women empowerment in every aspect of life, and on implementation of government’s program that provides better access in financing small and medium enterprises. This is to support women that require bigger

capital or more financing service from financial institution in order to start or expand their business.

During deliberation, delegates from Brunei Darussalam and Malaysia were sharing the state of MDGs achievement in their respective countries.

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

- **The role of women parliamentarians in enhancing pro-women policies in the sectors of economics, health and education**

The draft resolution was proposed on the ground that economy, health and education are essential in family development. Therefore, Member of Parliament must ensure that these three elements are supporting pro-women policies. Parliamentarians also need to oversee the implementation of those policies. Furthermore, the draft resolution also includes encouragement for member parliamentarians to inspire, develop and mentor young women in their countries, as well as to include young women development programs in their campaign.

During deliberation, Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam were sharing best practices in their countries. In Brunei Darussalam, more than 50 percent of women are employed in public sectors and many of them hold high rank positions. In Malaysia, there are several programs that target on supporting women in economic activities

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

- **Enhancing capacity building by training of relevant and specific skills for women in the rural areas**

The draft resolution was proposed based on consciousness that Parliamentarians have to support government's programs that ensure the access of health care and economic empowerment for women in rural and remote areas. Hence, WAIPA resolution must reflect the commitment to promote women empowerment and gender equality in the access of education and financial or economic opportunities.

During deliberation, Malaysia was sharing best practices in terms of their government programs to increase women participation in rural areas. Reflecting from implementation of those programs, Malaysia concluded that the most significant challenge for women in rural area is related to access.

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

WAIPA, in addition, hosted a meeting with UN WOMEN to discuss the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) Compliance

and recent research analyzing Parliament's capacity to apply CEDAW norms and standards in seven Southeast Asian countries.

The report and resolutions of the Committee Meeting of Women Parliamentarians of AIPA (WAIPA) and the Report meeting with UN WOMEN are attached as **Annex S**.

Committee on Joint Communiqué

The Committee on Joint Communiqué was chaired by Hon. Mr. Helmy Fauzi as Chairman and Hon. Sidarto Danusubroto as Rapporteur.

The Committee on Joint Communiqué of the 33rd AIPA General Assembly drafted and submitted the draft of Joint Communiqué for approval by the General Assembly.

The report of the Committee on Joint Communiqué and the Joint Communiqué are attached as **Annex U**.

Committee on Dialogue with Observer Countries

AIPA dialogues were conducted in separate meetings with nine Observer Countries. Each meeting was given a free hand in selecting items in the agenda approved by the General Assembly at its First Plenary Session. Each AIPA dialogue was chaired by delegates from Indonesia:

<u>Chairperson</u>	<u>Observer Countries</u>
Hon. Mr. Atte Sugandi	Australia
Hon. Ms. Harbiah Salahuddin	Belarus
Hon. Mr. Emil Abeng	Canada
Hon. Dr. Susaningtyas Nefo Handayani Kertopati	People's Republic of China
Hon. Ms. Evita Nursanty	European Parliament
Hon. Mr. Andi Azhar	India
Hon. Mr. Atte Sugandi	Japan
Hon. Ms. Harbiah Salahudin	Republic of Korea
Hon. Mr. Helmi Fauzy	Russian Federation

The reports of the Dialogue with Observer Countries are attached as **Annex T**.

IX. SECOND PLENARY SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Second Plenary Session of the General Assembly was held on 21 September 2012 at 10.00 a.m. and presided by H.E. Dr. Marzuki Alie, President of AIPA.

Presentation of Reports of the Committees and Meeting of WAIPA

The Chairperson of the Standing Committees on Political Matters, Economic Matters, Social Matters, Organizational Matters, Committee on WAIPA, Joint Communiqué and

Dialogue with Observer Countries presented their respective reports and adopted by the General Assembly.

Date and Venue of the 34th General Assembly of AIPA

It was agreed that the 34th General Assembly of AIPA will be held in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam on 15-21 September 2013.

Signing of the Joint Communiqué

H.E. Dr. Marzuki Alie, President of AIPA and Leaders of AIPA Members Delegations signed the Joint Communiqué.

The full texts of the Joint Communiqué are attached as **Annex U**.

X. CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE 33rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AIPA

The Closing Ceremony of the 33rd General Assembly of AIPA was held on 21 September 2012, at 11.00 a.m.

Transfer of Office of AIPA President

H.E. Dr. Marzuki Alie, outgoing President of AIPA handed over AIPA gavel to the incoming President of AIPA, H.E. Mr. Pehin Dato Haji Isa Ibrahim, President of the National Assembly/Speaker House of Representatives of Brunei Darussalam represented by the Head of Delegation, Hon. Mr. Pehin Dato Hj. Judin Hj. Asar.

The signed Instrument of Transfer of Office of the President of AIPA is attached as **Annex V**.

Acceptance Speech by Incoming President of AIPA/Speaker of Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam.

Hon. Mr. Pehin Dato Hj. Judin Hj. Asar, representing Speaker of Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam delivered acceptance speech as the incoming President of AIPA.

The text of the acceptance speech is attached as **Annex W**.

Closing Speech by H.E. Marzuki Alie, the Outgoing President of AIPA/Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia.

H.E. Marzuki Alie, outgoing President of AIPA delivered his closing speech.

The text of his Closing Speech is attached as **Annex X**.



ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

**33rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
16-22 SEPTEMBER 2012, LOMBOK, INDONESIA**

33GA/2012/JC

JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ

INTRODUCTION

1. Pursuant to the decision of the 32nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 18-24 September 2011, and in accordance with the Statutes of AIPA, the 33rd AIPA General Assembly was held in Lombok, Indonesia, on 16-22 September 2012 under the theme, “Strengthening the Parliamentary Roles towards ASEAN Community 2015”.
2. H.E. Dr. Marzuki Alie, the Speaker of the Indonesian House of Representatives and AIPA President, presided over the 33rd AIPA General Assembly.

WELCOME ADDRESS

3. In his welcoming address, the Speaker of the Indonesian House of Representatives, H.E. Dr. Marzuki Alie, briefly mentioned that the 33rd AIPA General Assembly is convened under the above theme to signify the vital roles of the legislatures in the transformation of ASEAN towards the integration of ASEAN by way of the establishment of ASEAN Community in 2015.

He noted that it is important for AIPA to understand its position and influential role in the transformation of ASEAN. Therefore, AIPA has always been and will always adapt itself to the development of ASEAN in the forty-five years of its establishment. Consistency of the cooperation between ASEAN and AIPA is one of the aspects that also determine the success of various activities and efforts done by AIPA since the existence of AIPA is directly linked with the goals and existence of ASEAN, especially when it comes to the issues that directly impact the people in the region.

As the current President of AIPA, he shared the concerns of his predecessors on the need to contemplate on how to implement the main resolutions that AIPA produced, especially the ones that are directly linked with the transformation of ASEAN. We need to build an appropriate mechanism so that all the resolutions can be well implemented in both AIPA and ASEAN systems.

4. In his address as the Chairman of ASEAN, H. E. Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, extended his gratitude to H.E. Dr. H. Marzuki Alie for the invitation to this important General Assembly and appreciation of the organization of the 33rd General Assembly. The Meeting coincided with the 45th Anniversary of ASEAN and conveyed ASEAN's ongoing efforts toward building the ASEAN Community by 2015.

He mentioned that despite the aforementioned great achievements, ASEAN is still facing many challenges globally and regionally. Global challenges include, among others, fragile economic recovery of developed countries coupled with prolonged crisis in Europe, ongoing social and political turmoil in the Middle East and North Africa, high oil prices, food and energy security, climate change, natural disasters, terrorism and international crime.

In addition to providing necessary supports for ASEAN, as the legislative institution representing the people, AIPA can also effectively convey the message to ASEAN peoples about what ASEAN has done for the benefits of our nations so as to inspire the spirit of "We belong to ASEAN".

5. In his welcoming address, the Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia, H.E. Prof. Dr. Boediono, welcomed honorable delegates and distinguished guests. The Vice President highlighted the important roles of AIPA as the frontline institution to strengthen the position of ASEAN as a people-oriented organization. Parliamentarians, as representatives of their constituents, could disseminate the ASEAN vision, mission and development to their constituents in order to solidify the integration of ASEAN.

He noted the support extended by the AIPA toward the realization of *Drug Free ASEAN* 2015. It is expected that AIPA could implement the resolutions of AIPA Fact Finding Committee to Combat the Drugs Menace, adopted in Yogyakarta in July 2012.

He pointed out that the key to achieve the common goals of ASEAN is synergy between different components within ASEAN. It is expected that AIPA-ASEAN relationship and cooperation will further be developed as reflected through annual meetings between the Head of AIPA Member Parliaments and ASEAN Leaders in the ASEAN Summits. The strong commitment of AIPA and ASEAN has been shown through, inter-alia, the attendance of ASEAN Chair H.E. Hun Sen in the 33rd General Assembly of AIPA.

The Vice President concluded his remarks by extending his expectation that the results achieved in the AIPA meetings could be conveyed regularly to the Chairman and Leaders of ASEAN to ensure that the results receive attentions from all ASEAN's stakeholders.

OPENING ADDRESS

6. The President of AIPA and Speaker of the Indonesian House of Representatives, H.E. Dr. Marzuki Alie, opened the 33rd General Assembly on 17 September 2012. The President highlighted the significance of the 33rd General Assembly in Strengthening the Parliamentary Roles towards ASEAN Community 2015.

DELEGATIONS

7. The Delegations from **Brunei Darussalam** led by H.E. Pehin Dato Haji Isa Ibrahim, Speaker of the Legislative Council, the **Kingdom of Cambodia** led by H.E. Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin, Speaker of the National Assembly; **Republic of Indonesia**, led by H.E. Priyo Budi Santoso, Vice Speaker of the Indonesian House of Representatives; **Lao People's Democratic Republic** led by H.E. Mme. Pany Yathotou, President of the National Assembly; **Malaysia** led by H.E. Tan Sri Datuk Seri Panglima Pandikar Amin Hj Mulia, Speaker of the House of Representatives; **Republic of the Union of Myanmar** led by Hon. Nyunt Tin, Chairman of the ASEAN Political Security Community Committee, Amyotha Hluttaw; **Republic of the Philippines** led by Hon. Victor F. Ortega, Chairman of the Committee on Inter-Parliamentary Relations and Diplomacy; **Republic of Singapore** led by H.E. Michael Anthony Palmer, Speaker of the Parliament; the **Kingdom of Thailand** led by H.E. Somsak Kiatsuranont, Speaker of the National Assembly; and the **Socialist Republic of Viet Nam** led by H.E. Mrs. Tong Thi Phong, Vice President of the National Assembly.
8. Also present were Special Observer Delegations from **Australia** led by Senator Lisa Singh; **Belarus** led by Hon. Viktor Guminsky; **Canada** led by Senator Donald Neil Plett; **People's Republic of China** led by Hon. Zha Peixin; **European Parliament** led by Hon. Robert Goebbels; **India** led by Hon. Mohammad Asrarul Haque; **Japan** led by Hon. Nataniya Masayoshi; **Republic of Korea** led by Hon. Choung Byoung-gug; and the **Russian Federation** led by Hon. Iliyas Umakhanov.

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

9. The Executive Committee Meeting was convened to review the agenda items of the 33rd General Assembly of AIPA, adopted in the AIPA Executive Committee Meeting in Yogyakarta in July 2012. In conjunction with the issue of South China Sea, the Meeting agreed to change the agenda item of "Solution to the South China Sea Problem" to "Maintaining Peace and Stability in the Region".

VICE-PRESIDENTS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

10. As stipulated in article 8 of the Statutes, the heads of delegations of other National Parliaments shall sit as Vice-Presidents. In the event that the President of the AIPA is unable to preside at the General Assembly for any reason whatsoever, one of the Vice-Presidents shall preside over the Assembly.

MESSAGES FROM HEADS OF STATE/GOVERNMENT

11. The 33rd General Assembly of AIPA received the messages from the following Heads of State/Government:

H.M. SULTAN HAJI HASSANAL BOLKIAH MU'IZZADDIN WADDAULAH, SULTAN and YANG DI-PERTUAN of **Brunei Darussalam**; H.M. PREAH BAT SAMDECH PREAH BOROMNEATH NORODOM SIHAMONI, King of **Cambodia**; H.E. Dr. SUSILO BAMBANG YUDHOYONO, President of the **Republic of Indonesia**; H.E. Mr. CHOUMMALY SAYASONE, President of the **Lao People's Democratic Republic**; H.E. DATUK SERI NAJIB TUN RAZAK, Prime Minister of **Malaysia**; H.E. U THEIN SEIN, President of the **Republic of the Union of Myanmar**; H.E. Mr. BENIGNO S. AQUINO III, President of the **Republic of the Philippines**; H.E. Dr. TONY TAN, President of the **Republic of Singapore**; H.E. Ms. YINGLUCK SHINAWATRA, Prime Minister of the **Kingdom of Thailand**; H.E. Mr. TRUONG TAN SANG, President of the **Socialist Republic of Viet Nam**.

STATEMENTS OF HEADS OF DELEGATIONS

12. The Heads of the Delegations of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam delivered their respective statements during the First Plenary Session of the 33rd AIPA General Assembly.

Brunei Darussalam

13. Brunei Darussalam reaffirmed the point made by His Excellency Prof. Dr. Boediono, Vice-President of the Republic of Indonesia. Among other things, Brunei Darussalam stressed the important role that AIPA can play, and reiterated its support and cooperation with ASEAN towards achieving ASEAN Community by 2015.

It is incumbent upon AIPA to continuously support ASEAN's Initiatives towards the realization of the ASEAN Community, based on the three pillars, namely ASEAN Political-Security Community, ASEAN Economic Community and ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community by 2015. Since the transformation and renaming of AIPO to AIPA, this

Assembly has approved and adopted over 700 resolutions. Those resolutions must be endorsed for implementation. Indeed, the meetings between ASEAN Heads of States/Governments and AIPA Leaders in previous ASEAN Summits have strengthened AIPA-ASEAN and indirectly the Executive-Legislature cooperation, reinforcing the collective efforts to build people-centered and rules-based community.

The year 2013 will be a historic year for Brunei Darussalam. For the first time, Brunei Darussalam will be entrusted with the Chairmanship of the 34th AIPA next year. In the same year, Brunei Darussalam will also receive the mandate of chairing the ASEAN Summit. Brunei Darussalam views this Chairmanship as a great honour and is certain that this will foster stronger cooperation between AIPA and ASEAN towards ASEAN Integration.

Kingdom of Cambodia

14. Cambodia stated that the existence of parliaments stems from elections in which their members are elected by citizens. Therefore, they are very important organs that represent the voice of people, to bring forward the common goals of people and to take into account and to seek agreed solutions to promote human rights, and democracy, as well as to strengthen peace, stability and prosperity in our region. Cambodia strongly believed that in maintaining our initiatives of transforming AIPA into a more effective and closely integrated institution, working side by side with ASEAN will spearhead more cohesive implementation of AIPA's internal policies and work towards the realization of AIPA's common and strong future.

According to the report of the AIPA Caucus, it is noted that the Governments of the ASEAN Member States have been actively working towards the goal of establishing an ASEAN Community by 2015, in line with the common goal of AIPA, through adopting a number of resolutions serving the common interests and benefits of the peoples in our region.

Republic of Indonesia

15. Indonesia highlighted the consistency of AIPA in playing its roles and efforts as the constructive partner for ASEAN to materialize a more peaceful and prosperous Southeast Asian region. Indonesia realized that peoples of ASEAN are still facing several challenges. The issues of money laundering, challenges over implementation of green economy, poverty alleviation, development gap and initiatives to increase the role of women parliamentarians in the South East Asia. Recognizing the different stages of development in different ASEAN Countries, Indonesia emphasized the importance of working collectively to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

Indonesia also highlighted the need to strengthen the key roles of the women parliamentarians of AIPA. Gender aspects must be mainstreamed in all parliamentary legislative, oversight and budgetary functions. Furthermore, the role of parliamentarians of AIPA in all aspects of regional cooperation should be enhanced.

In terms of current development of regional and international stability, Indonesia underlined the demonstrations occurred in some diplomatic objects in the Middle East that were caused by a provocative film entitled “Innocence of Muslims”. Indonesia deplored this provocative action by the producer of the film and, at the same time, requested all peoples of ASEAN to maintain peace and harmony in responding to this development.

In addition, Indonesia extended her utmost gratitude to Myanmar that had provided comprehensive clarification on the issue of Rohingya. Indonesia is confident that the Parliament and Government of Myanmar will conduct their best endeavors to seek solution of this issue.

To conclude the statement, Indonesia expressed high expectation that the 33rd General Assembly of AIPA will be of benefits to ASEAN and produce concrete resolutions that are to be manifested into policies in each AIPA Member Parliaments.

Lao People’s Democratic Republic

16. Lao PDR stated that AIPA has played an important role in building trust and understanding between the parliaments and the peoples of ASEAN, and has actively contributed to the promotion of peace, friendship and cooperation for sustainable development. AIPA had expanded its cooperation with many ASEAN organizations; and dialogue between AIPA and ASEAN is being strengthened in both horizontal and vertical dimensions toward the realization of ASEAN Community by 2015. This is a community of “Caring and Sharing”, and therefore, it requires us to enhance solidarity and capacity of self-reliance striving to improve the living conditions of the people.

However, AIPA is facing challenges which require its Member Parliaments to maintain strong bond of solidarity, aiming at economic growth with social harmony and the protection of environment.

Lao PDR is now in its half way of the implementation of the 7th five-year national social-economic development plan ; strategies set out in this plan are well integrated with the goals of AIPA and ASEAN, namely the promotion of economic development which is balanced with social development and sustainable protection of natural environment, ensuring political stability, accomplishment of the Millennium Development Goals and active integration with the region and the world.

Malaysia

17. Commenting on the host’s effort to choose this beautiful place and to make the Assembly successful, the Speaker emphasized on achieving ASEAN Community by 2015 and deep involvement of the peoples. Besides widening networking by inviting representatives from Pan African Parliament, ASEAN Parliamentarians must play important parts.

We inculcated the meanings of the Community among the public, through civil society organizations, extensive travels, mutual understanding and closer ties.

ASEAN must close the economic gaps among ASEAN communities, such as sharing economic ties, increasing trade and economic cooperation in the context of modern economy.

ASEAN should learn from the successes and failures of regional communities such as the EU health programmes to reduce health inequality, housing and education policies. Malaysia recognized the pitfalls of EU monetary union without fiscal union, resulting in crisis.

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

18. Myanmar briefly described the current development in its parliament, in which they have abolished and amended twelve laws deemed unsuitable for the new democratic society. In addition, the Myanmar parliament has enacted and promulgated sixteen new laws which will be more appropriate for the new system and society. Myanmar parliament has also strengthened its budgetary role and given special preference to the social sector, including education and health.

The unfortunate misunderstanding that occurred in Rakhine State, the western part of Myanmar, a few months ago was also explained in brief. The communal unrest between the ethnic Rakhines (Buddhist) and Bangalis (Muslim) was not a racial or religious issue but merely a violence between two races of different origin and religious beliefs due to non-discretionary manner. The issue of Rohingya has also been clarified, in which that race does not exist in the History of Myanmar. The Union & Rakhine State Governments took great care in controlling the situation, without any discrimination of race and religion. Thus, the situation has become conducive. Now the government is making efforts for rehabilitation and reconstruction of settlements. To conclude the remarks, Myanmar reiterated its commitment to AIPA.

Republic of the Philippines

19. The Philippines pointed out that setting up an ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary cooperation to address many shared socio-economic and political problems was a formidable task, but with the supports of different parliaments through AIPA, this is achievable and could contribute to the attainment of the goals of ASEAN. In fact, the robust economic performance of the South East Asian region is the cause for celebration.

The roles of SMEs in attaining sustainable economic development cannot be overemphasized. The SMEs are the key drivers to ASEAN's economic resilience in the face of the ongoing global economic slowdown. The Philippines wishes that this General

Assembly would prioritize strategies towards SME development and further advance reforms so that SMEs can have better access to technology, financing and global marketing.

The 33rd General Assembly is an opportunity to exchange knowledge and propose appropriate and timely solutions to issues relating to poverty reduction, sustainable development and environmental protection, disaster risk reduction, women empowerment and Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) development. AIPA reflects the voice and demands of the peoples of ASEAN ; therefore, a stronger partnership between ASEAN and AIPA is imperative. On peace and security, the Philippines reiterated that it is fully committed to peaceful and rules based resolutions to territorial disputes. The Philippines called on AIPA to contribute meaningfully to finding a diplomatic solutions to the dispute in the West Philippines Sea. AIPA is in a position to support and create the environment for the early conclusion of a legally binding agreement that will govern the conduct of parties in the disputed territory, consistent with the principles of international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Laws of the Sea (UNCLOS).

Republic of Singapore

20. Singapore pointed out that ASEAN has fostered peace and stability in the South East Asia and this has become a vital strategic imperative for the region. With peace and stability comes economic development. By 2015, ASEAN is envisioned to be a highly competitive region that is firmly plugged into the world economy. In creating an ASEAN Economic Community, ASEAN must continue to press on with removing unnecessary regulations and barriers to trade as well as liberalization of services.

The implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity is indeed an ambitious initiative. Thus, ASEAN needs to work closely with ASEAN's Dialogue Partners to fully realize the implementation of this initiative. ASEAN must also continue to enhance ASEAN's external economic linkages. The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) would be a significant improvement in enhancing market access to the region.

Singapore finally noted that, for establishing the ASEAN Community, peoples of ASEAN must increasingly internalize a sense of ASEAN citizenship. In order for wider international community to believe in ASEAN, then our peoples of ASEAN must also understand and appreciate its common goals and objectives. ASEAN Parliamentarians can do more to promote greater engagement among ASEAN citizens. What is important is that ASEAN focus on the commonalities, and not let the differences tear it apart. Singapore hoped that ASEAN Member States work together in the spirit of mutual cooperation to further the interests of ASEAN and its peoples.

Kingdom of Thailand

21. Thailand noted a significant progress in the development of the works of AIPA colleagues during the Executive Committee meeting and the 9th AIFOCOM meeting. Establishing external relations and initiative for the Technical Working Group of AIFOCOM are evidences of AIPA's willingness to step up onto another degree of cooperation.

A relationship between AIPA and ASEAN from the top level, the AIPA – ASEAN meeting during ASEAN Summit to AIPA – ASEAN retreat in Bali, and the working level of national secretariats, has now furthered the AIPA's capacity and intensity to extend areas of cooperation. It is aimed to stabilize a cordial partnership in dynamic development and to establish a constant, continuing, and beneficial framework with ASEAN at all levels. This is the ultimate goal of AIPA in a community-building process, the ASEAN Community.

Thailand also admitted that AIPA still has a great number of works to do. However, it is believed that, with political will and enthusiasms from member countries, as shown in the 33rd AIPA General Assembly, there will be light at the end of the tunnel.

The Thai AIPA National Group committed to work together with the other Member Countries, observer countries, and AIPA Secretariat in order to tackle challenges and bring about a new page of AIPA's cooperation.

Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

22. Viet Nam stated that, given the complicated developments in the international economic-political-security landscape in 2012, ASEAN countries should continue to accelerate efforts in the implementation of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community by 2015, while strengthening solidarity, integration and preserving ASEAN's central role in the regional cooperation processes, effectively addressing emerging challenges, especially threats to regional peace, security and stability.

Viet Nam also stressed that AIPA needs to continue to promote its strengths as a supporting institution and important consultative channel for ASEAN in all three pillars of the ASEAN Political-Security community, ASEAN Economic Community and ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community. At the same time, AIPA must hold high unity and consensus in addressing common challenges to regional peace, security and stability, including the South China Sea issue. The 33rd AIPA General Assembly has built upon its continuous efforts in maintaining regional peace and security, promoting economic integration and development to lay firm foundation for the ASEAN community 2015. From parliamentary perspective, Viet Nam expressed its view that there is a need to enhance the culture of compliance, perfect and harmonize legal systems in the region, monitor the effective implementation of programs and plans contained in the roadmap for an ASEAN Community 2015 as well as to mainstream this objective into national development plans of each member country.

While confirming that Viet Nam is always a pro-active, positive and responsible member who has been working closely with other fellow ASEAN members towards the goal of successfully establishing the ASEAN community by 2015, Viet Nam has pledged to continue to make effective contributions to common efforts aimed at further enhancing the AIPA's role in the process towards an ASEAN Community of peace, stability, cooperation and prosperity.

STATEMENTS OF THE LEADERS OF OBSERVER COUNTRIES AND GUESTS OF THE HOST

The full texts of statements of the Leaders of Observer Countries and the Guests of the Host are attached to the *Annex M and N*.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS OF AIPA (WAIPA)

23. The WAIPA Meeting discussed three draft resolutions, proposed by Indonesia in a constructive manner. During the elaboration, some countries shared their best practices on the women-related issues. At the end, the Meeting successfully adopted the draft Resolutions. The elaboration is as follows:

Resolution on Supporting the ASEAN Member States in Strengthening their Collaboration in Implementing the MDGs Roadmap to Narrow Development Gaps within and among ASEAN Member States

24. Women Parliamentarians of AIPA state their full supports to ensure the implementation of government's programs that provide better access in financing small and medium enterprises with gender-sensitive approach to accelerate the achievements of MDGs.

Women Parliamentarians of AIPA reaffirms their commitments to continue taking collective actions at keeping regional and national stakeholders focused on the attainment of MDGs and shall conduct annual joint meeting among MDGs task forces within each AIPA Member Parliament and share MDGs progress in ASEAN Member States to determine necessary actions towards the timely and effective achievement of MDGs.

Women Parliamentarians of AIPA shall continue raising public awareness on the importance of obtaining higher education and building healthy and strong families in their respective constituencies.

Resolution on the Role of Women Parliamentarians in Enhancing Pro-Women Policies in the Sectors of Economics, Health and Education

25. Women Parliamentarians of AIPA confirm that economy, health and education are substantial sectors in the development of countries and pro-women policies must be ensured in each sector to improve
26. the quality of life of women, and further consider that economic pressures often become the cause of violence against women; therefore, women have to be given equal opportunity in building state economic security.

Women Parliamentarians of AIPA are entitled to give continuous supports to their respective governments, by optimizing their legislative, budgetary and oversight functions on pro-women policies, which promote gender mainstreaming and equality in all sectors, particularly in respective parliaments and in the public administration such as economy, health and education.

Women Parliamentarians of ASEAN Member States are urged to play active role to increase women representatives in parliament, and to inspire, develop and mentor young women in their respective countries as well as to encourage them to participate in political activities.

Resolution on Enhancing Capacity Building by Training Relevant and Specific Skills for Women in the Rural Areas

27. Women Parliamentarians of AIPA consider that women in rural areas play significant role in poverty reduction, in enhancing rural economic development, in supporting proper education in rural areas, in ensuring the sustainability of children's food and nutrition;

Women Parliamentarians of ASEAN Member States shall enhance the capacity and skills of women in rural areas to increase their income level and to ensure the access to health care and economic empowerment as well as to raise awareness to maintain a good quality of life;

Women Parliamentarians of AIPA shall support their respective governments in combating all forms of violence and discrimination against women and in promoting gender equality in rural areas as well as exercising gender mainstreaming in policy-design and projects implementation.

POLITICAL MATTERS

Resolution on Encouraging ASEAN Member States to Actively Enhance Public Awareness and Promote Greater People Participation including Civil Society in ASEAN Community Building.

28. The Committee encourages the AIPA Member Parliaments to support the efforts of Government of ASEAN Member States and relevant bodies in ASEAN in facilitating the active and constructive participation of the people, including Civil Society Organizations affiliated with ASEAN in ASEAN Community Building. It recommends the effective utilization of the Information Communication Technologies to extend dialogue and communication between ASEAN Member States and relevant stakeholders and CSOs. It also encourages the ASEAN Foundation to support the works of CSOs involvement in the promotion of ASEAN identity and awareness and people-to-people interactions, not only within ASEAN but also between ASEAN and its friends and partners.

Resolution on Maintaining Peace and Stability in the Region

29. The Committee fully supports the commitment and efforts of ASEAN Member States in maintaining peace and stability in the region. It further requested AIPA Member Parliaments to fully support and encourage ASEAN Member States, in the spirit of solidarity, partnership and unity, to intensify consultations in finding peaceful resolutions on regional issues consistent with the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (1976), the ASEAN Charter (2008) and the Statement of ASEAN Foreign Ministers on ASEAN Six-Point Principles on the South China Sea, issued on 20 July 2012 in Phnom Penh.

Report of the 20th ASEAN Summit held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia

30. The Committee Meeting agreed to adopt the Report by the Cambodian Delegation on the outcome of the 20th ASEAN Summit held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. All delegations support the idea of adopting the Report of the 20th ASEAN Summit.

ECONOMIC MATTERS

Resolution on Regional Efforts & Cooperation against Money Laundering

31. The Committee calls upon AIPA Member Parliaments to strengthen their national legislative measures and other necessary parliamentary actions against money laundering to promote robust anti-money laundering regimes in their respective countries. It also called on ASEAN Member States to strengthen cooperation among their judicial and law enforcement agencies through bilateral mutual legal assistance and extradition treaties and/or through effective implementation of the ASEAN Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal matters. Further, the Committee urges the ASEAN Finance Ministers, the Heads of ASEAN Central

Banks and related institutions to promote comprehensive domestic and regional regulatory and supervisory regimes that could deter and detect money laundering in all its forms.

Resolution on the Creation of a Green Economy to Promote Sustainable Development

32. The Committee calls on ASEAN Member States to recognize that green economic policies may further enhance their regional commitment to achieve their sustainable development measures and to actively respond to global climate change based on the Common-but Differentiated Responsibilities principle of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD). It recommends ASEAN Member States to promote bilateral and multilateral exchanges to improve the implementation of green economic policies, and to take policies and coordinating actions to ensure that they benefit from the use of green economy, and at the same time, to promote sustainable development. It also encourages AIPA Member Parliaments to take more active roles to ensure that the implementation of green economy shall help to reduce poverty and promote social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities, and at the same time, help to promote sustainable development.

Resolution on Adopting Strategies for Poverty Eradication and an Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

33. The Committee calls on ASEAN Member States to expedite the comprehensive implementation of ASEAN Framework Action Plan on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (2011-2015), to help eradicate poverty and encourage the creation of self-reliant rural communities, in order to stimulate empowerment of poor peoples. Further, it calls on AIPA Member Countries to revive the spirit of “ASEAN help ASEAN” by providing supports to development projects in ASEAN Less Developed Countries (LDCs) with soft loans and/or grants, transfer of related knowledge, skills and technology on poverty eradication, and including financing for sustainable development. It also encourages AIPA Member Parliaments to be involved in adopting necessary legislation, formulating policies, providing appropriate budget and supervising the implementation of poverty eradication programs, as well as requesting respective government’s reports on budget use and progress made in achieving poverty eradication.

Resolution on Better Access to Technology, Market and Especially Financing, for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)

34. The Committee supports the full implementation of ASEAN Strategic Action Plan for SMEs Development 2010-2015. It requires AIPA Member Parliaments to disseminate information on regional and international economic development as well as opportunities and challenges,

including FTA-related information on the liberalization of trade and investment within ASEAN, as well as among ASEAN and its partners for the benefits of SMEs, through the roles of parliamentarians as public figures in their respective constituencies. It calls upon the AIPA Member Parliaments to enhance parliamentary supports to provide SMEs, including women-owned SMEs, better access to technology, markets and financing to strengthen their competitiveness in the global market.

SOCIAL MATTERS

Resolution on Enhancing Public Awareness and Promoting Public Participation in Programs Related to Disaster Risk-Reduction and Emergency Response to Promote Community Resilience to Disasters

35. ASEAN Member States are exposed to extreme climate change and natural disasters. These challenges pose threats to ASEAN Members. Hence, enhancing public awareness and promoting public participation as a foundation to minimize risk of disasters, including promoting the inclusion of disaster-risk reduction efforts and climate change in educational curriculum in the effort to build public capacities to adapt to climate change. ASEAN Member States are encouraged to strengthen regional cooperation in providing assistance and resources for emergency response, in support to the government and people of affected country. Furthermore, AIPA Member Parliaments are requested to create and develop relevant legislation and policies that promote and provide necessary guidelines for public participation in disaster-risk reduction and emergency response.

Resolution on Promoting the Development and Transfer of Low-Carbon and Environment-Friendly Technology Research

36. The Committee urges the AIPA Member Parliaments to encourage their respective governments to take efficient and effective measures to address the adverse effects of climate change and to reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions by promoting low-carbon development policy and environment-friendly technology. Furthermore, it is imperative for the AIPA Member Parliaments to develop and improve laws and regulations on the distribution of finance and human resources for promoting the development and transfer of low-carbon and environmentally-friendly technology research, in harmony with the climate change adaptation programs and objectives being implemented in AIPA Member Parliaments. It also urges the AIPA Member Parliaments to continue to develop the diversification of energy with the use of alternative fuels other than petroleum, and to promote energy conservation by improving energy efficiency.

Report of the Ninth Meeting of AIFOCOM held in Indonesia and Proposed Format of Country and Parliamentary Progress Report as Mandated by the Ninth Meeting of AIFOCOM

37. The Committee Meeting agreed to adopt the Report of the Ninth Meeting of AIFOCOM held in Indonesia and proposed Format of Country and Parliamentary Progress Report as mandated by the Ninth Meeting of AIFOCOM

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Secretariat Annual Report FY 2011/2012;

38. The Committee approved the Secretariat Annual Report for FY 2011-2012 submitted by the Secretary General.

Secretariat's Financial Reports for Period of 1st July 2011 to 30th September 2011, 1st October 2010 to 30th September 2011, 1st October 2011 to 30th June 2012 and Estimated Expenditure for 1st July 2012 to 30th September 2012

39. The Committee approved four Financial Reports of the AIPA Secretariat for the periods, 1st July 2011 to 30th September 2011, 1st October 2010 to 30th September 2011, 1st October 2011 to 30th June 2012 and the estimated expenditure for 1st July 2012 to 30th September 2012. The Committee has urged the AIPA Secretariat General to operate with surplus budget rather than deficit budgets unless it is necessary.

AIPA Secretariat's Budget Proposal for the period 1st October 2012 to 30th September 2013 (FY 2012/2013)

40. The Committee approved the budget proposal for FY 2012-2013 in the amount of USD 382,877.50 (US Dollars Three Hundred and Eighty Two Thousand, Eight Hundred and Seventy Seven and fifty cents), which is an increase of USD 83,162.50 (US Dollars Eighty Three Thousand and One Hundred Sixty Two and Fifty Cents). The Committee requested the AIPA Secretary General to exercise prudence in managing the finance and to stay within the budget.

The Secretary General's Term of Office

41. The Committee acknowledged that the three-year term of office of the second AIPA Secretary General, Antonio Veloso Cuenco, from the Philippines, will end on 5 February 2013, according to the Working Agreement of the Secretary General. Accordingly, the Committee requested Singapore to nominate the Third Secretary General to be appointed by the President of AIPA. The term of office of co-terminus position will also end on 5 February 2013. The new Secretary General should begin his/her term of office on 1 March 2013.

42. The Committee has suggested that the term of office of the Secretary General should well be defined in the Statutes of AIPA, as to when it will begin and end.

The Committee expressed its appreciation to Hon. Antonio Veloso Cuenco for his leadership during his term of office. The Committee also expressed its confidence for Singapore to effectively fulfill the mandates of the office of the 3rd Secretary General of AIPA.

Report of the 4th AIPA Caucus held in Thailand

43. The Committee adopted the Report of the 4th AIPA Caucus hosted by Thailand in Bangkok from 30 April to 3 May 2012. The committee congratulated the National Assembly of Thailand for successfully hosting the 4th AIPA Caucus. The Committee also noted that the National Assembly of Vietnam will host the 5th AIPA Caucus.

Establishment of Technical Working Group of AIFOCOM

44. The Committee agreed to establish the proposed Technical Working Group mandated to support and assist the work of AIFOCOM and to enhance the AIPA contribution to the regional efforts in addressing the menace of illicit drugs and realizing a Drug-Free ASEAN 2015. The Committee agreed that the host country will bear the expenses of the Technical Working Group and AIPA Member Parliaments will bear the travel expenses.

Establishment of Cooperation between AIPA and the ASEAN Foundation

45. The Committee agreed to establish cooperation between AIPA and the ASEAN Foundation with the purpose of supporting ASEAN Community building by promoting greater awareness of the ASEAN identity, people-to-people interaction and close collaboration among ASEAN stakeholders.

Relation and Cooperation between AIPA and Pan African Parliament

46. The Committee expressed unanimous approval on the establishment of relations and cooperation between the AIPA and the Pan-African Parliament to promote solidarity, understanding, cooperation and close relations among parliamentary organizations.

Proposal of the ASEAN-Wildlife Enforcement Network and Freeland Foundation for a Technical Cooperation with the AIPA to Develop a “Green Legislative Agenda” to Save from Further Decline ASEAN’s Bio-diversity

47. The proposal of the ASEAN-Wildlife Enforcement Network and Freeland Foundation for a technical cooperation with the AIPA to develop a “green legislative agenda” to save from further decline of ASEAN’s bio-diversity was unanimously approved by the Committee.

Date and Venue of the 34th AIPA General Assembly

48. The Brunei Darussalam Delegation informed the meeting that the 34th General Assembly will be held in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam from 15 to 21 September 2013.

Appreciating the Services of H.E. Dr. Marzuki Alie as AIPA President from September 2011 to September 2012

49. The Committee expressed its appreciation and gratitude to H.E Dr. Marzuki Alie for his excellent leadership of AIPA during his term of office as the President of AIPA.

DIALOGUES WITH OBSERVER COUNTRIES

50. The Assembly, through its dialogue panels, conducted separate meetings with Observer Parliaments, namely: Australia, Belarus, Canada, People’s Republic of China, European Parliament, Republic of India, Japan, Republic of Korea, and the Russian Federation.

34th AIPA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

51. The General Assembly accepted the kind offer of Brunei Darussalam to host the 34th General Assembly to be held in Bandar Seri Begawan on 15-21 September 2013.

APPRECIATION TO THE HOST COUNTRY

52. The Delegations attending the Assembly expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and Parliament of the Republic of Indonesia as well as the Indonesian people, and also the local authorities and the people of Mataram Lombok for their warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made for the 33rd AIPA General Assembly.