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ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

# CONTENTS

1

Foreword by  
President of AIPA

2

Remarks by  
Secretary General of AIPA

3

## AIPA Secretary General

4

**Hon. Dato’ MD.  
Yusoff MD. Zain**  
(Malaysia)  
(2007-2009)

5

**Hon. Antonio  
Veloso Cuenco**  
(Philippines)  
(2010-2013)

6

**Hon. Periowsamy  
Otharam**  
(Singapore)  
(2013-2016)

7

**Hon. Isra  
Sunthornvut**  
(Thailand)  
(2016-2019)

8

## AIPA Member Parliaments

9

AIPA Membership

10

History of Parliament  
Building

11

## AIPA Annual Meetings

12

AIPA General  
Assembly

13

AIFOCOM

14

AIPA  
Caucus

15

ASEAN – AIPA  
Leaders’ Interface

16

**AIPA Day**

17

**AIPA Logo**

18

**Awareness  
Program**

19

**Partnership**

# F O R E W O R D



**Hon. Pantaleon D. Alvarez**

President of AIPA

2016 - 2017

On behalf of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) and as President of AIPA, I have the pleasure and honor to extend my warmest congratulations to the Philippine AIPA National Secretariat for this publication on the 40th Anniversary of AIPA. I thank all AIPA National Secretariats for their valuable inputs and the AIPA Secretariat in Jakarta for its assistance in this endeavour.

My term as AIPA President of the 38th General Assembly coincides with the commemoration of two historic occasions—the 50th Anniversary of the Association of Southeast Asian Nation (ASEAN) and the 40th Anniversary of AIPA itself. AIPA’s development has been closely linked with that of the ASEAN, and as the membership of ASEAN expanded over the years, so did the membership of AIPA. More importantly, AIPA’s maturity as a regional organization reflects the increasing importance of national legislative assemblies in establishing a more people-oriented, inclusive, and participatory ASEAN.

The Preamble of the AIPA Statute commits to seek “a more direct and

active participation by the peoples of the ASEAN Member States” to meet the aspirations of the ASEAN and affirms that “the strength of ASEAN emanates from the roots of our societies and that closer cooperation among the respective legislatures would result in greater participation by the peoples of ASEAN Member States”.

The theme of this year’s General Assembly—“AIPA and ASEAN: Partnering for Inclusive Change”—is apropos given the context of our times. The region is facing manifold challenges with major shifts in the geo-political and economic landscape that affects regional peace, security and stability. These challenges require all of us to build

from our gains, to refrain from complacency, and to strive to be deserving of the trust and confidence reposed in us as the people’s representatives.

The ASEAN’s drive for a common regional identity and integrated community has encouraged AIPA to be more visible and active. Since the adoption of its new statute in 2007, AIPA has transformed itself from an annual social gathering of parliamentarians to an assembly of legislators deeply committed to work for the realization of an integrated ASEAN. AIPA thus complements ASEAN’s vision of a caring and sharing community through its mandate and activities that actively seek to engage all stakeholders at the local and international level to discuss and respond to key issues faced by people in the region.

With this perspective, ASEAN parliamentarians hope to have more voice in the region’s intergovernmental processes – a domain traditionally exclusive to the Executive branch. To support this aspiration, AIPA has shown its resolve to contribute significantly in the work of the three community pillars of ASEAN. It will play an integral part in the years ahead.

ASEAN’s major bottleneck in the implementation of regional integration measures is in the slow ratification of agreements by member

countries, particularly of ASEAN Economic Community agreements. ASEAN will benefit from AIPA’s participation in fully harmonizing the legal frameworks of the Member States and building common standards by legislating domestic laws in line with ASEAN agreements and commitments. I am confident that the ASEAN recognizes the necessity of participation and collaboration of parliamentarians if the envisaged ASEAN Community Vision 2025 is to be realized.

Under the Philippine stewardship of the 38th General Assembly, we underline the need for inclusive representation and participation. Responsiveness to the needs of marginalized sectors in ASEAN Member States is an important aspect of the legitimacy of a representative and inclusive assembly. AIPA is open to differences in the views of its members and those of some members of the broader public and international organizations. It needs to show more, however, in terms of its own engagement with various civil society organizations in the region and in taking up the needs of the marginalized.

As we move forward to post-2017, AIPA and ASEAN must recognize the path to greater prosperity in the region is by increasing regional cooperation and interdependence. At the same time, we must be

aware that mutual respect for independence, sovereignty, equality, territorial integrity and non-interference in the internal affairs of ASEAN Member States has fostered a positive environment in the region. Celebrating AIPA’s 40th Anniversary this year provides us with an occasion for reflection and introspection. The year 2017 is truly a milestone, and our journey will continue beyond 2017. However, while ASEAN’s efforts to foster a sense of belonging and ASEAN identity are laudable, many are still in the dark about the ASEAN Community Vision even though they may already be enjoying the outcomes.

Therefore, change is needed not just in what we should do but also in the way ASEAN operates and communicates. To be truly people-oriented and inclusive as the vision of ASEAN Community, the process must be made open and participatory from the very beginning — not at the end.

As President of AIPA in its 40th year, AIPA extends its full support to the Philippines in leading the ASEAN toward the realization of the collective aspirations of its people for a peaceful, progressive, and caring community.

Thank you and Mabuhay!

R E M A R K S



Hon. Isra Sunthornvut

Secretary General of AIPA

2016 - 2019

“I would like to thank and acknowledge each AIPA National Secretariat for all your cooperation and dedication over the years, without your support and hard work; we would not be so fundamentally sound. I would also like to thank everyone who contributed in making this commemorative book a beautiful book worthy of capturing the essence and spirit of AIPA; and I would especially like to express my gratitude to the House of Representatives of the Republic of the Philippines in printing and designing this 40th Anniversary Commemorative Book for AIPA”.

Before we look ahead and focus on the future of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) it is important that we look back to acknowledge, commemorate and thank the founding ASEAN Parliamentarians who formed the institution that AIPA is today. The ASEAN Parliamentary Meeting

(APM) which was first hosted in 1975 was a platform to provide ASEAN Parliamentarians an avenue to express their opinions and views on ASEAN issues on behalf of the ASEAN peoples. It eventually evolved to become the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization (AIPO) on 2 Septeber 1977 and was

transformed to become AIPA in 2006. For the past 40 years, the Parliamentarians of APM/AIPO/AIPA have represented the Peoples of ASEAN and expressed their concerns and interests through open dialogue at each APM/AIPO/AIPA event. Our gatherings have been the only avenue where the Peoples voices are genuinely and truly represented. Though 40 years of hard work has made the foundation of AIPA strong and steady, we have to assess what our shortcomings are. Have we been able to fully represent the Peoples of ASEAN? Are the Peoples of ASEAN aware that AIPA represents their voices? How do we transform AIPA to become the institution our founding forefathers envisioned it to be? Those are just some of the questions we must ask ourselves as we sit in the present and look towards the future.

40 years has brought us to where we are now, but diversity and determination will become needed additions to build on our foundations and make AIPA a stronger institution for the next 40 years. We, at the AIPA Secretariat, look forward to working with all AIPA Member Parliaments and all AIPA Member Parliamentarians to move AIPA forward and transform AIPA to become the true voice of the Peoples of ASEAN.

Sincerely,  
Isra Sunthornvut

# SECRETARY GENERAL

**Hon. Dato’ MD. Yusoff  
MD. Zain**

**Malaysia**  
(2007-2009)

**Hon. Antonio  
Veloso Cuenco**

**Philippines**  
(2010-2013)

**Hon. Periowsamy  
Otharam**

**Singapore**  
(2013-2016)

**Hon. Isra Sunthornvut**

**Thailand**  
(2016-2019)



## 1st Secretary General of AIPA ( 2007 - 2009 )

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**Hon. Dato' MD.  
Yusuff MD. Zain**

Malaysia

2007- 2009

A native of Johor, Malaysia, born in 2 February 1950, he obtained his B.A (Hons) from University of Malaya in 1973. He was appointed as Malaysia's first resident Ambassador to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). He was assigned to take on the responsibility of establishing a new Embassy in Pyongyang, DPRK and became the first chairman of the Pyongyang Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) Ambassadors' Monthly Informal Meeting in 2004 – 2005.

With over 26 years' experience as Career Diplomat under the Malaysian Foreign Ministry, he had covered issues such as social, politics, security, economic, trade and environment. In addition, he was also tasked to become Malaysia's Alternative Permanent Representative to the 59th Session

of the United Nations General Assembly in New York (September to December 2004) and was appointed as Counselor at the Malaysian Embassy in Riyadh during the Gulf War (1991).

During his tenure at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Malaysia, Dato' MD. Yusuff Bin MD. Zain has also attended several regional and international meetings such as the Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC), ASEAN Zone of Peace Freedom and Neutrality (ZOPFAN), Asia Pacific Economic Community (APEC), International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), World Trade Organization (WTO), World Water Forum and the UNEP Convention on Biological Diversity.

## 2nd Secretary General of AIPA ( 2010 - 2013 )

A representative of the South District of Cebu City during 8th, 9th, 10th, 12th, and 13th Congress in the Philippines. He was the Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs on the 13th and 14th Congress, Chairman of the House Committee on Drugs on the 12th Congress, and Chairman of the Committee on National Defense, Commission on Appointments on the 9th and 10th Congress.

He obtained his Bachelor Degree in Arts (1956) and Laws (1960) from Ateneo de Manila University. Also, he was a former Law Professor in

University of San Jose – Recoletos. Some of his accomplishments included authoring bill to update the Foreign Service Act and sponsoring significant laws of national application such as, the Archipelagic Baselines Law of 2009, the Anti-Terrorism Act of 2007, the Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002, and the Local Government Code of 1991. In addition, he was an active member of the Philippines Delegation to the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization (AIPO) since 2001 and Head of the Philippine Delegation to the AIPO in 1987 – 1998.



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**Hon. Antonio  
Veloso Cuenco**

Philippines

2010 - 2013



**3rd Secretary General of AIPA  
( 2013 - 2016 )**

**Hon. Periowsamy  
Otharam**

Singapore

2013 - 2016

Mr. Otharam took over the position of AIPA Secretary General in February 2013. Prior assuming the office, he was a prominent legal practitioner and legal consultant who has held several senior positions in his country of origin, Singapore. In a career spanning more than three decades that started in 1969, he has served as the Deputy Public Prosecutor and Deputy Senior State Counsel at the Attorney-General's Chambers, Deputy Director of

MINDEF (Ministry of Defence) Legal Services, Deputy Director of Legal Aid Bureau at the Ministry of Law, Clerk of Parliament at the Parliament of Singapore, and Secretary at the Presidential Council for Minority Rights. In his tenure, he initiated the annual production of AIPA Workplan, in order to provide better information and presentation of past, present and future activities of AIPA and AIPA Secretariat

**4th Secretary General of AIPA  
( 2016 - 2019 )**

Hon. Mr. Isra Sunthornvut was appointed as Secretary-General of AIPA at the 37th AIPA General Assembly in 2016 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

He was first elected as a Member of Parliament (MP) for Bangkok under the Democrat Party in 2001 and has been involved in Thai politics in various capacities since, such as; Spokesman and Advisor to the Bangkok Governor, Secretary to the Opposition Leader of the House of Representatives (2 terms), Deputy Secretary General to the Prime Minister (Abhisit Vejjajiva), Vice

Minister Attached to the Prime Minister's Office (attached to the Prime Minister), and Party List MP.

From 2001 to present, Hon. Mr. Sunthornvut has been a columnist for Thai Post and has contributed numerous articles for numerous publications. He holds a Masters of Arts in European Studies from Chulalongkorn University. Hon. Mr. Sunthornvut has been bestowed the Most Exalted Order of the White Elephant Royal Decoration since 2013. He is married with two children.



**Hon. Isra  
Sunthornvut**

Thailand

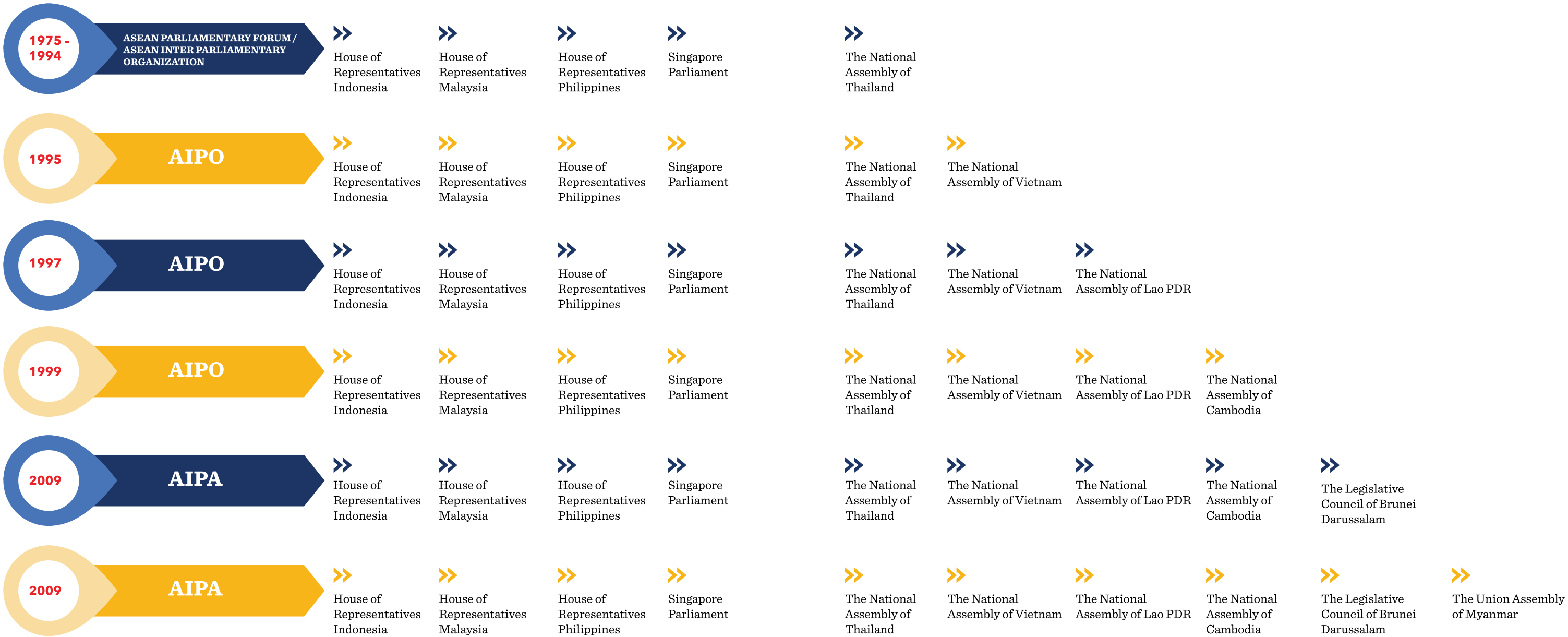
2016 - 2019

# AIPA MEMBER PARLIAMENTS

AIPA MEMBERSHIP

HISTORY OF PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

AIPA MEMBERSHIP





## BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

The Legislative Council Building is a four storey building which was completed in 2007 after two years of construction costing at approximately BND\$62 million. The building is divided into 3 sections; main center, right wing and left wing. It houses a spacious and comfortable Chamber Hall - decorated with chandeliers specially designed according to the Islamic characteristics, a Banquet Hall, Common Rooms, Committee Rooms, Activity Room, an Auditorium, a library and prayer room.

The architecture of the main pillar is decorated with the designs of Daun Lukut, Air Muleh and Bunga Simpur.

There are several round pillars - 5 pillars located in front of the stairs leading to the main entrance and 9 pillars in front of the main entrance which signifies that Brunei Darussalam has a written Constitution in 1959. Meanwhile the pillars located at the foyer of the Chamber hall - 8 pillars in front of the stairs and 4 pillars at the stairs leading to the hall signifies that Brunei Darussalam is fully liable as an independent and sovereign state in 1984.





## C A M B O D I A

The National Assembly building of the Kingdom of Cambodia, which the design is inspired by the style of Khmer King imperial period. At that time, the overall cost of the construction was \$26,673,350. Construction on the current the National Assembly Building began in February 2003 and was completed nearly 5 years later, in May 2007.

The National Assembly building cover a ground area of 28,049 square meters, five main buildings have been built, with 159 Rooms of Member of Parliaments and 445 Chairs of Hall of the National Assembly. The building is recently the most modern government building in the country. The National Assembly located at Rathasaphea Street, Sangkat Tonle Bassac, Khan Chamcar Morn, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

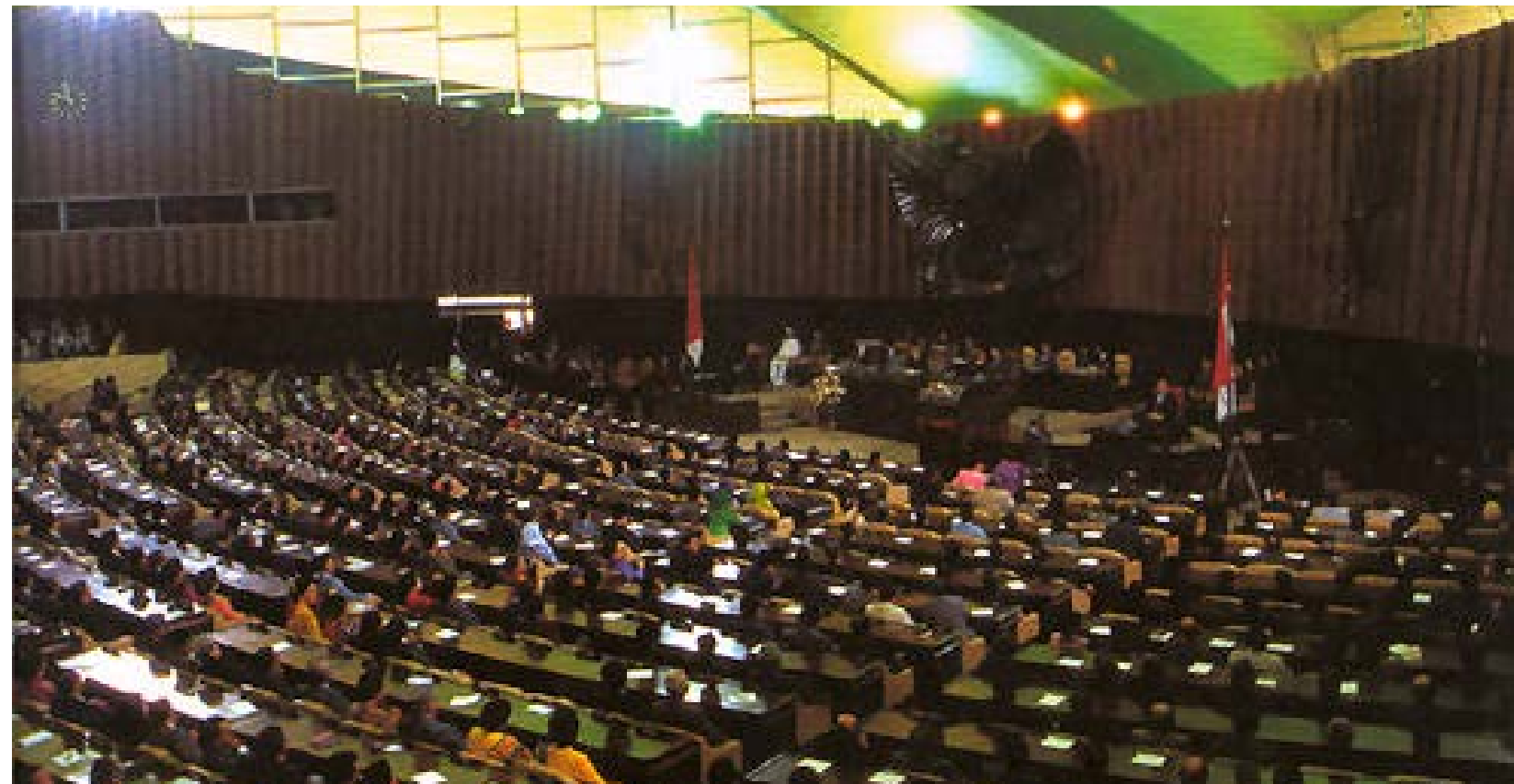




## INDONESIA

The history of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia is rather interesting. The construction of the parliament building, which is more commonly known as MPR/DPR/DPD Building was first initiated by the first President of the Republic of Indonesia, Mr. Soekarno on March 8th, 1965 and started on April 19th, 1965 with a different purpose. The antecedent idea was to build the venue for the Conference of New Emerging Forces (CONEFO), as a rival to the United Nations for Non-Aligned Movement countries. However, the

situation had to be changed immediately when it was subsequently disrupted during a chaotic period of 30 September 1965. After only a six month of construction, the project of CONEFO was halted. However, the existing building was remained and the construction resumed with different purpose which was eventually initiated for the legislature. The finalization of the parliament complex reconstruction has ended in 1983 in the era of the second President of the Republic of Indonesia, Mr. Soeharto.





L A O P D R

The National Assembly building of Lao PDR was built in 1990. The three-storey building was designed in a Lao traditional style by a local architect and had been utilized for more than 26 years. This historic building was the place where Supreme People's Council voted in favor of a new Constitution in 1991, which led to the first polls for the National Assembly under the new Constitution

in 1992. When the building started to deteriorate, construction of the new house for the National Assembly was discussed on the 6th and 7th National Assembly's Legislature. On the 8th Legislature, the old building was decided to be demolished to start the construction of the new one.





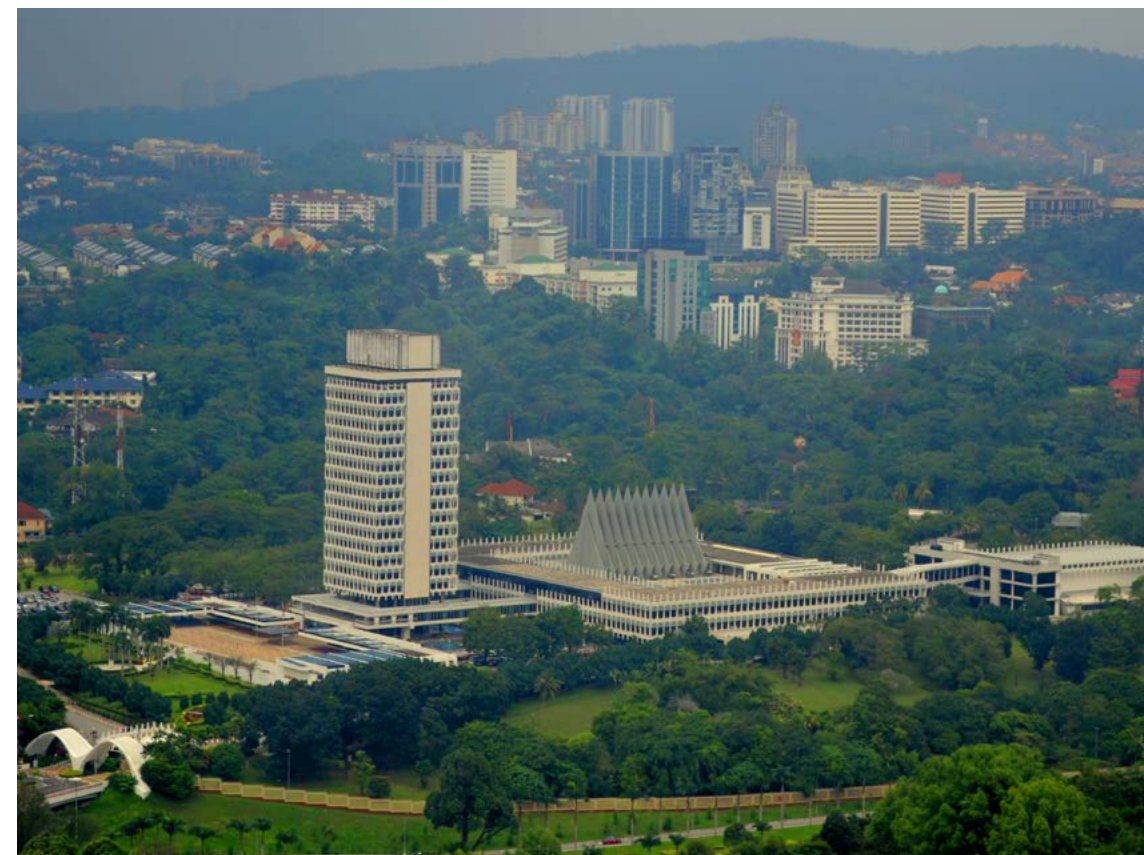
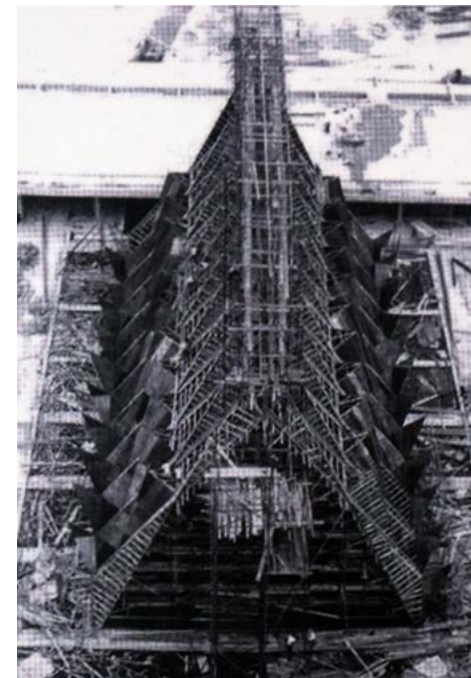
## M A L A Y S I A

In December 1959, an area near the Kuala Lumpur Lake Gardens was chosen as the site on which to build the Parliament Building Complex, a building that symbolizes the democratic principles that are practiced. These principles are the rights and responsibilities of the citizens to rule their own country, the freedom of each citizen to voice his or her own opinions, the freedom to practice his or her own religion, equal rights before the law and the right to own properties. Thus, in September 1962, a hill about 61 meters above the sea level was leveled to build this glorious building. The RM18 million-complex was envisioned by Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj, Malaysia's first Prime Minister.

The construction started after Tuanku Syed Putra Al-Haj Ibni Al-Marhum Syed Hassan Jamalullail laid the first foundation stone for the building on 31 August 1962. On 21 November 1963, His Highness was again given

the honor to officiate the opening of the building. The complex consists of two main structures:  
a. The Main Building (three-story) and  
b. The Tower (17-story).

Given that Parliament Building has turned 50 years old, restoration and upgrading works of Parliament Building has been started under the 10th Malaysia Plan (RMK-10). The objective of the implementation of the project is to ensure the lifespan of the building can be increased to benefit our future generation. The First Phase started on 2011 in which a Multipurpose Hall was renovated to become House Block to temporary allocates the House of the Representatives and the Senate. Development project of Parliament of Malaysia was continuously implemented by stages until 2018.





## M Y A N M A R

Myanmar Parliament Building was constructed under former government, State Peace and Development Council (SPDC). It is located in Zabuthiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, capital of Myanmar. In front of it lies the Presidential Palace and government offices, and behind it are ministerial residences and senior officials' housings. The entire Hluttaw (Myanmar Parliament) complex has an air of dignity with the Hluttaw's position as the Centre of Democracy of the nation. The area of the Parliamentary complex is about 814 acres.

The Parliamentary Buildings started to be built in 2005 and the construction was completed at the end of 2010. There are nine main buildings and 22 small buildings for committees' affairs. Main Parliament Building is a three-storey building and the grounds cover an area of 21,500,000 square feet (384 acres). Master lay-out plan was basically designed on ancient kings' palaces using advanced technologies.





## P H I L I P P I N E S

The House of Representatives edifice, completed in 1977, was initially a cluster of three buildings—a Main Building housing the plenary hall, flanked by a six-story office building on each of its north and south sides. Commissioned by the Marcos administration to design a national lawmaking center, architect Felipe Mendoza drafted a building plan in the raw concrete modernist style. The central building echoes the shape of the traditional Filipino *bahay kubo* (nipa grass house). The building complex, also called the *Batasang Pambansa*, sits on a 16-hectare hilltop ridge that overlooks the Sierra Madre mountain range east of the National Capital Region. The first legislatures to hold office in it was the Interim Batasang Pambansa, a temporary 120-man group, and the succeeding Regular Batasang Pambansa. Soon after the 1986 People Power uprising, the Constitutional Commission tasked to draft the 1987 Constitution of the Philippines occupied the

offices. The House of Representatives during the 8th Congress, elected in 1987, established office in the complex and each Congress has since held office here up to the current 293-member 17th Congress. Three additional office buildings have been built through the years to accommodate the growing number of legislators, increase the number of meeting rooms, and extend library and information services. To provide auxiliary facilities, the House complex also includes smaller separate buildings that serve as medical clinic, sports center, canteen, security barracks, post office, banks, day care center, transport garage and fire station. The *Batasang Pambansa* complex is situated in the capital metropolis of Quezon City, in the National Government Center that hosts the national head offices of many line agencies, constitutional bodies and special courts.





## S I N G A P O R E

Singapore Parliament began as a Legislative Council back in 1867 and held its meetings in various locations including Victoria Memorial Hall. In 1954, a colonial government building by the Singapore River was given a facelift and on 9 July 1954, was declared by Governor Nicoll as the “Assembly House”. As Singapore gained independence in 1965, the House was renamed as the first “Parliament House”.

As the number of Members of Parliament increased steadily with every general election, the old House soon ran out of space and the idea for a new building was mooted in 1989. Work started on the new premise in 1994.

The current Parliament House was officially opened in October 1999. It occupies 2.2 hectares of land with a built-up area of 19,765 square meters. It comprises three

new blocks and a restored colonial building. Designed by architects from the former Public Works Department, it features a strong facade, sturdy columns and an external grey color scheme. With this design, the House blends in with the surrounding buildings in the Civic District. The highlight of the House is its ceremonial entrance hall. The Parliament crest is mounted on a curved red granite wall and is flanked by two sweeping grand staircase which leads to the Chamber.

The current Parliament Secretariat Office block was first built as a Court House Annex which opened in 1839. It was later enlarged in the 1880s to house the Government Printing Office. Subsequently the Public Works Development occupied the building from the late sixties until 1971 when it housed the Attorney-General’s Chambers till 1991.





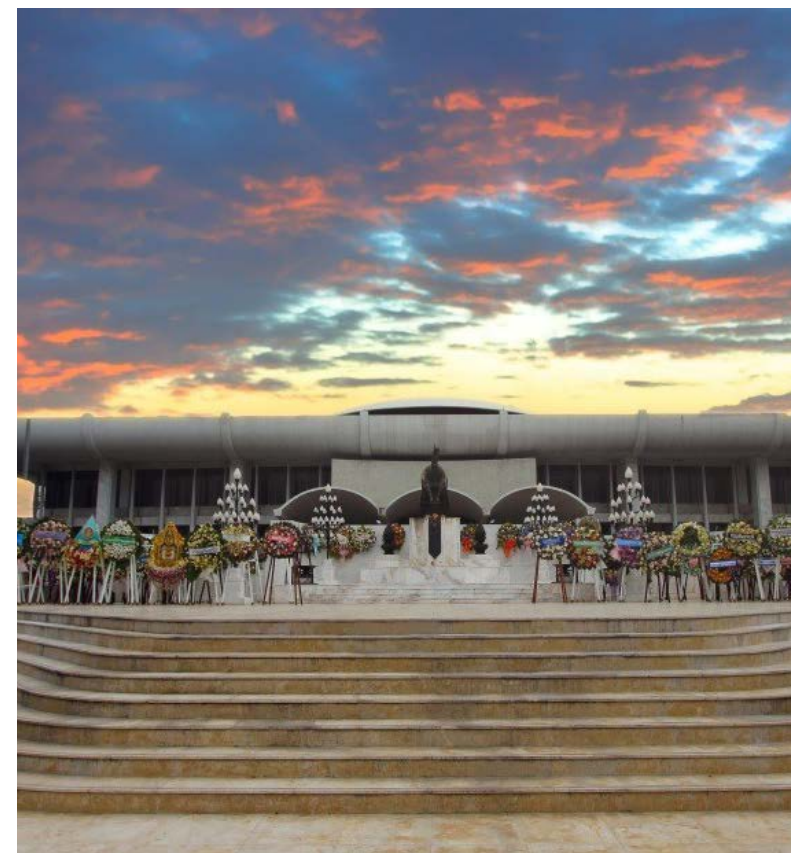
## T H A I L A N D

**Ananta Samakhom Throne Hall** At the beginning, from 28 June 1932 to 1974, the legislature met at the Ananta Samakhom Throne Hall. When the composition of the Assembly had increased correspondingly to the population growth and the Throne Hall became too small to accommodate all the legislators and its secretariat, therefore, the New Office Building of the National Assembly had been constructed and then came into operation for parliamentary session since September 19, 1974.

The Assembly Hall is the most important part of the Parliament. The enactment of the laws and the approval on major legislative issues were taken place in this Hall. Under the dome shape, the Hall was constructed in a contemporary architectural style, providing space, utility, convenience, sophisticated light and sounded system. Each seat in the Hall is installed with microphones and electronic voting controlled system.

**The Royal Statue of King Prajadhipok (Rama VII)** is situated in front of the Parliament Building 1. His Majesty King Prajadhipok, a King with great mercy in sacrificing his royal power to the Thai people, led the country to a constitutional democratic form of government.

**The new Parliament House; “Sappaya-Sapastan”** On 29 July 2008, the National Assembly appropriated new funds to construct a new and grander Parliament House, named “Sappaya-Sapastan”. As of December 2008, a site was identified as the site of a new complex near Chao Phraya River in Bangkok. The new Parliament of Thailand is planned to be constructed in Thai modern architecture in the areas of 49.2 acres.





## V I E T N A M

The old building of the National Assembly of Vietnam was called Ba Đình Hall, located in the Ba Đình Square in Hanoi, Vietnam. The hall was demolished in 2008 and a year later the building project for the new Parliamentary Building of Vietnam was started in the same location. Erected in Hanoi's city center at the former People's Building in the area known as the Citadel, across the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, the new building for the National Assembly is meant to bridging the past and the future of Vietnam.

Architects of Gerkan, Marg, and partners (GMP) of Hamburg, Germany, continued the tradition of using symbols and emblems which is deeply anchored in Vietnamese history, and translated it into architecture. The basic shapes of circle and square, which found in the building volume and structure, symbolize heaven and earth. Materials used and ornaments found in the building were using light-beige color, glass, bronze-colored metal, and bronze cladding, creating a contemporary and modern vibe, representing the new and emerging Vietnam. The National Assembly building of Vietnam houses the representatives from all 58 provinces and up to 350 visitors.



# AIPA ANNUAL MEETINGS

## History in Words and Pictures

GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
(1976 - 2016)

AIPA CAUCUS  
(2009 - 2016)

AIFOCOM  
(2002 - 2015)

ASEAN - AIPA Leaders’  
Interface  
(2009 - 2017)

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY



Parliamentarians of the ASEAN Member States agreed to form an ASEAN Parliamentary Meeting (APM) in 1975. They signed the Statutes of the ASEAN Parliamentary Cooperation aimed to promote closer cooperation between parliaments of the ASEAN member states. It was also decided that they will meet annually.



The AIPO fifth General Assembly convened in Manila, the Philippines in April 1982, discussed the plan to establish the AIPO Permanent Secretariat following a long discussion since 1978 to find a location for a permanent secretariat.





Agreement on the Structure of the Organization and Working Procedures of a permanent AIPO Secretariat was reached, included in the agreement was the detailed budget and contribution of each member to support the permanent secretariat

# The Establishment of AIPO

Ten years after the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Declaration adopted on 8th August 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand. Parliamentarians realized that the ASEAN emanates from the roots of its societies. Following the initial contacts, the visit to Indonesia by Malaysian parliamentary delegation in August 1973 and by Singapore parliamentary delegation in November of the same year gave impetus to the idea of establishing parliamentary cooperation among the ASEAN parliaments. The following year, the Indonesian House of Representatives sent a special mission to Thailand and the Philippines in May as well as to Malaysia and Singapore in September to seek support for the establishment of an ASEAN inter-parliamentary forum, and received a positive response.

Parliaments of the first ASEAN Member States agreed to hold the first meeting in Jakarta to further discuss the realization of the idea to form a parliamentary cooperation forum. The Indonesian House of Representatives initiated idea of setting up an organization composed of the parliaments of the then five ASEAN member countries of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. Indonesia was chosen as the host of the First ASEAN Parliamentary Meeting (APM) from 8th to 11th January, 1975.

The objective is to build closer cooperation among the five respective legislatures and their member of parliaments and to capitalize greater participation by

the peoples of ASEAN in the effort to achieve ASEAN's three main original objectives: to promote economic, social and cultural development in the region; to safeguard the political and economic stability of the region; and to serve as a forum for the resolution of intra-regional differences.

The objective is to significantly contribute through inter-parliamentary cooperation in the attainment of the goals and aspirations of ASEAN.

Entering new decades, the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization (AIPO) took form at the 3rd APM Meeting held in Manila, the Philippines. The Statutes of the AIPO was agreed and signed at

the closure of the APM meeting on 2nd September 1977. This date marked the birth of this regional parliamentary forum that belong to the ASEAN member states, and celebrated as the birth date of AIPO which shall be evolved into AIPA (the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly) in the 90's.

Membership of AIPA grew along the line with the growing number of state membership of ASEAN, throughout the 90's to early 2000 adding to the AIPA membership are parliaments of VietNam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Brunei Darussalam and Myanmar. At the 33rd AIPA General Assembly held in Lombok, Indonesia, all ten (10) parliaments of the ASEAN Member States are full fledged members of AIPA.

Dialogue with Observer Member Parliaments began in the early years of AIPO, in 1979 AIPO set dialogue with parliaments from Australia, Japan and the Republic of Korea. Dialogue with Observer Member Parliaments is convened at every General Assembly, and to date AIPA held annual dialogue with twelve (12) Observer Member Parliaments from Australia, Belarus, Canada, China, European Parliament, India, Japan, Papua New Guinea, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russia and Timor Leste.



In its early years, AIPO members consisted of the five first ASEAN member states, however resolutions adopted at its General Assemblies strongly reflected the situation in the region politically, economically and socially.



Parliamentarians agreed to strengthen AIPO that embodies the vision and ideals embraced by its members to contribute parliamentary support towards the process of the ASEAN integration.



At the 10th AIPO General Assembly in Manila, the Philippines, after an extensive and long discussion, an agreement was finally reached on the location of the Permanent Secretariat, namely in Jakarta, and the General Assembly charged the Head of Delegation of the Indonesian Parliament to invite all Heads of Delegation of AIPO members to a meeting in Jakarta that took place from 16 to 17 February 1990.



The Agreement on the Permanent Secretariat of AIPO included; the Structure, Working, Procedure, Task/Function of the Temporary Organization. The operational cost of the Permanent AIPO Secretariat shall be borne fully by the Indonesian House of Representatives



The Official Inauguration of the Permanent AIPO Secretariat Office in Jakarta was convened on the 17th of February 1990 by the Leaders of the AIPO Member Parliaments attending the Meeting of the Heads of Delegation to the tenth AIPO General Assembly.



At the AIPO Eleventh General Assembly in Singapore in September 1990, an Agreement on the AIPO Permanent Secretariat located in Jakarta was signed. Then a permanent secretariat to function as an administrative body that harmonizes, facilitates and monitors all AIPO activities was established.



As soon as the AIPO Secretariat started to function and the AIPO Secretary General was appointed, an Agreement was signed between the Indonesian Foreign Ministry and AIPO Secretary General on the recognition of AIPO as an international organization located in Jakarta and its related facilities and diplomatic status.



The thirteenth AIPO General Assembly in Jakarta saw more active Observer Members to converse with parliamentarians from the ASEAN. Parliamentarians of the Observer Members were from Australia, Japan, Papua New Guinea, People's Republic of China, Japan, New Zealand, Russia Federation and South Korea.



# The Initial Idea for an ASEAN Parliament

During the third AIPO General Assembly in Jakarta in 1980, the Philippines initially endorsed the establishment of an ASEAN Parliament. What followed was a consensus among the AIPO members that the creation of an ASEAN Parliament would be a long-term AIPO goal.

A resolution on the creation of a Study Group that will look into the possibility of establishing an ASEAN Parliament was adopted at this General Assembly. Although member parliaments agreed in principle to the idea, which the Philippine delegation proposed, however, all felt it was not time yet to establish an ASEAN Parliament due to different historical backgrounds and separate parliamentary systems of the ASEAN Member States.

Instead a Study Committee was formed to conduct a preliminary study and entrusted to also conduct a parallel study on the formation of an AIPO Permanent Secretariat. It was the general sentiment, though, that the plan of establishing an ASEAN Parliament be kept alive, because the

objective is desirable and it would, at the same time, project the image of ASEAN cohesiveness.

In 1982, the General Assembly in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia adopted the Resolution on the Proposal to Study the Establishment of an ASEAN Parliament. It resolved that the Committee was of the view that the establishment of an ASEAN Parliament was a long-term objective and that a thorough study had to be made towards the attainment of this objective.

The resolution adopted at the AIPO GA in Thailand in 1991 resolved to accept with gratitude the offer by the Thai AIPO National Group to host another AIPO Study Committee Meeting in Bangkok the following

year. The meeting was to re-discuss the Thai Study Report in detail and the various steps and measures that must be taken to achieve the ultimate goal of creating an ASEAN Parliament or any other body with similar functions.

From 1991 until 1993 discussion on the possibility to establish an ASEAN Parliament remained in the agenda of the AIPO General Assemblies, and the study of Merit and Demerit of the Establishment of an ASEAN Parliament continued for several years, however it is worth noting that between 1994 to 2002, discussions on the forming of an ASEAN Parliament were not tabled in AIPO meetings and General Assemblies.

AIPO General Assembly is convened to discuss regional issues, to exchange views on security and politics, to facilitate the promotion of economic cooperation, to urge for a common action in response to climate change. Parliamentarians view their support for the ASEAN integration process as a significant factor.



Parliamentarians of the ASEAN member states met to discuss various regional issues including the issue on human rights in ASEAN, good governance and contributing ideas to the restructuring, revitalization and democratization of the United Nations, of peace and international Laws.





Regional and international economic outlook drew the attention of parliamentarian to their regional economic situation. Discussion on free trade arrangement in the region and the impact of international economic situation led parliamentarians to promote and support stronger economic cooperation schemes for the region.

# Renaming AIPO to AIPA

The Gradual Process in the Changing of AIPO to AIPA and the consensus to transform and rename AIPO to AIPA came after AIPO had been exist for 30 years. The change started with the forming of an Ad-Hoc Committee on the Transformation of AIPO into a More Effective and Closely Integrated Institution (Resolution No.26GA/2005/Org/05) adopted at the GA in Vientiane, Lao PDR in 2005.

As mandated by the 26th AIPO GA in Vientiane, Laos in September 2005, the AIPO Ad-Hoc Committee undertook the task to develop a transformation process for AIPO towards ensuring its effectiveness and relevance. Such transformation was deemed a prerequisite for AIPO to better perform as an organization that could address opportunities and challenges in the region, particularly on the establishment of an ASEAN Community.

In the resolution, AIPO recognized the significance of ASEAN integration to cope with the challenges and uncertainties in the globalized era and to empower ASEAN to remain competitive in the globalized world, AIPO was mindful of the increasing role of national

parliaments of ASEAN Member States as a catalyst to ASEAN Integration, and reaffirmed the collective action of AIPO Member Parliaments to strengthen AIPO and steering AIPO towards a more closely integrated parliamentary institution.

Pursuant to this, the Ad-Hoc Committee met in March 2006 in Bali, Indonesia and in July that year in Jakarta, Indonesia. Within the period between these two meetings, a Technical Working Group also convened and met to undertake specific tasks given by the Committee.

27th AIPA General Assembly in Cebu, the Philippines adopted Resolution No.27GA/06/O-10 on

Approving the Report of the Ad-Hoc Committee on the Transformation of AIPO into a more Effective and Closely Integrated Institution.

The resolution took cognizance of the report of the AIPO Study Committee meeting in Chiang Mai, Thailand, which was adopted at the 26th AIPO GA in Vientiane, Lao PDR in September 2005, that decided to change the Study Committee on the Possibility of Establishing an ASEAN Parliament into the AIPO Ad-Hoc Committee on the Transformation of AIPO into a More Effective and Closely Integrated Institution.

By the approval of a resolution emanated from the study outcomes, it resulted in the following;

Amendments to the Statutes of AIPO Approved the Guidelines for the Establishment of Regular Reciprocal Attendance in AIPA General Assemblies and ASEAN Summits by AIPA and ASEAN Leaders Approved the Guidelines and Criteria for the Appointment of the Secretary General of AIPA

The Amendment of the Statute officially changed AIPO into AIPA, and the first General Assembly to use the new name as the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA), was the 28th General Assembly held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in August 19 to 24, 2007.



In supporting the enhancement of the ASEAN economic cooperation and to facilitate trade liberalization, the ASEAN parliamentarians adopted resolutions on the matter including ASEAN cooperative arrangement in financial market.

Resolutions to support and strengthen cooperation between ASEAN and Europe also came as the outcomes of the General Assembly.



Global economic situation marked the discussion of ASEAN parliamentarians and led to the adoption of Resolution on the “Report of the Ad-Hoc Committee on the Role of ASEAN Legislative Bodies in the Face of Regional Economic and Financial Crisis”. This particular resolution shows the economic hardship encountered by the region after the 1998 global monetary and economic crisis hit the region hard.



A Resolution on the ASEAN Free Trade Area Common Effective Preferential Tariff (AFTA-CEPT) Scheme was adopted at the General Assembly to respond to the need for countries in the region to strengthen economic cooperation upon the aftermath of global economic crisis. Parliamentarians of the region talked on issues such as; the issue of child labor, HIV-AIDs, combatting the drug menace, social safety net, and also discussed about national legislative policies on hazardous waste control.





The issues on Trafficking in Persons (TIP), fighting pandemic diseases like avian virus, how to mitigate disaster management and emergency response, environment protection and a billion trees planting program, and issues on migration, social and health matters were discussed and taken up into resolutions.



Enhancing Women's Role and Access to Values-Oriented Education, the Role of Women Parliamentarian in the Use of Mass Media to focus on Issues Affecting Woman and Children, the Role of Women Parliamentarian in Achieving Millennium Development Goals, and the Role of Women political Leaders in the Globalized Era were some of the main topics discussed by Women Parliamentarians of ASEAN.





Resolutions on racial and religious harmony, ideas to eradicate poverty in the light of globalization, environmental sustainability and climate change, the talk on synthetic illicit drugs, and deliberation on food security came to the attention of law makers of the ASEAN region.



Women and Economic Development, Women and their Active Participation in the Society and Cooperation among Women in Politics and Socio-Economic Activities were also of common concerns among women politicians in South East Asia region.



Strengthening Social Welfare and Development for Women and Children, Roles of Women in Economic Recovery after Financial Crisis, Roles of Women Parliamentarian in the Law Making Process, to name some topics embraced by women parliamentarian show the concern to forge the improvement of women participation in politics. Under Social Matters, parliamentarians talked about human resource development, promoting equal rights for people with disabilities, and how to have a common prevention management in the wake of pandemic diseases.



A Resolution on Encouraging the ASEAN Member States to Actively Enhance Public Awareness and Promote Greater People Participation Including Civil Society in the ASEAN Community Building, indicates a common perspective on the importance of people participation in politics that shared by all parliaments in the region. Maintaining stability and peace as reflected in the establishment of ASEAN equally shared by its parliaments. The issue on money laundering took ASEAN parliamentarians to agree on enhancing their cooperation against this heinous act. Resolutions on the Creation of a Green Economy to Promote Sustainable Development, and commitment to adopt Strategies for Poverty Eradication and an Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development were the agenda of the General Assembly.



In 2013 AIPA General Assembly discussed resolution to support the ASEAN Political Security Community, in line with AIPA's commitment to fully support the ASEAN Integration and the ASEAN Community building process. Coherently, AIPA also promotes its role in response to challenges encountered by the ASEAN Economic Community.

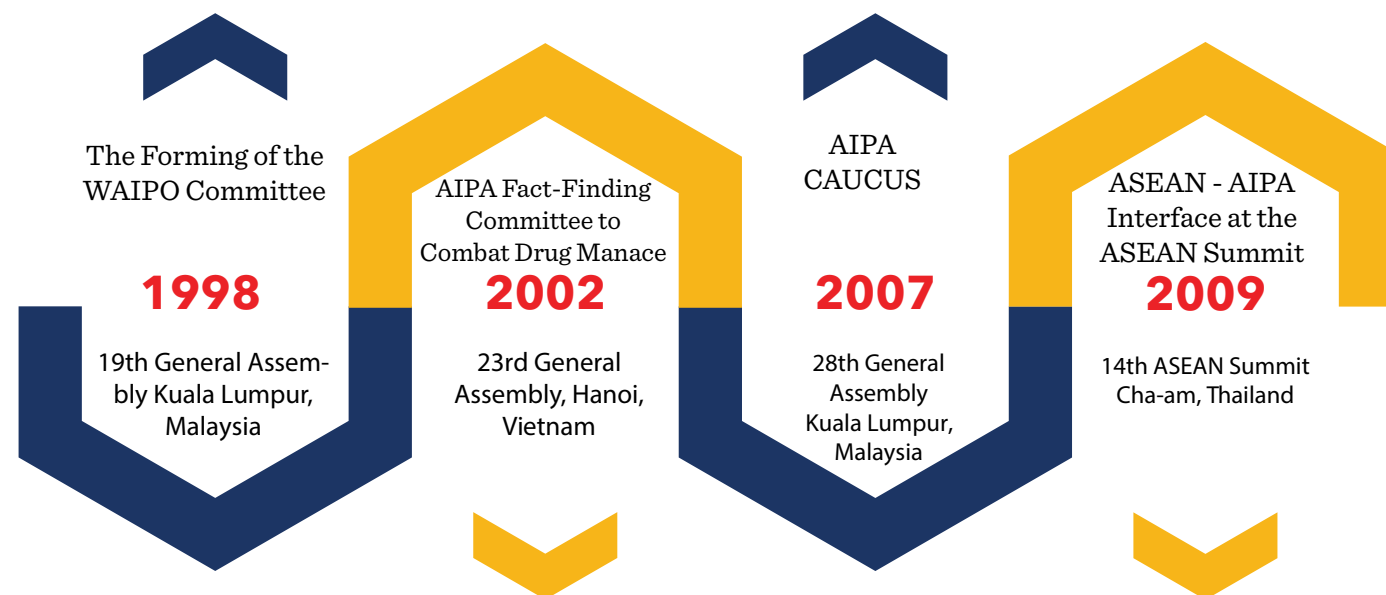


Good Governance and inclusiveness are important in the build-up of ASEAN Community. Inclusiveness also viewed as paramount to achieve a people-centered, people-oriented ASEAN. AIPA calls for its members to enhance their parliamentary support in the process of the ASEAN Community building.



Women Parliamentarians meet to discuss and adopt resolutions. At the 37th AIPA General Assembly, WAIPA adopted Resolution on Recognition of Post 2015-Development Agenda in Gender Equality, Resolution on Promoting Culture of Respect, Resolution on the Rights of Women and Girls towards inclusiveness, and Resolution on Strengthening Legal Framework to Eliminate Violence against Women and Children.

## AIPA STANDING COMMITTEES





In September 1999, during the 20th AIPO General Assembly in Manila, the host country, Philippines, led to the establishment of AIPA Fact Finding Committee (AIFOCOM) on Drug Menace through a resolution which was thereafter approved on the 22<sup>nd</sup> AIPO (now AIPA) General Assembly. The first meeting of AIFOCOM took place in 2002 in Hanoi, Viet Nam.



During the 7<sup>th</sup> AIFOCOM meeting in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam in April 2010, members agreed to submit a draft resolution on facilitating the implementation of AIPA Resolutions on Preventing and Combatting Illegal Drugs, and to Improve AIFOCOM activities. This draft resolution was then adopted at the 31<sup>st</sup> AIPA General Assembly in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, in September 2010 which recognized the limited operational effectiveness of the AIFOCOM in the implementation of AIPA resolutions on preventing and combating illegal drugs.



The 8<sup>th</sup> AIFOCOM Meeting in Phnom Penh, Cambodia in May 2011 produced a draft resolution on the Creation of a Technical Working Group. This draft resolution was later adopted at the 32<sup>nd</sup> AIPA General Assembly in Phnom Penh, Cambodia (Res32GA/2011/Soc/05) which called for the importance of harmonization of laws in ASEAN member states, and declared the creation of a Technical Working Group (TWG) under the AIFOCOM.



Chairperson of 13th AIFOCOM Meeting, Hon. Robert Ace S. Barbers during the press conference after the 13th AIFOCOM Meeting, accompanied by Head of Delegation of The Philippines Parliament Hon. Deputy Speaker Raneo E. Abu, AIPA Secretary General Hon. Mr. Isra Sunthornvut, and Secretary of 13th AIFOCOM Meeting Hon. Edgar S. Sarmiento.



Considering that the formation of the Technical Working Group has not materialized, and the mindfulness on the alarming situation of drug abuse in the region and the need for the full commitment of all the ASEAN member countries to exert strategic and sustained efforts to achieve a drug-free ASEAN community in 2025, Delegation of the Philippines Parliament proposed the transformation of AIPA Fact Finding Committee (AIFOCOM) on Combating Drug Menace into AIPA Advisory Council on Dangerous Drugs (AIPACODD) during the 13th AIFOCOM Meeting in Manila, the Philippines from 4 to 8 July 2017. The draft resolution on the transformation from AIFOCOM into AIPACODD has been agreed by consensus.

## CAUCUS



A decade of AIPA Caucus establishment has brought AIPA to have a better cooperation and coordination in the realization of ASEAN Community. As stipulated under Resolution No. 28GA/2007/Pol/03, the establishment of this meeting was officially adopted. AIPA Caucus is aimed to be a mechanism to develop common legislative initiatives with the objective in harmonizing the laws of ASEAN Member States. As one of AIPA ad-hoc committees, it is also utilized as a platform for regular interaction amongst AIPA Member Parliaments as well as AIPA and ASEAN in monitoring the implementation of AIPA resolutions which has been adopted by the AIPA General Assembly.

In its development, working group(s) discussions have been included in the proceeding of the 8th and 9th AIPA Caucus with aimed to conduct in-depth and focus discussion. This is based on the Resolution No. 34GA/2013/Org/13 on the Amendment of the Terms of Reference of AIPA Caucus that has been adopted during the 34th General Assembly in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam. Hence, a more effective and efficient information sharing and exchanges on the implementation of resolutions with the objective to harmonize laws amongst members can be materialized.





## ASEAN - AIPA INTERFACE



ASEAN-AIPA Interface was first initiated as an informal meeting in 2009 during the 14th ASEAN Summit. It was when the Chairmanship of ASEAN, the Presidency of AIPA, as well as the position of AIPA Secretary General concurrently was held by Thailand. Since then, it has been conducted annually, except at 22<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Summit in 2013.

Started in 2010, ASEAN-AIPA Interface was preceded by a Preparatory Meeting, where the Delegations of AIPA Member Parliaments deliberate, discuss and draft a message to be delivered at the Interface between Heads of Delegation of AIPA Member Parliaments and Heads of Government/State of ASEAN Member States. The latest ASEAN-AIPA Interface meeting was convened with cordiality and was well attended by the Speakers/Presidents of AIPA Member Parliaments and Heads of Government/State of ASEAN Member States on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2017 during the 30<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in Manila, Philippines.



# AIPA DAY

**HISTORY AND PICTURES**

The birth date of AIPA is 2<sup>nd</sup> of September 1977. In 2014, the AIPA Secretariat determined to mark the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September as a celebratory day of AIPA, and with the generosity of the House of Representatives of Indonesia, the celebration was held at the Nusantara Building Lobby.





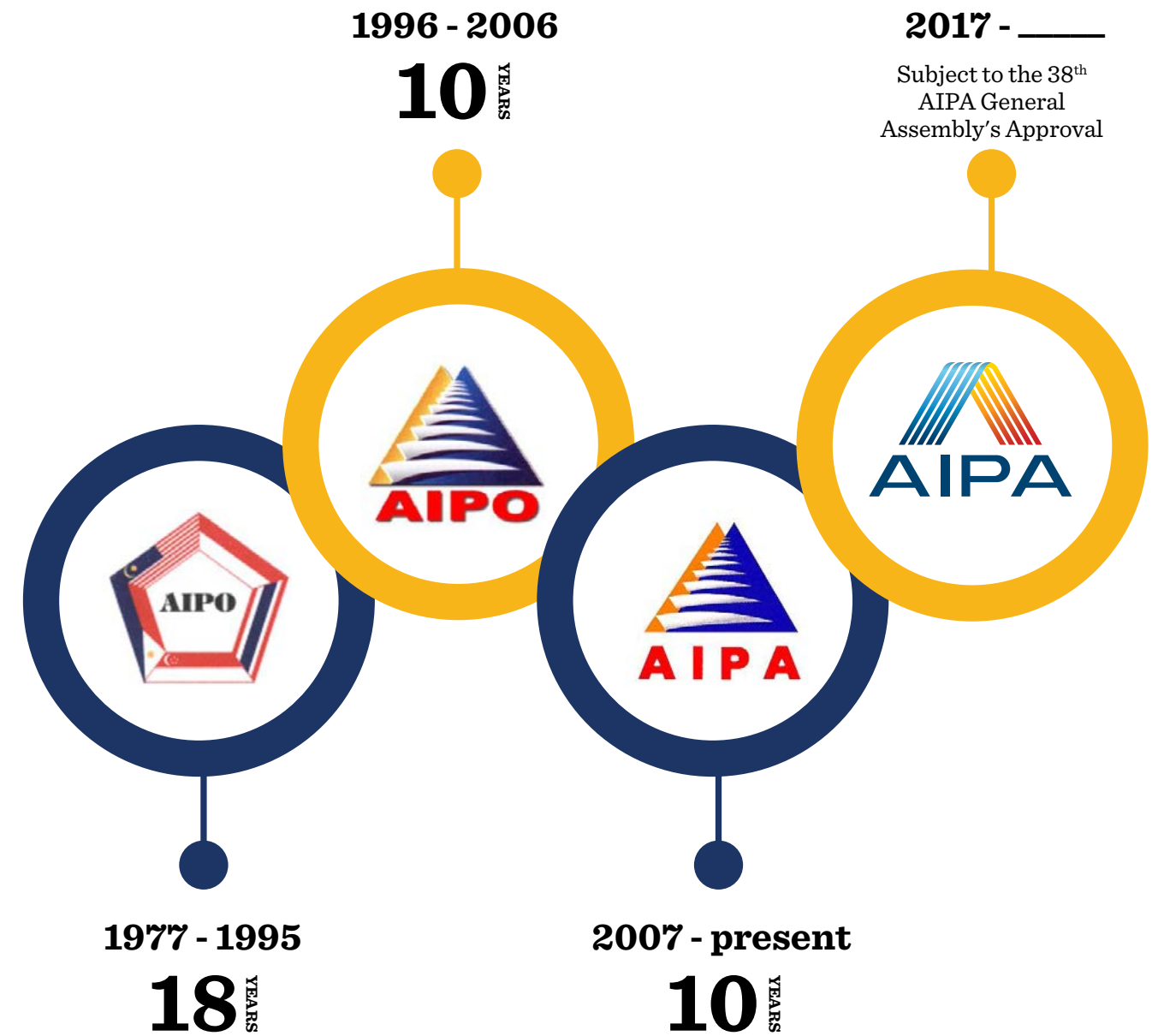
Celebration of the 38<sup>th</sup> AIPA Day at the ASEAN Secretariat on September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2015. The purpose of holding the celebration at ASEAN Secretariat was meant to build stronger relationship and cooperation between ASEAN and AIPA and between its two Secretariats.



Celebration of the 39<sup>th</sup> AIPA Day. AIPA Day was observed by the AIPA Secretariat on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September 2016 at "Pondok Si Boncel" Orphanage in Jakarta, Indonesia.

# AIPA LOGO

## THE EVOLVEMENT OF THE AIPA LOGO



# **AWARENESS PROGRAM**

**LECTURING SESSION**

**ATTACHMENT PROGRAM**

# LECTURING SESSION

Pursuant to the Resolution 34GA/2013/ORG/09 on Awareness Building, the AIPA Secretariat performs its role in community building by disseminating knowledge about ASEAN and AIPA to the community at large through several initiatives:

- 1. Attachment program for students who are interested to learn the activities of AIPA Secretariat.
- 2. Providing lecture program (AIPA Goes to Campus) by conducting information session in universities.

The attachment program is available for individual who applied to be attached at the AIPA Secretariat for particular period of time. This program is a work-based experience for individuals to develop specific skills which are valuable to their professional development.



Joint Lecture DPR RI - AIPA attended by students from An-Nurmaniyah Junior High School, 3<sup>rd</sup> of November 2015.



AIPA Secretariat - DPR RI Joint Lecture Programme. Universitas Muhammadiyah Prof. Dr. HAMKA, 8<sup>th</sup> of March 2016.

AIPA Goes to Campus. Lecturing program for Post Graduate Student of Gadjah Mada University and University of Melbourne, 13<sup>th</sup> of November 2015.



AIPA Goes to Campus. Lecturing program at University of Al - Azhar University Indonesia, 14<sup>th</sup> of December 2015.



Study Visit from the London School of Public Relation to AIPA Secretariat, 18<sup>th</sup> of March 2016.

ATTACHMENT PROGRAM



# PARTNERSHIP

## History and Pictures

ASEAN	FREELAND
GIZ	ERIA
PIC	ASEAN FOUNDATION

# ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS (ASEAN)



The rationale for AIPA to exist is ASEAN, though the birth of these two organizations is apart by ten years, as a sole intra-parliamentary grouping in South East Asia, AIPA is a legislature arm of ASEAN. The development of membership of ASEAN that grew from the first five nations into ten in the early '90s followed by AIPA, whose membership also grew along the line with ASEAN.

As stipulated in the AIPA Statutes, important part of the aim and purpose of AIPA to exist is to facilitate the achievements of the goals of ASEAN as constituted in the ASEAN declaration made on the 8<sup>th</sup> of August 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand, as well as the ASEAN Vision 2025 that leads to the realization of the ASEAN Community. In addition to that, the AIPA Statutes emphasizing on the importance for AIPA to consult, coordinate and interact with ASEAN to offer parliamentary contribution to the ASEAN integration process.

Furthermore, the Statutes stipulates that the AIPA Secretariat shall be at the city where the ASEAN Secretariat is located, unless the General Assembly decides otherwise (AIPA Statutes article 14 para 2). This reflects and acknowledges the importance of the legislative and the executive branches of ASEAN to build a strong and cooperative relations that aims towards the fulfilment of the ASEAN goals.

In its early years as AIPO (before it was renamed as AIPA in 2006), the desire among parliamentarians to engage with ASEAN were demonstrated through the adoption of numbers of resolutions such as;

- Resolution 11GA/15-90 Fostering a Closer and Direct Communication between AIPO and ASEAN Ministerial Meeting



- Resolution 12GA/91/RES/O-19 Resolution on Closer Relations with the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM/ASC) and the ASEAN Secretariat
- Resolution 27GA/06/Org-12 The Guidelines for the Establishment of Regular Reciprocal Attendance in AIPA General Assemblies and ASEAN Summits by AIPA and ASEAN Leaders
- Resolution 28GA/2007/Org/14 on Enhancing AIPA-ASEAN Cooperation
- Resolution 30GA/2009/Org/06 on the Evaluation on AIPA's Participation in ASEAN Activities

The aforesaid resolutions reflect the spirit embraced by the two entities to continue strengthening the cooperation and relations between ASEAN and AIPA. It is important to note that since 2009 an Interface between Leaders of AIPA and Heads of Government/State of

the ASEAN Member States convene annually at every ASEAN Summit.

AIPA regularly attends meetings organized by the ASEAN Secretariat and the ASEAN entities' meetings. AIPA by the ASEAN invitation also taking part in the High Level Consultative Meeting and in the ASEAN sectoral bodies' in order to keep ASEAN and AIPA updated of each-others' respective programs and activities. Both AIPA and ASEAN also convey speech/message on reciprocal basis at meetings.

**ECONOMIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
FOR ASEAN AND EAST ASIA (ERIA)**



Based in Jakarta, Indonesia, the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) is an international organization whose primary purpose is to conduct research activities and make policy recommendations for increased economic integration in ASEAN. Commenced by discussion between AIPA Secretary General and President of ERIA on the shared common objectives to support the ASEAN economic integration process during the AIPA Day Ceremony on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September 2015, and followed by Dialogue Meeting between AIPA Member Parliaments and Members of National Diet of Japan on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November 2015 in Jakarta, AIPA and ERIA perceived a possible cooperation.



Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between AIPA and ERIA was signed on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December 2016 at AIPA Secretariat in Jakarta, Indonesia. Both agreed to cooperate in areas of research, make policy recommendations and public awareness, and such other areas in accelerating the economic integration process which will contribute to the achievement of ASEAN Community.

# PARLIAMENTARY INSTITUTE OF CAMBODIA (PIC)



At the request of the Cambodian Parliament, the Parliamentary Institute of Cambodia (PIC) was founded in 2011. It is mandated to contribute to the strengthening of the Cambodian Parliament through the capacity development of its members and parliamentary staff, as well as to share experiences with others and other parliaments in the region, in particular those having a relatively similar level of development with the Cambodian Parliament. The MoU signed on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2016 between PIC and AIPA forms the basis for the establishment of a capacity development program for staff of AIPA Member Parliaments. This was confirmed by the resolution adopted at the 37<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of AIPA.



Capacity strengthening is at the core of PIC’s activities and services include training, workshops, seminars and internships, as well as support for outreach activities such as expert hearings, public consultations and national and international fact-finding and study missions.

# ASEAN FOUNDATION



AIPA and the ASEAN Foundation entered into a partnership on the 18<sup>th</sup> of December 2013 when the AIPA and ASEAN Foundation signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Jakarta. The MoU outlines future collaboration in addressing priority interest of both institutions for the benefit of ASEAN. The AIPA agreed at its 34<sup>th</sup> General Assembly to develop cooperation with the ASEAN Foundation.



With the formal establishment of the ASEAN Community in 2015, the partnership between the AIPA and the ASEAN Foundation emphasizes the need to work hand-in-hand in promoting active participation of people in the process of forging the ASEAN Community as mandated by the 27<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit.



Freeland is a non-profit international foundation dedicated to raising conservation awareness, building local capacity to protect wildlife and ecosystems, and putting a stop to the illegal wildlife trade in the ASEAN region. Founded in 2000 to tackle the issue of wildlife trafficking and human slavery, Freeland Foundation is the only international environmental and human rights organization which has headquarter in Asia with multi-national staff, while several international NGOs working in Asia are headquartered outside the region,.

Resolution 33GA/2012/Org/07 on “Strengthening Law Enforcement and Regional Cooperation to Combat Wildlife Crime and on Partnership Development with ASEAN/WEN/ARREST Program/Freeland Foundation” was adopted at the 33<sup>rd</sup> AIPA General Assembly held in Lombok, Indonesia in 2013. This

resolution recommended the creation of AIPA national parliamentary group or caucus to provide oversight to support ASEAN commitment in curbing wildlife crimes. Following to the adoption of the aforesaid resolution a cooperation agreement between AIPA and Freeland was signed on the 4<sup>th</sup> of December 2012 in Bangkok, Thailand. The cooperation agreement aimed to bring awareness to public of the dire situation surrounding bio-diversity in the ASEAN Region.

At the 36<sup>th</sup> AIPA General Assembly in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 2015, Resolution 36GA/2015/Org/09 on “Strengthening Law and Enforcement and Regional Cooperation to Combat Wildlife Crime” was adopted. This resolution agreed to develop a work plan or framework for AIPA Member Parliaments to present their country reports on current wildlife situation at the

annual meeting of AIPA Caucus. At the 8<sup>th</sup> AIPA Caucus held in Luang Prabang, Lao PDR in 2016, Wildlife and CITES was tabled in the agenda of the Caucus which has since become a practice. At the 9<sup>th</sup> AIPA Caucus convened in Jakarta, Indonesia in April 2017, Wildlife and Bio Diversity was again tabled in its agenda and gained the attention of the AIPA delegations.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of December 2015 the second phase of cooperation agreement between Wildlife Asia/ Freeland and AIPA was stipulated in a Memorandum of Understanding which covers three years program, signed in Bangkok, Thailand.

AIPA Member Parliaments are encouraged to reform their regulations in order to stop wildlife trafficking and protect biodiversity in the region from extinction. Each AIPA Member Parliament is suggested to sign an MoU that supports the development of common laws and policies in supporting CITES implementation. Furthermore, a Joint Task Force to combat wildlife

crimes and to preserve bio-diversity is proposed by AIPA delegations to meet up regularly to exchange information and harmonize regulations.



FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY  
DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR  
INTERNATIONALE  
ZUSAMMENARBEIT (GIZ) GMBH



AIPA Capacity Development

The AIPA Capacity Development commissioned by the Federal Government of Germany to provide AIPA with technical assistance commenced in 2012 by the signing of a Joint Declaration of Intent between the Federal Republic of Germany and the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) both respectively represented by German Ambassador to Indonesia and Secretary General of AIPA.

The project that aimed at strengthening the capacity of members of AIPA and the AIPA Secretariat was implemented through workshops and trainings attended by member of parliaments and parliamentary staff of AIPA member parliaments.

Since its pilot phase, numbers of workshops/trainings were convened to focus on topics deemed important to enhance the functions of legislative body. Such topics include; legislation and legal drafting, the conversion of AIPA resolutions and ASEAN agreements into national laws or policies, parliamentary budgeting and its transparency, human resource development, public outreach and communication, knowledge management and program management.

The first and second phase of the Capacity Development Project that respectively started in 2014 and 2016 and also based on the official Joint Declaration of Intent between both parties, saw the implementation of the Work Plan of the Project and the increased numbers

of participation and enthusiasm in the deliberation of different issues/topics among participants attending the workshops/training.

The distribution of the venues for the workshops/training among members of AIPA contribute positively to the creation of bonding and solidarity among member of parliaments and parliament staff, and significantly strengthen the acknowledgement of ownership to the project among all member parliaments.

The AIPA Capacity Development Project commissioned by the Federal Republic of Germany and implemented by AIPA and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH is an example of positive and productive program for AIPA, that holds the mandate to expand its outreach to international partners through mutual relations and cooperation, which contributes to the strengthening of its institution as an inter-parliamentary entity that aims to support the integration of ASEAN.

The dawn of the advancement of technology in information science and the absence of automated mechanisms for AIPA member parliaments to share information and knowledge among themselves prompted the leadership of AIPA and the management of AIPA Secretariat to embark on a project to create an intranet system.

With the generous financial support and technical assistance from the German Federal Foreign Office (FFO) and implemented by GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit) through the joint project with AIPA “Capacity Development for the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly”, a series of consultative workshops and trainings with various stakeholders were conducted on 2013 in Jakarta, Indonesia and in Vientiane, Lao PDR, and on 2015 in Singapore. After the intranet system was tested and established in 2015, a series of roadshow meetings were also conducted to promote the system in 2017 in

the parliaments of the Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand, Myanmar, Brunei Darussalam and Indonesia. Today, AIPA has a running web-based knowledge and information-sharing portal and intranet for various user groups within the national secretariats of member parliaments of AIPA. This system is called “AIPA Connect” and it aims to enable users to learn from each other, facilitate their lines of communication and help achieve the goals of AIPA.



# AIPA 40<sup>th</sup> COMMEMORATIVE BOOK

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