



## **Welcome Remarks**

### **THE 44<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY ASEAN INTER- PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (AIPA)**

**(FINAL)**

**H.E. AR. SITI ROZAIMERIYANTY DATO HAJI ABDUL RAHMAN**  
**Secretary-General of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly**

#### **Date:**

Monday, 7 August 2023

#### **Venue:**

Grand Ballroom, Ground Floor, Fairmont Hotel  
Jakarta, Indonesia

#### **Time:**

11.30-12.30 (GMT+7)

*Bismillahirrahmanirrahim*

*Assalamualaikum Warrahmatuallhi Wabarakatuh*

**His Excellency Pak Joko Widodo**, President of the Republic of Indonesia;

**Her Excellency Dr. (H. C.) (Doktor Honoris Causa) Ibu Puan Maharani**, President of AIPA, Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia;

**His Excellency Bambang Soesatyo**, Speaker of the People's Consultative Assembly of the Republic of Indonesia;

Excellency Speakers and Deputy Speakers of the AIPA Member Parliaments and AIPA observer Parliaments;

**Honorable Dr. Fadli Zon**, Chair of Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation Committee of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia;

**His Excellency Dr. Kao Kim Hourn**, Secretary-General of ASEAN;

Distinguished Parliamentarians, Guests of the Host, Ladies and Gentlemen;

1. Good Morning, *Selamat Pagi, Salam Sejahtera dan Selamat datang* di Jakarta (*welcome to Jakarta*), Indonesia. It is indeed truly an honor and privilege to stand here for the first time as

the 6<sup>th</sup> AIPA Secretary General at this 44<sup>th</sup> General Assembly. **Today, we are here for ASEAN.** [Pause] ASEAN, a home of diversities, hopes, and dreams – and most importantly, **we are a family** bound by ties of friendship and solidarity. And being here in Indonesia this year, their presence makes me feel at home.

2. This morning, we have the honor to welcome His Excellency Pak Jokowi, the President of the Republic of Indonesia, and Chairman of ASEAN. **Terimakasih atas waktu yang diberikan untuk hadir di acara AIPA General Assembly yang ke-44** (*thank you for your time to attend the 44<sup>th</sup> AIPA General Assembly*). **Merupakan sebuah kehormatan bagi saya dapat memulai masa jabatan saya sebagai Sekretaris Jendral AIPA saat Indonesia menjabat presidensi ASEAN** (*it is a privilege for me to starting my tenure as the Secretary-General of AIPA under Indonesia's ASEAN Chairmanship*). And I would also like to extend my gratitude to Her Excellency Ibu Puan Maharani, for her steadfast leadership in successfully leading the AIPA presidency.
3. Indeed, I am proud to say that AIPA has gone a long way. 46 years of a well-deserved recognition and will continue to evolve and transform into a broader and more integrated

institution. [Pause] AIPA will continue to serve the needs and aspirations of the people in ASEAN. [Pause] **AIPA is needed in developing the 2045 ASEAN Agenda** as highlighted by Bapak President Jokowi in your opening remarks, pak, [pause] during the AIPA-ASEAN Leaders' Interface this year. AIPA must strengthen its collaboration with the government to ensure ASEAN to be the Epicentrum of Growth.

***Excellencies,***

***Honorable Parliamentarians,***

***ladies and gentlemen,***

4. This year, Indonesia adopts the theme of ASEAN Matters: Epicentrum of Growth; a theme that resonates strongly with ASEAN. The theme signifies the shared commitment and cruciality of cooperation of ASEAN to enhance its capacity in responding to various regional and global challenges as well as reaffirming its position as the epicenter of economic growth for the prosperity of the ASEAN peoples.
5. In line with this, the theme for the 44<sup>th</sup> AIPA General Assembly is *“Responsive Parliaments for a Stable and Prosperous ASEAN”* is very timely as a pivotal action to reinforce collaboration between the executive of ASEAN and AIPA in responding to the complex challenges to become more adaptive, responsive, and prosperous.

6. AIPA has adopted **961 resolutions** ranging from political, economic, social, women, and organizational. These resolutions demonstrate as a credible testament and strategic inputs of the AIPA Member Parliaments to further strengthen the role of parliament in national context and to contribute to the harmonization of law among the AIPA Member Parliaments through adoption of policy formulation on issues of common concern;
7. AIPA remains relevant as it accomplished a momentous milestone in formulating the AIPA Strategic Plan 2023-2030 for the first time. The AIPA Strategic Plan generates four strategic themes that are in accordance with the three pillars of the ASEAN Community and signifies the mutual commitment of AIPA in synergizing its ongoing efforts to realize ASEAN as the epicentrum of growth that leaves no one behind.
8. I am confident that AIPA will continue to have a crucial role to play and its importance in shaping the regional outlook will only increase in the coming years. Thus, AIPA Member Parliaments shall continue to serve the needs and aspirations of the people in ASEAN. I look forward to your excellencies continued support and wish a very successful and fruitful

deliberations. The AIPA secretariat stands ready to give fullest support throughout the meeting.

Thank you and *wassalamualaikum warrahmatullahi wabarakatuh*.