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**THE 44th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY
ASSEMBLY**



***“Responsive Parliaments for a Stable
and Prosperous ASEAN”***

SUMMARY OPENING REMARKS

(Unofficial translated document)

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**OPENING CEREMONY
THE 44TH AIPA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

JAKARTA, AUGUST 7TH 2023

The 44th AIPA General Assembly meeting took place in the midst of various world challenges and problems, which require solutions so that humanity can get a prosperous and peaceful life.

The current world situation is still faced with fragmentation between countries, geopolitical tensions and conflicts, social and economic inequality, poverty, transnational crime, the trend of slowing global economic growth, the increasingly impactful threat of climate change, and the incomplete post-pandemic recovery of 19, as well as various other problems faced by the people.

Every country, with its capacity and capability, will make maximum efforts to be able to protect its people. Cooperation between countries will be very helpful if the cooperation can provide real benefits.

The 44th AIPA General Assembly is an opportunity for Parliaments in Southeast Asia to be able to strengthen commitment in responding to various global and regional challenges and problems.

AIPA, as a stakeholder representing the perspective of the people it represents, will be oriented towards people's aspirations in responding to various global and

regional challenges and problems.

The aspirations of the people are regarding the fulfillment of a safe, peaceful, prosperous, healthy, civilized and friendly life.

This is in line with the theme of the 44th AIPA General Assembly, namely "Responsive Parliaments for a Stable and Prosperous ASEAN", which is our shared commitment to helping create peace and prosperity in Southeast Asia.

AIPA must be able to find common ground for commitment, amidst the differences between AIPA countries.

Strategic Agenda for this Assembly

First, the need for AIPA to strengthen its commitment to maintaining ASEAN solidity. In the midst of various problems in each country, we still need to maintain the commitment that ASEAN togetherness will help and strengthen each other. Together, ASEAN will become stronger.

Second, AIPA needs to ensure that ASEAN's interests

continue to be heard and paid attention to, in solving various problems that require global commitment, amidst the issue of great power rivalry. Issues of poverty, inequality, industrialization, globalization, gender, health, education, and the environment are some of the problems whose resolution requires global commitment.

Third, AIPA needs to continue to encourage that in the midst of great power competition, the world needs to resolve priority issues of common interest, namely, among others, a just world economic order and climate change mitigation. The global economic order must be able to increasingly provide the ability for each country to prosper; while climate change mitigation, according to the United Nations, we have entered the era of global boiling, no longer global warming.

Fourth, dialogue between the Parliaments of AIPA countries and observer countries is expected to be able to bridge and build potential relationships in developing preventive diplomacy; The forum was also attended by 18 parliamentary observer countries and guests who were partners of AIPA member parliaments.

Stability is a prerequisite for development and economic growth in Southeast Asia.

A peaceful, stable and prosperous ASEAN will contribute to global economic stability and growth. Therefore, AIPA will continue to strengthen and sharpen the commitment needed to maintain and ensure a conducive, peaceful, stable and prosperous Southeast Asia region.

AIPA member parliaments will also continue to encourage the political life of people in the Southeast Asian region to be more democratic, fulfill human rights, and strengthen the rule of law based on the uniqueness of each country.

The foreign policy of each AIPA member country is carried out based on different national interests, but this certainly does not prevent ASEAN member countries from being committed to coordinating in common interests.

Parliamentary diplomacy can increase mutual understanding and build trust (trust building) between countries in Southeast Asia.

Indonesia through the DPR RI itself, in the past 2 years has become one of the centers of global and regional parliamentary diplomacy. In 2022, the DPR RI leads the 144th Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Assembly, and

the 8th G20 Parliamentary Speakers Summit 20 (P20).
And in 2023, we hold the AIPA Presidency.

All of this aims to increase the contribution of Parliament in the discussion of various international issues. Because we witness that various international issues have had a direct impact on the people who voted for us.

ASEAN is strong, because it is united; ASEAN is united, because it is strong.

ASEAN kuat, karena bersatu; ASEAN bersatu, karena kuat.

One ASEAN family; together we are one.

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