



## AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS

### The 1st Consultative Meeting of Young Parliamentarians of AIPA (YPA)





Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) successfully convened the first Consultative Meeting of Young Parliamentarians (YPA) on August 5, 2024, graciously hosted by the National Assembly of Lao PDR.

Chaired by Hon. Phonesane Vilaymeng, the meeting brought together over 20 representatives from AIPA Member Parliaments, the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Youth (SOMY), the ASEAN Foundation, and the Lao Youth Union.

With the theme “Empowering Youth in Building a Secure, Resilient, and Inclusive ASEAN Community,” the meeting provided a valuable platform for young parliamentarians to collaborate on political discourse, address youth underrepresentation in political processes, and enhance their contributions to regional development. Key discussions focused on preparing the agenda for the upcoming Standing Committee of YPA at the 45th AIPA General Assembly and addressing other youth-related priorities.

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## 7th Meeting of the AIPA Advisory Council of Dangerous Drugs (AIPACODD)



AIPA successfully convened the 7th Meeting of the AIPA Advisory Council on Dangerous Drugs (AIPACODD) on August 7-8, 2024, in Luang Prabang, Lao PDR. Hosted by the National Assembly of Lao PDR, the meeting was held under the theme “Strengthening the Role of Parliaments in Addressing Drug Matters for the Realisation of a Drug-Free ASEAN.”

The meeting brought together 61 delegates from 9 AIPA Member Parliaments, a representative from the Embassy of Myanmar to Lao PDR on behalf of the Chair of the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Drugs (ASOD), the Deputy Minister of Public Security of Lao PDR, and the Head of the General Police Department. During the discussions, AIPA Member Parliaments deliberated on the transformation of AIPACODD into the AIPA Advisory Council on Transnational Crime (AIPA-ACT) and unanimously adopted the draft resolution on the role of parliaments in addressing drug matters for the realisation of a drug-free ASEAN.





## Courtesy Call with H.E. Xaysomphone Phomvihane, President of the National Assembly of Lao PDR and President of AIPA



On the sidelines of the first Consultative Meeting of Young Parliamentarians of AIPA (YPA) in Vientiane, Lao PDR, the AIPA Secretary General had the honor of meeting with His Excellency Xaysomphone Phomvihane, President of AIPA and President of the National Assembly of Lao PDR.

The meeting underscored the significant milestones and accomplishments of Lao PDR's AIPA Presidency for 2023-2024. Discussions centered on maintaining the momentum of these initiatives and preparing for upcoming AIPA activities, including the 45th AIPA General Assembly, which will be hosted by the National Assembly of Lao PDR this October.



***with Hon. Phonesane Vilaymeng,  
Chair of Young Parliamentarians  
of AIPA (YPA)***

To ensure the smooth conduct of the first Consultative Meeting of Young Parliamentarians of AIPA (YPA), the AIPA Secretariat held a briefing session with Hon. Phonesane Vilaymeng, Chair of YPA, in Vientiane, Lao PDR, on August 4, 2024. The briefing was not only part of the preparations for the Consultative Meeting but also for the upcoming 45th AIPA General Assembly, where the outcomes of the YPA Consultative Meeting will serve as a foundation for the YPA Committee Meeting at the General Assembly.



***with Hon. Amphay Chitmanonh,  
Chair of the 7th Meeting of the  
AIPA Advisory Council on  
Dangerous Drugs***

Prior to the 7th Meeting of the AIPA Advisory Council on Dangerous Drugs (AIPACODD), the AIPA Secretary-General held a briefing with Hon. Amphay Chitmanonh, Chair of the 7th AIPACODD Meeting, on August 6, 2024. The discussion centered on finalising the program and key agenda items to ensure a smooth and productive session for the upcoming AIPACODD meeting.

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## Road to 45th AIPA General Assembly

***Meeting with Secretary General of the National Assembly of Lao PDR  
and the Chairperson of the AIPA-ASEAN Hearing and Committee on  
Organisational Matter***



Secretary General met with Hon. Amphaivone Lombounpheng, Secretary General of the National Assembly of Lao PDR, to discuss preparations for the 45th AIPA General Assembly and the two critical meetings she will chair: the AIPA-ASEAN Hearing and the Committee on Organisational Matters. The meeting focused on ensuring the smooth execution of the General Assembly, with discussions highlighting key agenda items and Hon. Amphaivone's pivotal role in steering both meetings.



***Meeting with the Chairpersons of AIPA Standing Committees Assembly, and the Heads of Delegation of the National Assembly of Lao PDR***



On August 9, 2024, the AIPA Secretary General held an important meeting with the Chairpersons of the AIPA Standing Committees and the Heads of Delegation of the National Assembly of Lao PDR. The discussions centered on the comprehensive preparations for the upcoming 45th AIPA General Assembly, including the program of activities, key agenda topics, and the

***Meeting with Hon. Sanya Praseuth, Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly of Lao PDR***



Following the meeting with the Chairpersons and Heads of Delegation, the AIPA Secretary General engaged in further discussions with Hon. Sanya Praseuth, Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly of Lao PDR. This follow-up meeting provided additional insight into the ongoing preparations for the 45th AIPA General Assembly, elaborating on earlier discussions. The meeting also addressed preparations for the 13th ASEAN-AIPA Leaders' Interface Meeting and reviewed the outcomes of the 7th AIPACODD Meeting.

***Meeting with Hon. Thoummaly Vongphachanh, Chairperson of Women Parliamentarians of AIPA (WAIPA)***





Vongphachanh, Chairperson of WAIPA, to discuss preparations for the upcoming WAIPA Meeting at the 45th AIPA General Assembly. Central to the discussion was the draft resolution prepared by the National Assembly of Lao PDR, which will be deliberated by the WAIPA Committee during the General Assembly. The resolution aligns with and supports the Women's Political Participation and Leadership Plan of Action and Implementation Framework 2024-2030.

The meeting also covered plans for the proposed WAIPA Women Political Leaders Forum, to be held on the sidelines of the 45th AIPA General Assembly. The forum will spotlight the vital role of women in politics and leadership, and explore how the challenges they encounter can be transformed into opportunities for fostering inclusive progress.

### **Training Programme for National Assembly Members and Staff to Prepare for the 45th AIPA General Assembly**



In preparation for the 45th AIPA General Assembly, the Foreign Affairs Committee (FAC) of the National Assembly of Lao PDR, with the support of UNDP, organised a comprehensive training programme for Members of Parliament and Secretariat staff from August 19 to 29, 2024, in Vang Vieng and Vientiane, Lao PDR. The training aimed to strengthen the capacity of parliamentary secretariats in effectively supporting their delegations and chairpersons before and during the meetings at the General Assembly. The programme focused on equipping participants with essential skills and knowledge to ensure the smooth and efficient conduct of the General Assembly, including handling procedural matters, documentation, and coordination efforts.

As the knowledge hub of AIPA, the AIPA Secretariat actively contributed to the training programme, offering valuable insights through technical sessions and workshops. These sessions were designed to familiarise participants with AIPA's rules and procedures, ensuring they are well-prepared to assist their



## ***Internal Training on Preparation of the 45th AIPA General Assembly***



In preparation for the 45th AIPA General Assembly, the AIPA Secretariat organised an internal training session for all Secretariat officers. This session focused on enhancing their skills in drafting resolutions, meeting reports, and other key documents essential for the General Assembly. The training aimed to equip the Secretariat team with the expertise required to ensure the smooth and efficient conduct of the 45th AIPA General Assembly in Vientiane, Lao PDR.

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## **AIPA's Engagements with ASEAN**

### **Celebration of the 57th ASEAN Day**





Secretariat proudly participated in the 57th ASEAN Day celebration by hosting an AIPA booth, alongside booths from other ASEAN entities and ASEAN Country Permanent Representatives (CPRs) at the ASEAN Headquarters in Jakarta, Indonesia. The ASEAN Day festivities featured a variety of activities, including an opening ceremony and an open house, which attracted over 400 visitors, including VIPs, partners, stakeholders, and members of the public.

The AIPA booth offered a unique platform for the Secretariat to engage with visitors, providing insights into the role and significance of the ASEAN

Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) in promoting regional cooperation and parliamentary diplomacy. Through interactive presentations, games, and quizzes, the booth highlighted AIPA's contributions. The event not only celebrated ASEAN's achievements but also strengthened the bond between ASEAN and its entities, partners, and stakeholders.

***ASCC Council High Level Interface with Parliamentarians for the Development of the ASCC Post-2025 Strategic Plan***





On August 12, 2024, AIPA Member Parliaments from Lao PDR, Malaysia, Singapore, and Viet Nam participated in the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Council High-Level Interface with Parliamentarians to discuss the development of the ASCC Post-2025 Strategic Plan. The AIPA Secretary General also attended as the official representative appointed by the AIPA President.

The High-Level Interface served as an essential platform for incorporating legislative perspectives, contributing to a more comprehensive and outward-looking ASCC Post-2025 Strategic Plan while maintaining ASEAN centrality. The discussions further reinforced ASEAN's commitment to addressing common and emerging challenges. In addition, the Interface aimed to strengthen the collaboration between the ASCC and the AIPA Secretariat, advancing the shared goal of improving the lives of ASEAN citizens.



***Gala Dinner “A Tribute to ASEAN” on the occasion of the 15th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines to ASEAN***





Anniversary of the establishment of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines to ASEAN, the AIPA Secretariat attended a gala dinner titled “A Tribute to ASEAN” on August 7, 2024, at the invitation of H.E. Amb. Hjayceelyn M. Quintana. The event was graced by the ASEAN Diplomatic Corps and the ASEAN Secretary-General, Dr. Kao Kim Hourn.

In his keynote address, the ASEAN Secretary-General paid tribute to the Philippines' crucial role and unwavering commitment to ASEAN Community-building efforts. He also acknowledged the Government of the Philippines for appointing distinguished ambassadors to lead the Mission, including Ambassador Quintana, emphasising that ASEAN continues to be a cornerstone of the Philippines' foreign policy. To commemorate the occasion, Dr. Kao presented a plaque of commendation to Ambassador Quintana.

### ***3rd ASEAN Junior Fellowship Programme's Visit to AIPA***





3rd ASEAN Junior Fellowship Program, the AIPA Secretariat hosted an interactive session aimed at deepening the ASEAN Junior Fellows' understanding of AIPA

ASEAN, parliamentary diplomacy, and the broader parliamentary landscape. The session featured informative presentations, a dynamic question-and-answer segment, and a lively quiz to foster engagement. Additionally, the Secretariat set up interactive booths, offering young leaders hands-on opportunities to explore AIPA's operations and key initiatives. Held at the ASEAN Secretariat Headquarters on August 21, 2024, the program successfully engaged over 20 participants, providing valuable insights into regional cooperation and the pivotal role of parliamentarians in shaping ASEAN's future.

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## Meeting with Australian Mission to ASEAN



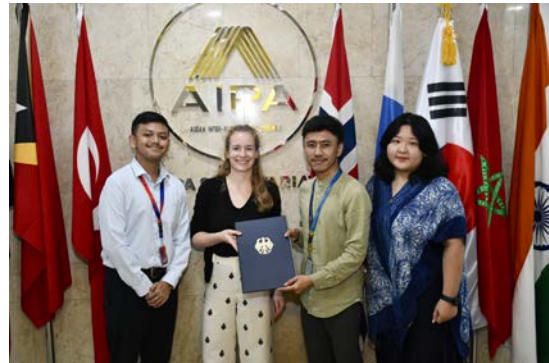
On August 28, 2024, the AIPA Secretariat met with the Australian Mission to ASEAN in Jakarta, Indonesia, to provide updates on the preparations for the upcoming 45th AIPA General Assembly. The discussions also covered plans for the WAIPA Women's Political Leaders Forum, a sideline event, as well as broader initiatives related to Women's Political Participation and Leadership.

Australia, recognising women's political participation and leadership as one of its key priorities, expressed

Forum, scheduled to take place alongside the 45th AIPA General Assembly, is poised to become a flagship initiative under the Lao PDR Presidency. The forum will focus on the critical role of women in politics and leadership, addressing both challenges and opportunities in advancing inclusive progress.

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## AIPA's Engagements with Externals



Throughout August 2024, the AIPA Secretariat continued its engagement with external stakeholders. On August 22, 2024, the AIPA Secretary General received a courtesy call from Mr. Tornizka Nozadze, Head of Mission at the Georgian Embassy in Indonesia. The AIPA Secretariat also welcomed representatives from the German Embassy. Both discussions centered on preparations for their participation in the upcoming 45th AIPA General Assembly, with Georgia attending as an AIPA Observer Parliament and the German Bundestag as a Guest of the Host.

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## Launch Ceremony of the Asia Zero Emission Center





Secretary participated in the Launch Ceremony of the Asia Zero Emission Center in Jakarta, Indonesia. Established within the Energy unit of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), the Asia Zero Emission Center aims to serve as a platform for sharing information, conducting policy and project studies, and assisting Asia Zero Emission Community (AZEC) partner countries in developing visions, roadmaps, and policies towards decarbonisation to advance energy transitions in Asia.

Recognising the critical need to promote clean energy deployment, build a reliable supply chain, and expand markets for clean energy and related technologies to achieve carbon neutrality and net zero emissions, ERIA established the Asia Zero Emission Center to drive these efforts forward.





AIPACast Episode 6



AIPACast Episode 7

Exciting updates from AIPACAST! This month, AIPACAST released two compelling episodes. Episode 6 features Hon. Pehin Dato Haji Adanan Yusof, Chair of the 15th AIPA Caucus, who discusses the significance of the AIPA Caucus and the vital role of parliamentary cooperation in strengthening cybersecurity.

In Episode 7, Hon. Putu Supadma Rudana, Vice Chair of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation of the House of Representatives of Indonesia, shares insights on Indonesia's policies regarding food, agriculture, and forestry. Filmed at the Rudana & Rudana Museum, this episode also highlights the rich cultural heritage of Bali, the Island of Gods.

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## Calendar Highlights: September 2024

**47th AIPA Day:  
Digital InnovASEAN  
for a Connected Region**

2 September 2024



**ASEAN Disability Rights Workshop:  
Advancing Public-Private-People  
Sector Engagement**

Bangkok, Thailand

16-17 December 2024

**Southeast Asia Regional Political  
Finance Workshop and Anti-Corruption  
Multi-Stakeholder Meeting**

Jakarta, Indonesia

24-25 December 2024

**4th Bali Work Plan MTG Meeting and the 4th  
ASEAN Partners Meeting for the Implementation  
of the Bali Work Plan (2019-2025)**

Bali, Indonesia

25-26 December 2024

**2024 ASEAN ICT Forum on  
Child Online Protection**

Bali, Indonesia

25-26 December 2024

**2024 World Women Economic &  
Business Summit  
"Champion Women, Ignite Progress"**

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

26 December 2024

**ASEAN-UK Regional Workshop Series  
on Counter-Terrorism and  
Violent Extremism**

Bali, Indonesia

27 December 2024

**Workshop on the Implementation of the  
Regional Plan of Action on the Protection of  
Children from all Forms of Online Exploitation  
and Abuse in ASEAN**

Bali, Indonesia

27 December 2024



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