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Newsletter: AIPALync+ September 2024

1 message

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Thu, Oct 24, 2024 at 9:55 AM

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SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

The 47th AIPA Day Virtual Celebration



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This September, we proudly celebrated the 47th Anniversary of AIPA, marking its establishment on 2nd September 1977. This year's AIPA Day was held virtually, under the theme "Digital InnovASEAN for a Connected Region," aligning with the theme of the 45th AIPA General Assembly, "The Role of Parliaments in Enhancing Connectivity and Inclusive Growth in ASEAN." This focus is especially timely as we work towards realizing the ASEAN Community Vision 2045.

The 47th Anniversary highlights the critical role of digital transformation in strengthening ASEAN's connectivity and regional integration. This theme reaffirms AIPA's dedication to fostering greater connectivity, in line with the priorities set by Lao PDR's AIPA Presidency in 2024.

To commemorate the 47th AIPA Anniversary, the AIPA Secretariat organized a series of activities on our social media platforms, including interactive quizzes and featuring congratulatory video messages from AIPA Member Parliaments and partners.



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2024 World Women Economic & Business Summit



The AIPA Secretary General participated in the 2024 World Women Economic & Business Summit (WWEBS) on 26 September 2024, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Under the theme "Champion Women, Ignite Progress," the summit focused on enhancing the role of women in all aspects of society. Key discussions centered on promoting gender equality, expanding access to educational and professional opportunities for women, and amplifying women's voices in decision-making processes. The event was graced by the presence of the Queen of Malaysia, Her Majesty Raja Zarith Sofiah, who delivered a Special Royal Address that emphasized Malaysia's best practices and future strategies for women's empowerment shaped by its diverse society and cultural values.

During the summit, the AIPA Secretary General participated as a panel speaker in the session titled "*Women in Social Impact: Creating Change and Making a Difference*". This panel provided a platform for exploring and discussing the panelists' experiences in fostering social change. Through her participation, the Secretary General conveyed her vision and hopes for a resilient, inclusive, and prosperous ASEAN Community for all, while emphasising the crucial role of legislative efforts in achieving this goal.



Coordination Meeting for the 3rd AIPA-ASEAN Hearing



In preparation for the upcoming 3rd AIPA-ASEAN Hearing at the 45th AIPA General Assembly, the AIPA Secretariat held a preparatory meeting on 6 September 2024 with the Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for Community and Corporate Affairs, H.E. Nararya S. Soeprapto, and the Director of Community Affairs, Mr. Lee Yoong Yoong. This preparatory meeting served as a valuable platform for both Secretariats to exchange views to ultimately paving the way for a successful 3rd AIPA-ASEAN Hearing.

During the meeting, the AIPA Secretariat provided an in-depth briefing on the agenda and shared technical updates to support the participation of the ASEAN Secretariat at both the General Assembly and the Hearing. As the sole parliamentary entity associated with ASEAN, the AIPA Secretary General took the opportunity to present recent AIPA activities and milestones, highlighting how AIPA's efforts align with ASEAN's strategic priorities and reflect AIPA's commitment to supporting regional stability, prosperity, and integration.

Engagement with ASEAN

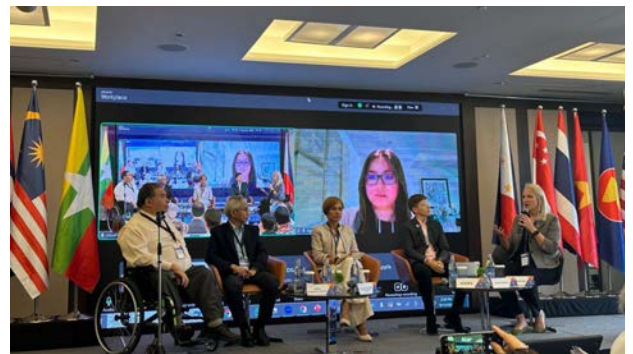
ASEAN Disability Rights Workshop: Advancing Public-Private People Sector Engagement



On 16-17 September 2024, the AIPA Secretary General attended the ASEAN Disability Rights Workshop: Advancing Public-Private-People Sector Engagement in Bangkok, Thailand, upon the invitation of the Senior Officials Meeting on Social Welfare

Development (SOMSWD) Thailand. The workshop aims to bring together policymakers and practitioners to share experience and best practices in promoting employment opportunities for persons with disabilities and to identify barriers to and effective solutions for fair, equitable, and inclusive employment of persons with disabilities with wider engagement of the private sector.

On the 2nd day of the workshop, the AIPA Secretary General delivered a presentation on the topic of *Legislative approaches on mainstreaming rights of disabilities and advocating for legislative changes towards economic upliftment of persons with disabilities*, emphasizing on the importance of policy advocacy and interventions in making



disability right integral to the regional and national agenda in ASEAN, and the current efforts and best practices from the ASEAN Member States, as well as the crucial role of the legislative sector in ensuring inclusive economic policies in ASEAN. The AIPA Secretary General also highlighted AIPA's efforts in advocating for people with disability, through AIPA Resolutions and other activities.

4th Bali Work Plan Multi-Sectoral Task Focer (MTF) Meeting and the 4th ASEAN Partners Meeting for the Implementation of the Bali Work Plan (2019-2025)



At the invitation of SOMTC Indonesia and in collaboration with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) through the ASEAN-USAID Partnership Program, the AIPA Secretariat participated in the 4th Bali Work Plan Multi-Sectoral Task Force Meeting and the 4th ASEAN Partners Meeting on 25-26 September 2024 in Bali, Indonesia. During the meeting, the relevant ASEAN Sectoral Bodies/Organs/Entities shared their ongoing efforts in the implementation of the Bali Work Plan.

The AIPA Secretariat delivered an intervention by highlighting its actions following the 3rd Bali Work Plan Multi-Sectoral Task Force Meeting held last year. Notably, the adoption of the resolution on "The Threat of Terrorism, Violent Extremism, and Radicalization" at the 44th AIPA General Assembly, aligning with Pillar 3 of the Bali Work Plan. The implementation progress of this resolution will be monitored through established mechanisms such as the AIPA Caucus and AIPALync. It was also highlighted that the Plan of Action and Implementation Framework on Women's Political Participation and Leadership (WPPL) 2024-2030 contributes to Pillar 1 of the Bali Work Plan.

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



On the sidelines of the 4th Bali Work Plan MTF Meeting and the 4th ASEAN Partners Meeting, SOMTC Indonesia, with support from the United Kingdom through the Government Communication Service International (GCSI) and the UK Mission to ASEAN, co-hosted the First ASEAN-UK Regional Workshop Series on Counter-Terrorism and Violent Extremism. The workshop focused on two key themes: 1) Gender mainstreaming in counter-terrorism (CT) and preventing violent extremism (PVE) policies and operations, and 2) Strategic communications.

In line with the activities outlined under Priority Area 1.5 of the Bali Work Plan, the AIPA Secretariat participated in the workshop on Gender Mainstreaming within CTVE Policy and Operations. The session covered the fundamentals of gender analysis and explored the relationship between gender, violent extremism, and terrorism. Participants engaged in group exercises to design and implement gender-sensitive responses that can be applied to the implementation of the Plan of Action of the Women Political Participation and Leadership (WPPL) 2024-2030.

The ASEAN-IOA and ASEAN-PIF Dialogue

On the sideline of the 4th Bali Work Plan Multi-Sectoral Task Force (MTF) Meeting and the 4th ASEAN Partners Meeting for the Implementation of the Bali Work Plan (2019-2025), the AIPA Secretariat attended ASEAN-UK Regional Workshop Series on Counter-Terrorism and Violent Extremism, on 27 September 2024, in Bali, Indonesia. This meeting serves as the UK's continued support for ASEAN in terrorism disruption, through capacity building, exchanging best practice and information sharing.



2024 ASEAN ICT Forum on Child Online Protection



On 25 - 27 September 2024, The AIPA Secretariat attended the “2024 ASEAN ICT Forum on Child Online Protection & Review of the Regional Plan of Action on the Protection of Children from All Forms of OCEA in ASEAN and Prioritization for the next Five Years” in Bali, Indonesia. The Forum was organised by the Ministry of Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection (MoWECPP) of Indonesia, Ministry of Communication and Information Technology of Indonesia (MCI), in collaboration with ACWC Representatives from Indonesia and

Thailand, and supported by UNICEF East Asia and Pacific Regional Office. The Forum aimed to foster discussion and collaboration between regional industry leaders, governments, and other key stakeholders to ensure children's safety online.

Building on the success of the 1st and 2nd ASEAN ICT Forums on Child Online Protection in 2022 and 2023, the 2024 Forum provided a dynamic platform for identifying and inspiring both regional and national actions to protect children online. Key topics included the implications of generative AI for child safety, understanding adult and under-18 perpetrator profiles in the region, effective strategies to prevent escalation and recidivism of harmful behaviors, and the biggest threats and opportunities in the next five years. The workshop that followed focused on evaluating the progress of the Regional Plan of Action (2021-2025) and deliberating priorities for the next phase (2026-2030) to reinforce regional efforts and effective measures to safeguard children against online exploitation and abuse.



Engagement with Development Partners

Indonesia International Sustainability Forum 2024



Hosted by the Coordinating Ministry for Maritime and Investment Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, AIPA participated in the Indonesia International Sustainability Forum (ISF) 2024, held from 5 to 6 September 2024 in Jakarta, Indonesia.

In its second year, ISF highlighted several key issues related to sustainable growth and development, including energy transition, the blue and green economy, green finance, human capital, cross-border cooperation, and technology. ISF 2024 also aimed to provide a platform for fostering collaboration and sharing best practices among stakeholders to accelerate climate action.

Consultative Meeting on the Draft of the Peace Charter

The AIPA Secretariat observed in the Consultative Meeting on the Draft of the Peace Charter from 18 to 29 September 2024, in Budapest, Hungary. Co-hosted by the National Assembly of Hungary, the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Asian Vision Institute (AVI), and the Global Council of Tolerance and Peace (GCTP)/International Parliament for Tolerance and Peace (IPTP), the meeting brought together experts, practitioners, scholars, policymakers, and lawmakers to discuss, review, and deliberate on the Zero Draft. This consultative process was a step in gathering practical insights and inputs, ultimately leading to the adoption of the Peace Charter.



4th Eurasian Women's Forum: Interparliamentary Dialogue Women's Mission in Shaping a New Agenda for Peace and Trust



Prior to the invitation from the Mission of Russian Federation to the ASEAN, the AIPA Secretary General virtually participated in the 4th Eurasian Women's Forum: Interparliamentary Dialogue Women's Mission in Shaping a New Agenda for Peace and Trust, on 20 September 2024.

The AIPA Secretary General virtually participated in the forum through a video message, highlighting the critical role of women, especially in parliamentary positions, in promoting peace and security in today's world. She emphasized the importance of amplifying women's voices, breaking down barriers, and fostering collaboration to create inclusive policies that support women's leadership. AIPA's commitment to these goals is reflected in its strategic initiatives, such as the AIPA Resolution on Women, Peace, and Security, and the development of the Plan of Action on Women Political Participation and Leadership (WPPL) 2024-2030.

Regional Political Finance Workshop and Anti-Corruption Multi-Stakeholder Meeting

Upon the invitation from IFES Indonesia, AIPA attended the Regional Workshop on Political Finance and Anti-Corruption Coordination for Multi-Stakeholders in Southeast Asia, from 24-26 September 2024, in Jakarta, Indonesia. Covering key topics including legal and regulatory frameworks, illicit financial flows, digital financing, and the role of parliamentarians in political finance oversight, this forum aims to enhance the knowledge and skills of parliamentarians, anti-corruption agency personnel, and key stakeholders across Southeast Asia in addressing political finance transparency and anti-corruption measures.



AIPA Courtesy Calls and Meeting



Throughout September 2024, the AIPA Secretary General welcomed several distinguished guests through courtesy visits. On 11 September 2024, the AIPA Secretariat received Mr. Jamshed M. Kazi, UN Women Country Representative for Indonesia and Liaison to ASEAN, to discuss the collaborations between AIPA and UN Women on advancing women political participation and leadership. This was followed by a visit from H.E. Mr. Jalal Mirzayev, Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Indonesia, Singapore, the Philippines, Timor-Leste, and ASEAN, who officially presented an invitation from the Government of Azerbaijan for the 29th Conference of the Parties (COP 29) scheduled for November 2024.

Lastly, on 20 September 2024, H.E. Dr. Raman Ramanouski, Ambassador of the Republic of Belarus to Indonesia, visited the AIPA Secretariat to discuss Belarus's continued engagement as an observer in AIPA and its participation in the upcoming 45th AIPA General Assembly, which will take place in Vientiane, Lao PDR, in October 2024.





Exciting news from AIPACAST! This month, AIPACAST released Episode 8, featuring Dr. Pham Quang Minh, Assistant Director of the Food, Agriculture, and Forestry Division (FAFD) at the ASEAN Secretariat, and Emma Jessie McGhie, Program Officer at FAO, discussing the advancement of the implementation of ASEAN RAI for sustainable agriculture in the ASEAN region.

AIPACast Episode 8

Calendar Highlights: October 2024

**13th ASEAN-AIPA Leaders' Interface
During the 44th and 45th ASEAN
Summits**

Vientiane, Lao PDR

9 October 2024

**The 45th General Assembly of the
ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly**

Vientiane, Lao PDR

17-23 October 2024



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