



**THE 46TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY**

16-22 September 2025

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

*Parliament at the Forefront for Inclusive Growth and
Sustainable ASEAN*

(Res 46GA/2025/Pol/07)

**RESOLUTION ON
STRENGTHENING AIPA-AICHR PARTNERSHIP IN ADVANCING
INCLUSIVE GROWTH, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN
RIGHTS REGIONAL COOPERATION**

Sponsored by Malaysia

The Forty-sixth General Assembly:

Recalling AIPA Resolution No. Res29GA/2008/Pol/02 and Res 30GA/2009/Pol/02 on "Strengthening Democracy, Promotion and Protection of Human Rights" and affirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (AHRD) and the Phnom Penh Statement on its adoption as guiding frameworks for parliamentary action in advancing regional human-rights cooperation, particularly reaffirming Articles 35–37 of the AHRD on the right to development;

Emphasising the theme of the 46th AIPA General Assembly, "Parliament at the Forefront for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable ASEAN," which reflects the 2025 ASEAN theme of "Inclusivity and Sustainability" for the ASEAN-Malaysia Chairmanship and underscores the vital fundamental role of domestic parliamentary institutions in promoting and protecting human rights and advancing inclusive growth and sustainable development in individual ASEAN Member States;

Reaffirming the complementarities between ASEAN Community Vision 2045 and the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Goal 16 on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies, access to justice, and effective institutions;

Acknowledging the integral role of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) within ASEAN's organisational structure and welcoming the balanced discharge of its mandate to promote and protect human rights in ASEAN, through the AICHR Five-Year Work Plan 2026-2030 and its Priority Programmes/Activities 2026 and strategic consultations on the right to development under Malaysia's 2025 ASEAN Chairmanship;

Taking note of AICHR's respective consultations on advancing the right to development and peace towards realising inclusive and sustainable development, on conflict prevention and peace pathways, as well as the right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment in ASEAN;

Welcoming the adoption of the AICHR Five-Year Work Plan 2026-2030 and Priority Programmes/Activities 2026, which aims to strengthen the promotion and protection of human rights and deepen engagement with relevant stakeholders across ASEAN;

Welcoming further AICHR's purposeful and balanced discharge of its promotion and protection mandates and further, to its active, consultative and constructive approach to discuss current and emerging human rights issues in the region, including on conflict prevention and peace pathways, while adopting common approaches and positions on human rights matters of interest to ASEAN;

PP8. Acknowledging that enhanced parliamentary engagement and support are crucial for effectively functioning and strengthening AICHR's mandates, ensuring accountability, legislative backing, and connecting ASEAN human rights commitments with the aspirations of the peoples of ASEAN, in accordance with the principles of non-interference and respect for national sovereignty.

Hereby resolves to:

Affirm full and strong support for the ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future;

Encourage more engagement between AIPA and AICHR to enhance awareness on human rights, as set out in the AICHR Five-Year Work Plan 2026-2030 and its Priority Programmes/Activities 2026, and to explore potential areas of cooperation between AIPA and AICHR, including on climate justice, digital rights, and humanitarian issues such as migration and displacement;

Encourage AICHR to share its ASEAN Human Rights Reports with AIPA, including mid-term and end-term reviews of its Five-Year Work Plan, with the AIPA Secretariat assisting in the coordination of communication between AIPA Member Parliaments and AICHR,

and where applicable, explore regular engagement by utilising the existing mechanisms of both institutions;

Request the AIPA Secretariat, in collaboration with AICHR, to track the progress of AIPA–AICHR partnerships, compile updates on joint activities, and report regularly to future AIPA General Assemblies;

Promote the integration of community-based consultations and participatory mechanisms in AICHR’s programming, ensuring that voices from all sectors of society are informed of regional human rights priorities.

Adopted in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on the Twentieth Day of September, in the Year Two Thousand and Twenty-Five.



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EXPLANATORY NOTE ON

Original Version

This resolution establishes a transformative framework for parliamentary-AIHR collaboration that positions ASEAN's legislative institutions as equal partners with the regional human rights mechanism in advancing inclusive and sustainable development. As ASEAN implements the ASEAN Community Vision 2045, the commitment to building a "people-centred" community, the effectiveness of both parliamentary institutions and the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AIHR) becomes essential for ensuring that development benefits all segments of society while fundamental freedoms remain protected.

The resolution aligns with the 46th AIPA theme "Parliament at the Forefront for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable ASEAN" and Malaysia's 2025 ASEAN Chairmanship priorities of "Inclusivity and Sustainability." Rather than positioning parliamentary institutions as supporters of AIHR initiatives, this resolution recognises that effective regional human rights governance requires strong parliamentary oversight and robust regional mechanisms working in genuine partnership.

This partnership approach emerges from the recognition that parliamentary institutions possess constitutional authority for legislation, oversight and resource allocation that cannot be subordinated to executive-led regional processes. Simultaneously, AIHR provides technical expertise, regional coordination capacity and promotional mandates complementing parliamentary functions. The resolution creates collaborative mechanisms that leverage these complementary strengths without compromising institutional sovereignty or creating hierarchical relationships.

The resolution embeds collaborative focus areas identified in the AIHR Five-Year Work Plan 2026-2030, transforming activities conceived as AIHR-led initiatives with parliamentary participation into joint mechanisms where parliaments exercise leadership in their constitutional domains. Significantly, the resolution creates parliamentary cooperation and collaboration for the AIHR Work Plan implementation rather than limiting parliamentary engagement to resource provision. This approach acknowledges that effective accountability requires parliamentary institutions to

exercise their constitutional oversight functions while supporting regional cooperation through constructive partnership rather than subordination.

The resolution also addresses longstanding concerns about balancing parliamentary sovereignty with regional institutional development by creating cooperation frameworks that enhance parliamentary effectiveness and regional human rights protection. This approach should facilitate consensus-building across ASEAN's diverse political systems by demonstrating that strengthening regional human rights mechanisms need not diminish parliamentary authority but can enhance it through strategic collaboration.

This collaborative approach produces more comprehensive regional human rights documentation than either institution could achieve independently while respecting their distinct mandates and capabilities.

By framing parliamentary-AICHR cooperation as mutual strengthening rather than institutional hierarchy, the resolution creates sustainable foundations for regional human rights advancement that respect ASEAN's consensus-building traditions while advancing meaningful progress toward the people-centred community envisioned in ASEAN 2045. This partnership model offers a practical pathway for achieving inclusive growth and sustainable development through complementary institutional strengths rather than institutional competition or subordination.