

42ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY Brunei Darussalam, 23-25 August 2021

Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion Towards ASEAN Community 2025

(*Res 42GA/2021/Soc/x*)

DRAFT RESOLUTION ON

TECHNOLOGY TO FACILITATE GREATER ELECTION PARTICIPATION

Sponsored by Malaysia

The Forty-Second General Assembly:

Reaffirming the AIPA Resolution RES.36GA/2015/POL/02 on Article 1, Clause 7 of the ASEAN Charter on the strengthening of democracy, enhancing good governance and the rule of law, and promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedom, with due regard to the rights and responsibilities of the Member States of ASEAN;

Further reaffirm the ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together to strengthen democracy, good governance, the rule of law, promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms as well as combat corruption;

Emphasising the importance of holding free elections for every country, even during a global pandemic as it is a pillar of democracy;

Realising that the COVID-19 pandemic is a major challenge to hold free elections that associated with public health risk, and it leads to the absence of participation of voters during election;

Taking into account that technology is an alternative solution or opportunity to ensure greater participation and to hold free elections during a global pandemic.

Hereby resolves to:

Encourage parliamentarians to push for the adoption of technology in the election process, voter and monitor registration;

Designate a framework that involves the use of technology and offers infrastructure and services for greater election participation, irrespective of gender, age, and socio-economic background;

Adoption of policies, rules, and regulations for technology empowerment during elections and to safeguard rights of data access and protection of personal privacy;

Support cooperation between public authorities and other stakeholders including parliamentarians, citizens, and the media to develop and share technology experiences and expertise among AIPA member parliaments;

Encourage education and training to public authorities and stakeholders to raise awareness and to strengthen on technology and digital knowledge, and management;

Promote affordable access of the internet for people to ensure fully participated throughout the election events.

Adopted on the twenty fifth day of August two thousand twenty one in Brunei Darussalam.