ANNEX T

CLOSING REMARKS BY H.E. PEHIN DATO ABDUL RAHMAN TAIB



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

Forging Parliamentary Cooperation in Digital Inclusion Towards ASEAN Community 2025

CLOSING REMARKS BY H.E. PEHIN ORANG KAYA SERI LELA DATO SERI SETIA AWANG HAJI ABDUL RAHMAN BIN DATO SETIA HAJI MOHAMED TAIB, PRESIDENT OF AIPA, ON 25 AUGUST 2021

BISMILLAH-HIR-RAHMANNIR RAHIM,

Your Excellency Speakers and Presidents of AIPA Member Parliaments,

Honourable Parliamentarians of AIPA Member Parliaments and AIPA Observer delegations,

Secretary-General of AIPA,

Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh and Good Afternoon.

First of all, it has been a great pleasure for me to serve as the President of AIPA and preside as the Chair of the 42^{nd} AIPA General Assembly. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincerest appreciation to all of you for your active participation and valuable contributions in making the 42^{nd} AIPA General Assembly a success. The 42^{nd} AIPA General Assembly has now reached its conclusion after three days of productive and fruitful discussions, held in the traditional ASEAN spirit of friendship, unity and cooperation.

I am also pleased to note that our deliberations over the last few days have led to the formulation and adoption of the AIPA Joint Communique of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly, in which pertinent and overarching issues have been recorded. The resolutions that have been adopted underlines the importance of parliamentary cooperation and showcases AIPA Parliamentarian's commitment in the ASEAN Community-Building process, towards achieving sustained peace, security, stability and prosperity for our people. The Joint Communique will now serve as a sound reference for AIPA's future initiatives.

Notably, the 42nd AIPA General Assembly this year also welcomed two new AIPA Observers, namely the Parliament of Ukraine and the National Assembly of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. These new accreditations will help broaden AIPA's network and cooperation and displays its continued involvement in the regional and international arena. As AIPA nears its anniversary this year, it is important that we enhance parliamentary diplomacy to support AIPA's expansive scope of work. The Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam stands ready to support the future work and initiatives of AIPA.

Distinguished delegates, Ladies and gentlemen, In this opportunity, I would also like to wish my successor, His Excellency Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin, President of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia, every success as the new incoming President of AIPA.

Once again, on behalf of the Legislative Council of Brunei Darussalam and the Organising Committee of the 42nd AIPA General Assembly, let me express my sincerest appreciation to all of you for your cooperation and assistance in your kind remarks. Allow me to also extend my appreciation to the AIPA Secretary General, for her guidance and to the AIPA Secretariat for the steadfast assistance throughout Brunei Darussalam's AIPA Presidency. I would also like to thank AIPA Observers and AIPA Partners for their attendance at this year's General Assembly as well as to all those involved in helping to facilitate the work of this General Assembly.

Finally, I look forward to see you all in-person at the next convenient time in the future. I wish you all good health, happiness and much success. I hereby declare the 42nd AIPA General Assembly closed.

Thank you.

Wabillahi Taufique Walhidayah Wassalammualikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.