



ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ORGANIZATION
27TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
10 - 15 SEPTEMBER 2006 ▲ CEBU CITY, PHILIPPINES

Rep.27GA/Com/Panel/NZ

REPORT
ON
THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE AIPO AND NEW ZEALAND

Mr. President,

I have the honor to submit the following Report on the AIPO-New Zealand Dialogue.

1. The dialogue was held in the Beijing Room of Marco Polo Hotel on 12 September 2006 from 4:35 pm to 6:50 pm.
2. The Dialogue was attended by Delegation of the AIPO Member Countries, Special Observers and New Zealand as follows:

New Zealand

1. Hon. Dr. Richard Worth

Cambodia

1. Hon. Mr. Chet Kim Yeat
2. Mr. Prom Virak

Indonesia

1. Hon. Marzuki Darusman, MP
2. Hon. H.M. Subki Risya, MP
3. Hon. Trisanti Mitayani, MP

Lao People's Democratic Republic

1. Hon. Dr. Som-ock Kingsada
2. Hon. Davone Vangvichit

Malaysia

1. Hon. Dato' Seri DiRaja Syed Razlan Syed Putra Jamalullail

Philippines

1. Hon. Edurado C. Zialcita

Singapore

1. Ms. Lee Bee Wah
2. Mr. Seah Kian Peng

Thailand

1. Hon. Wittaya Masayna
2. Hon. Tarnthong Thongswasdi (Advisor)

Vietnam

1. Hon. Mai Anh
2. Hon. Chau Thi Le

Brunei Darussalam

1. Hon. Dr. Dato Paduka H.J. Yunos Noh

3. The Chairman of the Dialogue, Hon. Eduardo C. Zialcita, requested the Delegations from AIPO member countries and special observers to introduce themselves starting from Cambodia. Subsequently, the representative from New Zealand introduced himself and expressed gratitude to the members for attending the dialogue.
4. The Dialogue was held in the spirit of friendship and mutual understanding. All member countries and special observers expressed their gratitude to the New Zealand government for the continuing assistance the country has extended to AIPO member countries and special observers.
5. During the dialogue, all delegates actively participated on the discussion. The following are the highlights of the dialogue on the following topic:

a) Regional and Security Matters

Malaysia and Indonesia expressed their interest for membership in South Pacific Forum with the support of New Zealand. New Zealand vowed to cooperate in providing regional security in the area observing that it is the time to extract values at South Pacific Forum. Singapore expressed its gratitude to New Zealand for the training facilities it provided to Singapore and inquired whether national security concern has affected New Zealand's immigration policies. New Zealand responded that it maintained an open policy on migration. For its part, Cambodia requested New Zealand for leniency in its guidelines in issuing visa. New Zealand took note of the request. Malaysia brought the issue of travel advisories issued by New Zealand that greatly affect Malaysia's tourism industry. New Zealand commented that there is no reason to stay the travel advisory should one still exist.

b) Economic and Trade Cooperation

Lao People's Democratic Republic queried on the procedure in securing assistance from New Zealand. New Zealand promised to deliver the message although it suggested that Lao needs and aggressive ambassador to New Zealand who will make strong representation to New Zealand parliament. Thailand was grateful to New Zealand for supporting the Mekong Institute (MI) contributing to human resources development and integration in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) and expressed hope that New Zealand can provide training in agriculture.

Thailand requested for the re-establishment of Joint Thailand-New Zealand Business Council, increase the number of Thai students in the working holiday scheme of New Zealand and the air transport agreement between New Zealand Air and Thai Air. New Zealand took note of the requests of Thailand delegation. Vietnam and Cambodia both requested for assistance in its human resources development with high quality skills, training in animal husbandry, salmon farming technology, dairy farming and cheese production. Cambodia further requested New Zealand to allot more slots for scholarships to students under Colombo plan. Thailand also requested for training in animal husbandry.

c) **Environmental issues**

New Zealand informed the body that it is the only significant country south of the equator to have signed the Kyoto Protocol noting that environmental factor would impact on its agricultural economy.

d) **Strategies to Create Breakthrough in the World Trade Organization (WTO) “DOHA Round”**

Cambodia expressed apprehension on its inability to export its agricultural products because of the enormous farm subsidies of developed countries. New Zealand replied that it has already abolished agricultural subsidies unlike E.U. whose massive subsidies create great distortion. New Zealand suggested that Cambodia enter into bilateral talks with developed countries like that one entered between the Philippines and Japan FTA

e) **Exchange of Parliamentary Visits as Means of Strengthening Inter-Parliamentary Diplomacy**

All delegates expressed their interest in exchange of parliamentary visits.

f) **Cooperation in Fighting Pandemic/Infectious Disease like Avian flu, HIV/AIDS**

New Zealand observed that it shares the same concern with delegates in fighting pandemic/infectious disease. New Zealand added that pandemic/infectious diseases added new dimension in New Zealand involving property rights issue, compensation and public rights issue.

New Zealand congratulated the Chairman for ably steering the dialogue and reiterated its commitment for stronger ties between New Zealand and the Southeast Asian countries.



HON. EDUARDO C. ZIALCITA
Chairman