



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

27GA/Rep/Com/Soc

**REPORT
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL MATTERS**

Mr. President,

I have the honor to submit the following report of the Committee on Social Matters.

1. The Committee met on 12 September 2006 at 8:30 a.m. and ended at 11:15 a.m. The session was presided by myself as Chairperson, with Hon. EMMYLOU J. TALIÑO-SANTOS as Rapporteur.
2. The Meeting was attended by:

Cambodia

1. Hon. Mrs. Ho Naun
2. Princess Sisowath Santa
3. Hon. Mrs. Im Run
4. Hon. Mr. Keo Remy
5. Ms. Yan Phoumika

Indonesia

1. Hon. Sidharto Danusubroto, MP
2. Hon. Vera Febyanthy, MP
3. Hon. Muhidin M. Said, MP
4. Mr. Bindu Marbun

Lao People's Democratic Republic

1. Hon. Ass. Prof. Dr. Som-ock Kingsada
2. Hon. Mrs. Chantoum Latmany
3. Ms. Suanesavanh Moangmany

Malaysia

1. Hon. Mr. Tay Puay Chuan
2. Hon. Mr. Chiw Tiang Chai
3. Hon. Dato' Hajah Samsiah Samsudin

Philippines

1. Hon. Josefina M. Joson
2. Hon. Remedios “Matin” L. Petilla

Singapore

1. Hon. Dr. Ong Seh Hong
2. Hon. Ellen Lee

Thailand

1. Hon. Pensak Chagsuchinda
2. Hon. Wittaya Masayna
3. Hon. Prakit Vathesatogkit (Advisor)

Vietnam

1. Hon. Bui Ngoc Thanh
2. Hon. Dang Nhu Loi
3. Hon. Nguyen Thi Bach Mai
4. Hon. Ma Dien Cu

Brunei Darussalam

1. P.D.N. Pg. Abdul Momin

Myanmar

1. H.E. U Tin Aye

3. With the active and full participation of the members in the Committee deliberations, the following resolutions were approved for adoption by the General Assembly:

- a. **ADOPTING THE REPORT ON THE AIPO MEETING ON LEGAL COOPERATION TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND MINORS**

The Delegates approved the REPORT ON THE AIPO MEETING ON LEGAL COOPERATION TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND MINORS presented by Hon. Mrs. Nguyen Thi Bach Mai of Vietnam.

The report provided a comprehensive discussion of the views of member countries on the problem of trafficking. The report includes definition of terms related to trafficking, the different responses thereto, and the call for effective legal frameworks to ensure compliance of laws against trafficking. The report also presented how trafficking has affected Vietnam and their recommendations on how to address the problem.

- b. **RESOLUTION ON LEGAL COOPERATION TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS**

After their report, Vietnam presented their draft resolution and the same was approved without amendments. Trafficking in persons, not only in women and children but also in men, was defined as a complex and diverse problem that exists in every ASEAN

country whether they are affected as a source, transit and/or destination country. It was resolved that an AIPO Working Group consisting of representatives of AIPO members, special observers and other relevant parties should be established. Strengthening cooperation between AIPO and ASEAN was further resolved to promote the effectiveness of combating trafficking in persons.

c. **RESOLUTION ON COOPERATION IN FIGHTING PANDEMIC/INFECTIOUS DISEASES LIKE AVIAN FLU AND HIV/AIDS**

The Delegates recognized the need for common legislative initiatives on the prevention and control of pandemic diseases such as avian flu and HIV/AIDS. This was emphasized in the DRAFT RESOLUTION ON COMMON LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES ON THE PANDEMIC DISEASES AS THE FIRST TEST CASE proposed during the meeting of the AIPO ad hoc committee held last July 2006 in Indonesia. Thus, it was resolved to call for the AIPO President to submit this draft resolution for comprehensive study to the Standing Committee. Further, the resolution urges member countries to monitor their national legislations on common vital concerns such as the prevention and control of pandemic diseases such as avian flu and HIV/AIDS with the aim of identifying possibilities for common legislative initiatives. Finally, member states are encouraged to develop common legislative initiatives with the objective of harmonization of AIPO legislation.

d. **RESOLUTION ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

The Delegates, emphasizing the need for commitment of the ASEAN and the international community on Disaster Management and Emergency Response, urged for the active and effective participation of member countries in the implementation of the provisions stipulated in the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response and to promote the need for national preparedness of ASEAN countries as a vital factor in effectively participating in disaster management and emergency response program in the regional and international level.

Finally, the Delegates strongly urged all AIPO member countries to prioritize the creation of a study committee on the feasibility of establishing a Standby ASEAN Disaster Relief Fund based on humanitarian contribution for rescue, relief and reconstruction in the aftermath of natural calamities befalling counties of Southeast Asia.

e. **RESOLUTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION: PLANTING ONE BILLION TREES**

Environmental crisis which include illicit wildlife trade and commerce can bring about drastic climatic changes unparalleled in the history of human civilization and causing the extinction of wildlife animals. The Delegates recognized that the urgent need for sustainable management of the environment should be addressed through multilateral cooperation based on common but diverse responsibilities, collective endeavors and a harmonious and balanced perspective. The Delegates resolved to call on AIPO member countries to strengthen their cooperation in promoting and implementing environmental


laws, agreements and treaties among member countries, encourage all AIPO member countries to continue formulating responsive and sustainable environmental programs and ensuring the effective implementation of the same. The Delegates, further, urged all AIPO member countries to perform their role in the implementation of environmental laws by promoting/encouraging the planting, maintaining and monitoring survival rates of one billion trees in their countries as part of their reforestation program and to promote wildlife conservation through strong and effective law enforcement network in member countries.

f. **MIGRATION-SOCIAL-HEALTH MATTERS**

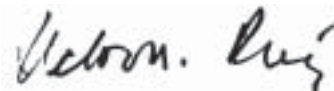
Migration is not only a political matter or security consequence, but also involves labour problems, minority-security problems, illicit trafficking of narcotics, criminal matters, domestic, workplace and other forms of violence and abuse, epidemic and emerging diseases, population explosion, subversion and terrorism, poverty, education and socio-economic related matters. Thus, the Delegates resolved to reaffirm that comprehensive and effective practices and policies have to be formulated to address migrant issues and further request the AIPO Ad-hoc Committee on the Transformation of AIPO into a Closely Integrated Institution to conduct a study on the comprehensive approach to regional migration in South East Asia, and report to the 28th AIPO General Assembly.

4. On the draft resolution on **COMMON LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES ON THE PANDEMIC DISEASES AS THE FIRST TEST CASE**, the Delegates consolidated the said proposal in the resolution on **COOPERATION IN FIGHTING PANDEMIC/INFECTIOUS DISEASES LIKE AVIAN FLU AND HIV/AIDS** considering the said resolution was also included in this resolution.

I therefore now present the Report of the Committee on Social Matters to the General Assembly.
Thank you.



HON. EMMYLOU J. TALIÑO-SANTOS
Rapporteur



HON. NERISSA CORAZON SOON-RUIZ
Chairperson



ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ORGANIZATION
27TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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27GA/06/Soc/01

RESOLUTION

ON

LEGAL COOPERATION TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

Referring to the AIPO 23rd General Assembly Resolution on combating trafficking in women, the 25th General Assembly Resolution on the Role of Parliamentarians in combating trafficking of women and children and the 26th General Assembly Resolution on legal cooperation to combat trafficking in women and children and;

Recalling the Resolution 26GA/2005/Soc/03 which mandated the National Assembly of Viet Nam to host the AIPO Meeting on legal cooperation to combat trafficking in women and children in July 2006 in Ho Chi Minh City;

Underlining the seriousness and urgency of the problem of trafficking in persons in the ASEAN region, recognizing the importance of legislators and parliaments contributing to the prevention and prosecution of trafficking in persons and the protection of victims of trafficking;

Considering the deliberations in the above-mentioned meeting, the AIPO delegates and special observers note that:

1. Trafficking in persons, not only in women and children but also in men, is a complex and diverse problem that exists in every ASEAN country whether they are affected as a source, transit and/or destination country. Therefore, it is essential to harmonise the perceptions and various levels of awareness throughout ASEAN in this regard and whether source, transit or destination must have a shared responsibility in undertaking appropriate measures to prevent and combat trafficking in persons;
2. Despite some success in fighting against trafficking, ASEAN countries recognise that in the pursuit of this common goal, it requires due regard to the UN Protocol against Trafficking in Persons, supplementing the UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime;
3. The importance of strong cooperation at national and regional levels in combating trafficking in persons and the need to synergise initiatives in legal cooperation by AIPO, as well as lawmaking and monitoring measures by AIPO members, with ASEAN and ASEAN member countries' initiatives;

4. The difficulty in coordinating among national legal and judicial approaches and therefore the utmost importance of legal frameworks in enabling prevention and prosecution of trafficking in persons and the protection of victims of trafficking;
5. The importance of legal frameworks tackling illegal financial gains in combating trafficking in persons;
6. The useful experience and stronger impact made in countries through a single piece of legislation relating to combating trafficking in persons.

Accepting all of the above, the 27th AIPO General Assembly hereby resolves to:

1. Establish an AIPO Expert Working Group that consists of representatives of AIPO members, special observers and other relevant parties. The expert working group is tasked with (i) assessing existing legal frameworks through common tools; (ii) developing a regional strategy on legal cooperation including information exchange and capacity building to prevent and combat trafficking in persons; and (iii) to report the above to the 28th AIPO General Assembly. The working group will seek close cooperation with other relevant organisations active in the area such as UN agencies, other IOs and NGOs.
2. Promote the effectiveness of combating trafficking in persons through strengthening cooperation between AIPO and ASEAN.
3. Advise AIPO members, Special Observers and Observer Parliaments to:
 - a. review their legal frameworks related to trafficking in persons and develop specific legislation on trafficking in persons, based on a common understanding of what is involved in trafficking taking into consideration criteria laid down in the UN Protocol and the effective criminalisation of all acts related to trafficking;
 - b. advocate, as appropriate, for their governments to accede to the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocol against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children;
 - c. monitor and oversee the implementation of laws and regulations on combating trafficking in persons;
 - d. strengthen cooperation among legislative and executive bodies at national level in promoting the effectiveness of combating trafficking in persons.
4. To call on UN agencies and international organizations to provide technical support and funds to implement AIPO cooperation activities among legislative bodies to combat trafficking in persons.

Adopted this 14th day of September, 2006 in Cebu City, Philippines.



ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ORGANIZATION
27TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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27GA/06/Soc/02

RESOLUTION

ON

**COOPERATION IN FIGHTING PANDEMIC/INFECTIOUS DISEASES LIKE AVIAN
FLU AND HIV/AIDS**

The Twenty-Seventh General Assembly:

Reiterating and emphasizing the resolutions, agreements and statements of various organizations aimed at addressing problems caused by the spread of HIV/AIDS namely:

- 1) The United Nations General Assembly on the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS on 15 June 2006 in New York.
- 2) The United Nations General Assembly Special Session Declaration of Commitment on HIV and AIDS in June 2006
- 3) The 25th General Assembly of AIPO on Reducing the Spread of HIV and AIDS
- 4) The Regional Consultation on Scaling up towards Universal Access to HIV Prevention, Treatment, Care and Support for Asia and the Pacific on February 2006 facilitated by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS
- 5) The Asia and the Pacific Leadership Forum in July 2004 facilitated by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS
- 6) The Joint Declaration of the ASEAN Summit on HIV/AIDS held in November 2001 in Brunei Darussalam.

Recalling the resolution passed during the 24th General Assembly Committee on Social Matters calling for ASEAN cooperation for the prevention of pandemic diseases;

Mindful that in the meeting of the AIPO Ad Hoc Committee held last July 2006 in Indonesia, member countries discussed the need for common legislative initiatives with the objective of promoting cooperation among AIPO member countries in preventing and controlling pandemic diseases such as avian flu and HIV/AIDS;

Resolves to:

Call for AIPO President to submit the draft resolution on common legislative initiatives on the pandemic diseases as the first test case proposed during the meeting of the AIPO AD HOC Committee held last July 2006 in Indonesia;

Urge member countries to continuously conduct surveys of national legislation and regulations on common vital concerns such as the prevention and control of pandemic diseases such as avian flu and HIV/AIDS with the aim of identifying possibilities for common legislation initiatives;

Encourage member-states to utilize linkages, promote information sharing, exchanges including development of common legislation initiatives with the objective of harmonization of AIPO legislation.

Adopted this 14th day of September, 2006 in Cebu City, Philippines.



ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ORGANIZATION
27TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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27GA/06/Soc/03

RESOLUTION

ON

DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The Twenty-Seventh General Assembly:

Mindful of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response signed at the 38th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the 26 July 2005, Vientiane, Laos;

Reiterating the vital need for commitment of the ASEAN and the international community on Disaster Management and Emergency Response;

Conscious that mere paper commitment would be futile without the corresponding active and effective participation of AIPO member countries in implementing the provisions stipulated in the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response;

Concerned by the devastating effects of disasters on the socio-economic development of all countries;

Resolves to:

Urge all AIPO member countries to prioritize the creation of a study committee on the feasibility of establishing a Standby ASEAN Disaster Relief Fund based on humanitarian contribution for rescue, relief, and reconstruction in the aftermath of natural calamities befalling countries of Southeast Asia;

Call for the active and effective participation by member countries in the implementation of the provisions stipulated in the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response;

Promote the need for national preparedness of ASEAN countries as a vital factor in effectively participating in disaster management and emergency response program in the regional or international level.

Adopted this 14th day of September, 2006 in Cebu City, Philippines.



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

27GA/06/Soc/04

RESOLUTION

ON

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION: PLANTING ONE
BILLION TREES**

The Twenty-Seventh General Assembly:

Aware that environmental crisis which include illicit wildlife trade and commerce which if not properly addressed, can bring about drastic climatic changes unparalleled in the history of human civilization and causing the extinction of wildlife animals;

Recognizing that neglect, haphazard policy-making, and weak environmental management, or ineffective law enforcement to prohibit illegal wildlife trade and commerce have caused environmental degradation, thus, the need to overcome or mitigate the adverse impact of modernization and industrial development;

Noting that sustainable management of the environment, being a shared social responsibility of mankind, should be addressed through multilateral cooperation based on common but diverse responsibilities, collective endeavors and a harmonious and balanced perspective;

Resolves to:

Call on AIPO member countries to strengthen their cooperation in promoting and implementing environmental laws, agreements and treaties among member countries;

Encourage all AIPO member countries to continue formulating responsive and sustainable environmental programs and ensuring the effective implementation of the same;

Urge all AIPO member countries to perform their role in the implementation of environmental laws by promoting/encouraging the planting, maintaining and monitoring survival rates of one billion trees in their countries as part of their reforestation program and to promote wildlife conservation through strong and effective law enforcement network in member countries.

Adopted this 14th day of September, 2006, in Cebu City, Philippines.



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27GA/06/Soc/05

RESOLUTION

ON

MIGRATION-SOCIAL AND HEALTH MATTERS

The Twenty-Seventh General Assembly:

Recalling Resolution No.24GA/2003/Soc/04 adopted by the 24th AIPO General Assembly on Protection of Migrant Workers and the need for the review of the implementation of this resolution;

Further recalling the 39th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting in Kuala Lumpur in 2006 which agreed to begin discussions on the elaboration of an ASEAN Instrument on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers;

Acknowledging migration is not only a political matter or security consequence, but also involves labour problems, minority-security problems, illicit trafficking of narcotics, criminal matters, domestic, workplace and other forms of violence and abuse, epidemic and emerging diseases, population explosion, subversion and terrorism, poverty, education and socio-economic related matters;

Resolves to:

Urge ASEAN member countries who send workers abroad to cooperate closely in order to eliminate unnecessary competition, minimize costs, and maximize interests of workers;

Reaffirm that comprehensive and effective practices and policies have to be formulated to address migrant issues;

Appeal to create more concrete resolutions to help and protect migrants in terms of Public Health Controls on border and communicable diseases, passports, welfare and health care of migrating labours, disaster and humanitarian action, and migration situation;

Request the AIPO Ad-hoc Committee on the Transformation of AIPO into a Closely Integrated Institution to conduct a study on the comprehensive approach to regional migration in South East Asia, and report to the 28th AIPO General Assembly.

Adopted this 14th day of September, 2006 in Cebu City, Philippines.