



**40TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
25 - 30 AUGUST 2019
BANGKOK, THAILAND**

Advancing Parliamentary Partnership for Sustainable Community

(Doc 40GA/2019/Dia Rep)

**REPORT OF
DIALOGUE SESSIONS WITH OBSERVER COUNTRIES**

Mr. President,

1 It is my great honour to submit to you, Your Excellency, the Report of the Committees on Dialogue with Observer Countries.

2 The Committees met on 27 August 2019 at 14.00 hrs. which was attended by delegations of all AIPA Member countries and delegations from Australia, Canada, China, Republic of Korea, and Russian Federation.

3 Myself I was the chair in the dialogue meeting with Australia.

4 The dialogue meeting with Canada was chaired by Hon. General Surapong Suwana-Adth, Member of the Senate.

5 The dialogue meeting with China was chaired by Hon. Mr. Sora-at Klinpratoom, Member of Parliament.

6 The dialogue meeting with Republic of Korea was chaired by Hon. Mr. Korn Chatikavanij, Member of Parliament.

7 The dialogue meeting with Russian Federation was chaired by Hon. Mr. Sombat Srisurin, Member of Parliament.

8 The meetings proceeded in with amicable and cooperative atmosphere.

9 The Committees discussed ASEAN and AIPA relations with Observer Countries, on ASEAN Centrality, Advancing Parliamentary Partnership for Sustainable Community, and Partnership for Good Regulatory Practices. The long-standing relationship and strategic partnerships have been affirmed by all being active partners in the ASEAN Community pillars and through trade and economic agreements which have benefited both sides.

10 The Observer Countries extend support to several ASEAN Member States in their national development, human resources development, education and sustainable development.

11 Both sides affirmed their commitments to enhance mutually beneficial cooperation and have recognized that the parliamentary role and exchanges of visit are important contributing factors to strengthen further the cordial ties of ASEAN-Observer Countries' relations.

12 Both sides reaffirmed ASEAN Centrality in the regional architecture which help set the rules, and norms and behaviors for the region.

13 The meeting emphasized adherence to Good Regulatory Practices (GRP) and the rule of law in national administration and global connectivity. Most importantly, GRP brings stability and social justice, ensures equality and inclusivity, promotes economic competitiveness and good governance, and enhances regional and global integrations.

14 The meetings agreed that GRP facilitates domestic and international harmonization of laws and regulations and is beneficial to legal and regulatory reform.

15 The meetings strongly stressed the importance of adhering to public interests in considering and implementing laws and regulations, in order to be compatible to the changing in domestic situations as well as regional and international commitments

16 The meeting concluded that people are the most important pillar of GRP and legislative procedures. GRP is not solely dependent on the State and lawmakers but it is instilled in people's daily lives and their ethical standards. Therefore, it is important to foster citizen engagement in law drafting and law enforcements.

17 The meetings supported the six core principles in the ASEAN Work Plan on Good Regulatory Practices (GRP) 2016-2025 which is helpful guidance for ASEAN to embark on GRP regionally and globally.

18 The meetings took note on the similarities and differences of the core policies and GRP procedures among ASEAN Member States and also acknowledged that the diversities in cultures, languages, and geographical territories may constitute challenges on GRP .

19 The meetings acknowledged that some AIPA Member Parliaments are in the early stages of developing their GRP system and implementation.

20 In this regard, AIPA Member Parliament shared their action plans on GRP including reviews of the existing regulations, removals of regulatory burdens, synchronizations of laws and strict implementations of Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA). They noted the effectiveness of the Philippine GRP-oriented Project Repeal, and the ASEAN Regulatory Management System (RMS) Baseline Study in Myanmar supported by the ASEAN Secretariat and the Economic Research Institute (ERIA).

21 The Meeting agreed to encourage regular knowledge-sharing and in-depth discussions to strengthen cooperation on GRP.

22 The AIPA Secretariat has a significant role to facilitate the implementation of these cooperation initiatives in the future AIPA General Assemblies as well as to monitor and report on the outcomes of the implementation.

REPORTED BY

HON. MR. VIRACHAI VIRAMETEEKUL
CHAIRMAN OF THE DIALOGUE WITH AUSTRALIA