

ANNEX R

**REPORTS OF DIALOGUE
SESSIONS WITH OBSERVER
PARLIAMENTS**



**39th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
3-7 SEPTEMBER 2018, SINGAPORE**

Towards a Resilient and Innovative Community

Doc 39GA/2018/Dia/Australia

**REPORT OF THE DIALOGUE WITH
AUSTRALIA**

The Dialogue session with Australia took place on 5 September 2018 at 2.20 pm. The session was presided over by Ms Foo Mee Har of the Parliament of Singapore as the Chairperson, and Mr Darryl David of the Parliament of Singapore was the Rapporteur. The following delegates attended the session:

OBSERVER PARLIAMENT

Australia

- a) Mr Scott Ryan
- b) Mr Steve Georganas

AIPA MEMBER PARLIAMENT

Brunei Darussalam

- a) Miss Khairunnisa Haji Ash'ari

Cambodia

- a) Mr Chhit Kim Yeat

Indonesia

- a) Mr Juliari P. Batubara

Lao PDR

- a) Mr Thanta Kongphaly
- b) Mrs Vanpheng Keonakhone

Malaysia

- a) Mr Kasthuriraani Patto
- b) Mr Syed Ibrahim bin Syed Noh

Myanmar

- a) Mr Naing Htoo Aung
- b) Dr Win Myint

Philippines

- a) Mrs Evelina Escudero

Singapore

- a) Mr Henry Kwek
- b) Mr Saktiandi Supaat

Thailand

- a) ACM Chanat Ratana-Ubol
- b) Mr Anusart Suwanmongkol

Vietnam

- a) Mrs Mai Thi Phuong Hoa

2 The session discussed the following issues:

- a) **ASEAN-Australia relations:** AIPA Members and Australia affirmed the warm and friendly relations with Australia, underpinned by longstanding diplomatic relations. AIPA Members welcomed increased cooperation with Australia, particularly in the areas of sharing best practices and technical expertise in active ageing and climate change.
- b) **Active ageing:** The rise of an ageing population was a key issue for Australia and majority of the AIPA Members, where it resulted in several economic and social challenges. The meeting shared the various healthcare policies, plans and systems implemented to mitigate the challenges of a rapidly ageing population in their respective countries and the region. The meeting agreed that aside from financial assistance and access to healthcare, building social connections and integration in the community were also important aspects to examine when developing programmes for active ageing.
- c) **Climate change:** Climate change was a key issue for Australia and all AIPA Members, and several countries were focusing more attention on this issue. The meeting affirmed the delegates' commitment to combat climate change at the highest levels, including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Paris Agreement and the Kyoto Protocol. AIPA Members also shared the various policies and plans to mitigate climate change issues and promote sustainable development at societal and individual levels in their respective countries, including the set-up of research centers to look into climate change issues.

3 The meeting also made the following points:

- a) Challenges in ageing populations across countries are diverse and evolving, and addressing this issue is a long-term commitment. Australia would like to learn from ASEAN as well.
- b) Australia shared that ageing should be spoken of positively, and not be viewed as a problem as countries developed and implemented their policies and plans. The point was made that it was a collective responsibility to care for the older generation and help seniors age with dignity.
- c) Australia would continue to support AIPA Members in dealing with climate change, and believed that combatting climate change would take a global effort.

4 With no further comments from delegates, the Chairperson called the session to a close at 3.30 pm.

5 The Report of the Dialogue with Australia will be included in the main Report of the 39th AIPA General Assembly.



**39th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
3-7 SEPTEMBER 2018, SINGAPORE**

Towards a Resilient and Innovative Community

Doc 39GA/2018/Dia/Belarus

**REPORT OF THE DIALOGUE WITH
BELARUS**

The Dialogue session with Belarus took place on 5 September 2018 at 2.00 pm. The session was presided over by Mr Teo Ser Luck of the Parliament of Singapore as the Chairperson, and Mr Louis Ng of the Parliament of Singapore was the Rapporteur. The following delegates attended the session:

OBSERVER PARLIAMENT

Belarus

- a) Mr Dmitry Shevtsov

AIPA MEMBER PARLIAMENT

Brunei Darussalam

- a) Ms Nik Hafimi Abdul Haadii

Cambodia

- a) Mrs Khoun Khun Dy

Indonesia

- a) Mrs Endang S. Handayani

Lao PDR

- a) Mr Amphay Chitmanonh
- b) Mrs Thatsadaphone Sengsouliya

Malaysia

- a) Mr Akmal Nasrullah Bin Mohd Nasir

Myanmar

- a) Ms Htoot May

Philippines

- a) Mrs Mercedes K. Alvarez

Singapore

- a) Mr Yee Chia Hsing

Thailand

- a) Adm Krisda Charoenpanich
- b) Mr Kittisak Rattanavaraha

Vietnam

a) Mr Nguyen Van Tuyet

2 The session discussed the following issues:

a) **Active ageing:**

- i. Ageing population is a key and growing concern for many countries. The challenges of an ageing population include the rising demand for healthcare and an ageing labour force.
- ii. All countries shared that they had introduced policies to promote active ageing, such as increasing the retirement age and providing subsidies for daily necessities for the elderly e.g. healthcare, transport, groceries.
- iii. Belarus shared that it had also increased its retirement age by three years.
- iv. Belarus shared that policies have been developed to help increase the number of children in families through the provision of assistance and guarantees. However, these policies have yet to mature and a few years are required for the outcomes to emerge.

b) **Climate action:**

- i. All countries agreed that the issue with climate change needed to be taken seriously and that global action was required, as they had experienced first-hand the impact of climate change.
- ii. Countries agreed that there was a need to strike a balance between economic growth and environmental protection to achieve sustainable development.
- iii. All countries have ratified the Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and remain committed to working towards reducing carbon emissions and greenhouse gases. Policies and action plans have been introduced to implement tax on carbon emissions and promote the use of renewable energy resources.
- iv. Belarus shared that the country was one of the most energy-efficient. After the Chernobyl disaster in 1986, Belarus introduced laws to protect the natural environment which resulted in the increase in forested area and lakes.

3 With no further comments from delegates, the Chairperson called the session to a close at 3.05 pm.

4 The Report of the Dialogue with Belarus will be included in the main Report of the 39th AIPA General Assembly.



**39th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
3-7 SEPTEMBER 2018, SINGAPORE**

Towards a Resilient and Innovative Community

Doc 39GA/2018/Dia/Canada

**REPORT OF THE DIALOGUE WITH
CANADA**

The Dialogue session with Canada took place on 5 September 2018 at 2.00 pm. The session was presided over by Mr Ang Hin Kee of the Parliament of Singapore as the Chairperson, and Ms Rahayu Mahzam of the Parliament of Singapore was the Rapporteur. The following delegates attended the session:

OBSERVER PARLIAMENT

Canada

- a) Mr Terry Sheehan
- b) Mr Mohamed-Iqbal Ravalia

AIPA MEMBER PARLIAMENT

Brunei Darussalam

- a) Pehin Dato Haji Hasrin Haji Sabtu
- b) Pehin Data Hj Judin Hj Asar

Cambodia

- a) Mr Khieu Muth
- b) Mr Somrach Oun

Indonesia

- a) Mrs Amelia Anggraini
- b) Ms Kartika Yudhisti

Lao PDR

- a) Dr Vilayvong Bouddakham

Malaysia

- a) Dato' Hajah Hanifah Hajar Taib

Myanmar

- a) Mrs Pyone Kathy Naing
- b) Mr Zar Ni Min

Philippines

- a) Ms Maria Lourdes Acosta-Alba
- b) Ms Corazon Alano

Singapore

- a) Dr Intan Azura Mokhtar

Thailand

- a) Adm Saksith Cherdboonmuang
- b) ACM Chuchart Boonchai

Vietnam

- a) Mr Nguyen Van Giau
- b) Ms Nguyen Tuong Van

2 The session discussed the following issues:

- a) **Active ageing:** The Canadian delegation shared the country's national policies and programmes to support the health and security of its ageing demographic. Implementation these policy and programmes were challenging due to the federal, provincial and territories jurisdiction structure. Other than formulating national policies, Canada had also embarked on scientific research on ageing diseases and cognitive disorders such as Alzheimer's disease and dementia. Canada would like to seek close relationship with ASEAN Members for further collaboration and cooperation opportunity.

The meeting agreed that all ASEAN countries shared similar concerns as Canada where the ageing population was growing and thus, further collaboration among countries to exchange ideas and experiences could be beneficial. The common concerns included allowing the elderly to age with dignity, allowing them to take the initiative to direct life and protecting them from trauma and abuse.

- b) **Climate change:** The Canadian delegation said the country has undertaken strong actions domestically and globally to address climate change and continued to seek collaboration to reinstate the 2015 climate change agreement to reduce green-house gases emission. Canada, itself had rolled out various initiatives such as the imposition of carbon tax and the implementation of a carbon trade system to encourage companies to reduce carbon emission.

The meeting highlighted that climate change has had impacted the livelihoods and economies with increased occurrence of natural disasters. Several AIPA Members also raised the need for consistent collaboration in humanitarian effort and natural disaster management.

Several AIPA Members have also made progress to meet their commitments in the Paris Agreement by implementing various initiatives to address climate change issues.

The Canadian delegation acknowledged the efforts made by ASEAN Member States in tackling climate changes, and added that climate change and pollution were cross-boundary issues where collaborative efforts by countries were critical. The Canadian delegation also raised a concern over the increase in sea water levels which posed a threat to the coastal areas.

- c) **Other areas of collaboration:** Several developmental sectors such as trade, investment, tourism and education were identified in the meeting where further collaboration could be fostered. Canada's assistance was also sought in the area of capacity building.

3 With no further comments from delegates, the Chairperson called the session to a close at 4.30 pm.

4 The Report of the Dialogue with Canada will be included in the main Report of the 39th AIPA General Assembly.



**39th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
3-7 SEPTEMBER 2018, SINGAPORE**

Towards a Resilient and Innovative Community

Doc 39GA/2018/Dia/EP

**REPORT OF THE DIALOGUE WITH
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

The Dialogue session with European Parliament took place on 5 September 2018 at 2.00 pm. The session was chaired by Mr Desmond Choo of the Parliament of Singapore, and Ms Joan Pereira of the Parliament of Singapore was the Rapporteur. The following delegates attended the session:

OBSERVER PARLIAMENT

European Parliament

- a) Mr Werner Langen
- b) Ms Neena Gill
- c) Mr Richard Ashworth

AIPA MEMBER PARLIAMENT

Brunei Darussalam

- a) Ms Siti Rozaimeryanty Haji Abdul Rahman
- b) Mr Haji Ramli Haji Lahit

Cambodia

- a) Mr Yang Sem

Lao PDR

- a) Prof Dr Eksavang Vongvichit

Malaysia

- a) Mr Wong Chen
- b) Datin Mastura Binti Mohd Yazid

Myanmar

- a) Mr Bo Bo Oo

Philippines

- a) Mr Rodrigo A. Abellanosa

Singapore

- a) Mr Sitoh Yih Pin
- b) Mr Dennis Tan

Thailand

- a) Mrs Bilaibhan Sampatisiri
- b) Assoc Prof Sarana Boonbaichaiyapruck

Vietnam

- a) Mr Nguyen Huu Quang

2 The session discussed the following issues:

a) Active Ageing

In their introduction, the European Parliament acknowledged the challenges faced by ageing populations, specifically a shrinking workforce and rising demand for care services. The European Parliament encouraged knowledge sharing on how to promote active ageing and approaches to address these challenges.

The European Parliament encouraged the meeting to tap new technology to improve the efficiency and access of care services, thereby improving the quality of life for seniors. The European Parliament welcomed the meeting to participate and partner them in on-going research programmes that look to develop technologies in this field. On top of improving care services, the European Parliament also expressed the need to encourage lifelong learning so that older persons could continually be engaged in the workforce.

The meeting reaffirmed the importance of developing initiatives that promote active ageing and caring for the elderly in the community.

b) Climate Change

The European Parliament noted on-going collaborations with AIPA Member Parliaments on raising renewable energy capacity as well as improving energy efficiency through technical and knowledge transfer. The European Parliament called for strengthening the collaborations and partnerships on existing programmes to develop financially sustainable programmes to tackle climate change. The European Parliament also stressed the importance of delivering on the Paris Agreement goals.

The meeting noted the need to balance between economic and social considerations in order to achieve sustainable economic growth. The meeting agreed on the importance of addressing the issue of climate change and outlined certain programmes to mitigate the negative effects of climate change. They also agreed that there is potential for further collaboration with the European Parliament. The meeting looked forward to the support of the European Parliament in exchanging their best practices to address issues pertaining to climate change as well as data sharing for better awareness between policy makers.

c) Strengthening ties between AIPA Member Parliaments and the European Parliament

The meeting outlined existing programmes and efforts in addressing the challenges of an ageing population and climate change, demonstrating their deep commitment to the causes. The meeting agreed that the continued sharing of best practices with the European Parliament was a valuable opportunity for deepening conversations on key

strategic issues. The European Parliament stressed the importance of further strengthening ties between AIPA Member Parliaments and the European Parliament. They suggested more regular and in-depth discussions, and developing action plans through bilateral meetings.

4 With no further comments from the meeting, the Chairperson closed the session at 3.30 pm.

5 The Report of the Dialogue with European Parliament will be included in the main Report of the 39th AIPA General Assembly.



**39th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
3-7 SEPTEMBER 2018, SINGAPORE**

Towards a Resilient and Innovative Community

Doc 39GA/2018/Dia/India

**REPORT OF THE DIALOGUE WITH
INDIA**

The Dialogue session with India took place on 5 September 2018 at 2.00 pm. The session was presided over by Mr Gan Thiam Poh of the Parliament of Singapore as the Chairperson, and Mr Melvin Yong of the Parliament of Singapore was the Rapporteur. The following delegates attended the session:

OBSERVER PARLIAMENT

India

- a) Mr Kirti Vardhan Singh

AIPA MEMBER PARLIAMENT

Brunei Darussalam

- a) Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Ghani Haji Abdul Rahim
- b) Mr Haji Ramli Haji Lahit

Cambodia

- a) Mrs Mean Som An

Indonesia

- a) Mrs Kartika Yudhisti
- b) Mr Sudiro Asno

Lao PDR

- a) Dr Phonephet Boupcha

Malaysia

- a) Datuk Wira Hajah Mas Ermieyati Binti Samsudin
- b) Mr Hasanuddin Bin Mohd Yunus
- c) Datuk Sambanthan Manickam

Myanmar

- a) Prof Than Win

Philippines

- a) Mr Jorge T. Almonte

Singapore

- a) Mr Chong Kee Hiong

Thailand

- a) Mrs Saowanee Suwannacheep
- b) Ms Orajit Singkalavanich

Vietnam

- a) Mrs Dinh Thi Phuong Lan

2 The session discussed the following issues:

a) Climate change:

- i. The delegates agreed that climate change was a global issue requiring global action and intervention.
- ii. It was mentioned that rising sea levels were a particular problem for ASEAN, given that most member countries were surrounded by sea.
- iii. Relatedly, India shared the problems that a country its size and with its population faces, with different areas of the country impacted differently by climate change. This called for area-specific solutions to address the effects of climate change.
- iv. Each country shared its action plan to address climate change. These included fiscal approaches such as tax reforms to cut carbon emissions, or corporate programmes like reforestation to compensate for carbon emissions; social programmes like campaigns to reduce plastic bag use, car-free days; and promoting the use of sustainable and renewable energy sources such as solar or thermal.
- v. In closing, India called on ASEAN to work collectively, with a reminder that funds like the Green Climate Fund could be tapped on to help combat climate change.

b) Active ageing:

- i. Each delegate shared his or her country's approach to maintaining a high quality of life for the elderly.
- ii. One common point was the importance of having a robust health, social, and economic framework to support a growing population of elderly. This might involve expanding existing capacities of daycare/eldercare facilities or ensuring employability among the elderly, with a view to keeping the elderly engaged and active members of society.

3 With no further comments from delegates, the Chairperson concluded the session at 3.30 pm.

4 The Report of the Dialogue with India will be included in the main Report of the 39th AIPA General Assembly.



**39th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
3-7 SEPTEMBER 2018, SINGAPORE**

Towards a Resilient and Innovative Community

Doc 39GA/2018/Dia/Japan

**REPORT OF THE DIALOGUE WITH
JAPAN**

The Dialogue session with Japan took place on 5 September 2018 at 3.50 pm. The session was chaired by Dr Intan Azura Moktar of the Parliament of Singapore, and Mr Dennis Tan of the Parliament of Singapore was the Rapporteur. The following delegates attended the session:

OBSERVER PARLIAMENT

Japan

- a) Mr Motome Takisawa
- b) Mr Hirotaka Ishikawa

AIPA MEMBER PARLIAMENT

Brunei Darussalam

- a) Mr Haji Ramli Haji Lahit
- b) Pehin Dato Haji Hasrin Haji Sabtu

Cambodia

- a) Mr Muth Khieu

Indonesia

- a) Mr Jon Erizal

Lao PDR

- a) Dr Phonephet Boupcha

Malaysia

- a) Dato' Haji Mohd Rashid bin Hasnon

Myanmar

- a) Mr Naing Htoo Aung
- b) Mr Zar Ni Min

Philippines

- a) Ms Maria Lourdes R. Aggabao

Singapore

- a) Mr Louis Ng

Thailand

- a) Mrs Saowanee Suwannacheep
- b) Ms Orakit Singkalavanich

Vietnam

a) Mr Hoang Thanh Tung

2 The session discussed the following issues:

- a) **Relations:** AIPA Members extended their sympathies to Japan in the face of recent disasters. They also thanked Japan for its long-standing support to the region, including tourism and humanitarian support, and exchanges of parliament officers, experts and students. AIPA Members emphasised the importance of strong bilateral relations for regional improvement.
- a) **Active ageing:** AIPA Members had implemented strategies to improve affordability of medical services for older adults and to target social integration. AIPA Members looked forward to greater sharing of good practices and welcomed partnerships with Japan in this area.
- b) **Climate change:** AIPA Members were adversely impacted by climate change and affirmed their commitment to climate action. AIPA Members looked forward to a greater exchange of expertise and experiences with Japan.

3 The meeting also made the following points:

- a) Japan is an important partner of ASEAN and will continue to strengthen her relationship with ASEAN to enhance peace, prosperity and stability in the region.
- b) Japan would be open to sharing expertise and experiences in climate action and active ageing.
- c) The Japanese delegation advocated for the development of human resources, such as specialists in active ageing and health-promoting experts.
- d) The Japanese delegation proposed to advance environmental initiatives in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and facilitate greater cooperation within the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JMC) and through international forums.
- e) The Japanese delegation sought the support of AIPA Members for the World Expo 2025 at Osaka, Japan. The Expo is an opportunity to envision an economy that enables all people to live healthy lives and fulfil their potential, with the theme “designing future society for our lives”.

4 With no further comments from delegates, the Chairperson concluded the session at 5.10 pm.

5 The Report of the Dialogue with Japan will be included in the main Report of the 39th AIPA General Assembly.



**39th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
3-7 SEPTEMBER 2018, SINGAPORE**

Towards a Resilient and Innovative Community

Doc 39GA/2018/Dia/PRC

**REPORT OF THE DIALOGUE WITH
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

The Dialogue session with People's Republic of China took place on 5 September 2018 at 2.00 pm. The session was presided over by Mr Liang Eng Hwa of the Parliament of Singapore as the Chairperson, and Ms K Thanalethimi of the Parliament of Singapore was the Rapporteur. The following delegates attended the session:

OBSERVER PARLIAMENT

People's Republic of China

- a) Dr Lv Wei

AIPA MEMBER PARLIAMENT

Brunei Darussalam

- a) Mr Ong Tiong Oh

Cambodia

- a) Mr Prak Cham Roewn

Indonesia

- a) Mr Jon Erizal

Lao PDR

- a) Mr Bounpone Sisoulath

Malaysia

- a) Mr Nga Kor Ming
- b) Mr Khoo Poay Tiong

Myanmar

- a) Mr Zaw Thein
- b) Mr Aung Kyi Nyunt

Philippines

- a) Mrs Elisa T. Kho

Singapore

- a) Mr Seah Kian Peng

Thailand

- a) Mrs Kanjanaratt Leevirojana
- b) Mr Kittisak Rattanawaraha

Vietnam

- a) Mr Hoang Thanh Tung

2 China opened the session by conveying greetings to the ASEAN parliamentary members. They agreed that issues of climate change and active ageing are globally relevant and noted that the friendship and cooperation with ASEAN will be fruitful towards tackling these issues.

3 It emphasised that economic growth has to be balanced with ecological protection, and advocated responsible development through the adoption of renewable energy and reducing pollution. Through these actions, jobs can be created while improving the living standards of citizens.

4 A rapidly ageing population has become a prominent feature of China's demographic change. To deal with the challenges, China will enhance social protection, increase productivity, and improve employability for seniors. It is willing to work with ASEAN member parliaments to enhance cooperation and provide more comprehensive legal frameworks to tackle issues of climate change and an ageing population, so as to drive sustainable development on a global scale.

5 The session then discussed the following issues:

- a. Brunei highlighted the need to balance economic growth and ecological preservation as the basis for sustainable development. It has committed to reducing its energy consumption and carbon emissions, while enhancing environmental protection and adopting renewable energy. It has also partnered non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and businesses to enforce wildlife and rainforest protection, increase public outreach, and work towards the total ban of plastic bags by 2019. Seniors are also seen as critical stakeholders in society. As such, the Government plans to provide an environment for seniors to participate and actively contribute back to society.
- b. Indonesia hoped for continued cooperation between China and ASEAN in tackling climate change, and reiterated its commitment to combating climate change through the ratification and implementation of the Paris Agreement. On top of its mandatory insurance programme to support seniors after retirement, Indonesia is looking to expand social and pension schemes while improving the affordability of Government services. It is also experimenting with adopting information technology to reduce social isolation. Indonesia hoped the dialogue could continue contributing to the acceleration of regional development, in addition to strengthening bilateral ties and cooperation.
- c. Laos expressed appreciation for the financial and technical assistance provided. It looked forward to learning from ASEAN and China to tackle issues such as climate change and an ageing population.
- d. Malaysia remains committed to achieving the objectives in various international agreements, such as the Paris Agreement. It believed that the success of the

accord depends on the full cooperation and implementation by member countries and added that it is actively implementing measures to tackle climate change.

- e. It also shared its national-level programmes to encourage successful ageing. It added that it was moving towards a community-based support system of care, and to encourage people to embrace the shared responsibility of safeguarding the well-being of seniors.
- f. Myanmar reiterated the good relations between China and ASEAN, and looked forward to continued cooperation in tackling issues of climate change and an ageing population.
- g. The Philippines is working towards the implementation of the Paris Agreement through a more efficient modern economy powered by clean energy. To do this, it has implemented tax reforms and imposed taxes on imported coal, and is providing subsidies to encourage the adoption of renewable energy. It has also committed to the long-term financing of green initiatives.
- h. The Philippines provides automatic enrolment for seniors in the national health insurance programme. It also provides social pensions and subsidies for daily necessities. Seniors who actively contribute to the community receive additional benefits and grants from the Government.
- i. Singapore noted that climate change is a global responsibility that it is tackling on two fronts: mitigation and increasing awareness. Singapore is investing in infrastructure to prepare for climate change, and to build a climate-resilient global city. It also reaffirmed its commitment in stepping up efforts to address climate change.
- j. Ageing is Singapore's key demographic challenge. An ageing population poses significant challenges to the healthcare system. It noted that there is a national blueprint to help Singaporeans age confidently and to lead active lives
- k. Thailand commended China's efforts in tackling issues of climate change. It expressed appreciation for the longstanding bilateral relations and hoped for continued cooperation and engagement between both countries.
- l. Vietnam called for a high-level inter-parliamentary platform to be set up, to oversee the implementation of international agreements and to enhance international cooperation in policy-making. It also encouraged the development of a platform to share data and expertise on climate change. At the same time, it welcomed cooperation and technical assistance from China and ASEAN in tackling the issue of active ageing.
- m. China closed by thanking all for the valuable insights. It affirmed the good relations between China and ASEAN member states, and hoped to strengthen cooperation among countries as they tackle issues of climate change and ageing population.

6 With no further comments from delegates, the Chairperson closed the session at 3:50 pm.

7 The Report of the Dialogue with People's Republic of will be included in the main Report of the 39th AIPA General Assembly.



**39th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
3-7 SEPTEMBER 2018, SINGAPORE**

Towards a Resilient and Innovative Community

Doc 39GA/2018/Dia/RK

**REPORT OF THE DIALOGUE WITH
REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

The Dialogue session with Republic of Korea took place on 5 September 2018 at 3.30 pm. The session was presided over by Mr Pritam Singh of the Parliament of Singapore as the Chairperson, and Ms Chia Yong Yong of the Parliament of Singapore was the Rapporteur. The following delegates attended the session:

OBSERVER PARLIAMENT

Republic of Korea

- a) Mr Yang Seog Cheong
- b) Mr Soo Hyuck Lee

AIPA MEMBER PARLIAMENT

Brunei Darussalam

- a) Mr Ong Tiong Oh

Cambodia

- a) Mr Prak Cham Roenun

Indonesia

- a) Mrs Endang S. Handayani
- b) Mrs Kartika Yudhisti

Lao PDR

- a) Dr Vilayvong Bouddakham

Malaysia

- a) Mr Akmal Nasrullah Bin Mohd Nasir
- b) Mrs Natrah Ismail

Myanmar

- a) Mr Bo Bo Oo

Philippines

- a) Mr Jorge T. Almonte

Singapore

- a) Mr Chong Kee Hiong

Thailand

- a) ACM Chanat Ratana-Ubol

Vietnam

- a) Mr Nguyen Huu Quang

2 The session discussed the following issues:

- a) **Active ageing:** Korea and AIPA Members agreed that the ageing population had serious social and economic implications for their respective countries and that cooperation was imperative to effectively tackle the challenges. In particular, Brunei shared that the elderly were critical stakeholders who played important roles in the country's development and thus, governments should look into legislation, policies and research to enable this population segment to contribute more effectively to society. The meeting also discussed turning challenges into opportunities and the various initiatives implemented in the respective countries to improve long-term care, prevent social exclusion and maintain the dignity and rights of the elderly.
- b) **Climate Change:** Korea and AIPA Members emphasised that the climate change was a shared concern and that it was important for countries to have constructive dialogue and work closely together on policies and legislation that would bring about collective change for the region. AIPA Members expressed gratitude for Korea's support in the sharing of expertise, knowledge and experience in the area of renewable energy. Korea concluded the discussion by sharing on Korea's gentrification project on the Changkat River, which the AIPA Secretary-General had lauded as a good environmental project. Korea offered to share more information on the project with AIPA Members after the Assembly.

3 With no further comments from delegates, the Chairperson concluded the session at 5.30 pm.

4 The Report of the Dialogue with Republic of Korea will be included in the main Report of the 39th AIPA General Assembly.



**39th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
3-7 SEPTEMBER 2018, SINGAPORE**

Towards a Resilient and Innovative Community

Doc 39GA/2018/Dia/Russia

**REPORT OF THE DIALOGUE WITH
RUSSIA**

The Dialogue session with Russian Federation met on 5 September 2018 at 3.30 pm. The session was presided over by Mr Seah Kian Peng of the Parliament of Singapore as the Chairperson, and Mr Darryl David of the Parliament of Singapore was the Rapporteur. The following delegates attended the session:

OBSERVER PARLIAMENT

Russian Federation

- a) Mr Stepan Zhiriakov
- b) Mr Aleksei Chepa
- c) Mr Georgii Karlov
- d) Mr Rafail Zinurov

AIPA MEMBER PARLIAMENT

Brunei Darussalam

- a) Ms Siti Rozaimeriyanty Haji Abdul Rahman

Indonesia

- a) Mr Juliari P Batubara
- b) Mr Abdul Kadir Karding

Lao PDR

- a) Mr Bounpone Sisoulath
- b) Mrs Vanpheng Keonakhone

Malaysia

- a) Mr Awang Hashim
- b) Mr Wong Chen
- c) Datin Mastura Binti Mohd Yazid

Myanmar

- a) Prof Than Win
- b) Mr Win Myint

Philippines

- a) Mr Robert Ace S. Barbers

Singapore

- a) Mr Teo Ser Luck
- b) Miss Cheng Li Hui

Thailand

- a) Khunying Songsuda Yodmani
- b) ACM Chuchart Boonchai

Vietnam

- a) Mr Nguyen Minh Duc

2 The Russian delegation opened the session by conveying greetings to the ASEAN parliamentary members. It expressed interest in promoting and developing dialogue with ASEAN Members as part of Russia's top foreign policy priorities, and noted that issues of climate change and active ageing were globally relevant.

3 It emphasised the importance of addressing root causes behind climate change, and fulfilling obligations to international agreements. Its approach towards reducing emissions is to improve energy efficiency and lower energy usage. At the same time, it is raising awareness of climate change in Russia and in the world.

4 The Russian delegation shared its strategies for promoting longer life expectancy and better quality of living among the elderly. For example, it encourages seniors to be physically and mentally active. Specifically, it has established a network of universities to provide free education for seniors and also provides employment opportunities through social projects.

5 The session then discussed the following issues:

- a) Brunei highlighted the need to balance economic growth and ecological preservation as the basis for sustainable development. It has committed to reducing its energy consumption and carbon emissions, while enhancing environmental protection and adopting renewable energy. It has also partnered non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and businesses to enforce wildlife and rainforest protection, increase public outreach, and work towards the total ban of plastic bags by 2019.
- b) People in Brunei are also motivated by family and religion to take care of seniors, who are seen as critical stakeholders in society. The Government plans to provide an environment for seniors to participate and actively contribute back to society. Brunei added that it was eager to learn more from Russia in terms of employment and the provision of free education for seniors.
- c) Indonesia hoped for continued cooperation between Russia and ASEAN in tackling climate change, and reiterated its commitment to combating climate change through the ratification and implementation of the Paris Agreement. Indonesia also pushed for the MOU on disaster management to be signed at the upcoming ASEAN-Russia Summit.
- d) Indonesia acknowledged Russia's efforts in increasing life expectancy for seniors and promoting active ageing. On top of its mandatory insurance programme to support seniors after retirement, Indonesia is looking to expand social and pension schemes while improving the affordability of Government services. It is also experimenting with adopting information technology to reduce social isolation. Indonesia hoped the dialogue

could continue contributing to the acceleration of regional development, in addition to strengthening bilateral ties and cooperation.

- e) Laos affirmed Russia's assistance and support in various aspects, and looked forward to further cooperation between Russia and ASEAN to tackle climate change and an ageing population. It also expressed appreciation to Russia for its comprehensive cooperation and delivery of support for Laos' socio-economic development.
- f) Malaysia affirmed the friendly relationship and long-standing bilateral ties with Russia. It also looked forward to cooperating with Russia and ASEAN to tackle climate change and an ageing population.
- g) Myanmar expressed that climate change is a problem for Myanmar as it continues to develop rapidly, resulting in damage to the environment. It is currently moving towards the use of clean energy and to further regulate the extraction of natural resources.
- h) There is a culture of extended familial support for seniors in Myanmar. The Government partners with NGOs and religious organisations to provide day-care services and medical care for seniors.
- i) The Philippines is working towards the implementation of the Paris Agreement through a more efficient modern economy powered by clean energy. To do this, it has implemented tax reforms and imposed taxes on imported coal, and is providing subsidies to encourage the adoption of renewable energy. It has also committed to the long-term financing of green initiatives.
- j) The Philippines provides automatic enrolment for seniors in the national health insurance programme. It also provides social pensions and subsidies for daily necessities. Seniors who actively contribute to the community receive additional benefits and grants from the Government.
- k) To tackle climate change, Singapore has implemented a carbon tax, while improving accessibility and public awareness of recycling initiatives. Singapore is also experimenting with co-locating eldercare and childcare facilities. This promotes intergenerational bonding and encourages seniors to age gracefully and with dignity.
- l) Thailand commended Russia's efforts in tackling issues of climate change and providing employment opportunities for seniors. It expressed appreciation for the longstanding bilateral relations and hoped for continued cooperation and engagement between both countries.
- m) Vietnam called for a high-level inter-parliamentary platform to be set up, to oversee the implementation of international agreements and to enhance international cooperation in policy-making. It also encouraged the development of a platform to share data and expertise on climate change. At the same time, it welcomed cooperation and technical assistance from Russia and ASEAN in tackling the issue of active ageing.
- n) Russia closed by sharing the Active Ageing Index in Europe as a useful tool to identify the strengths and weaknesses in efforts to promote active ageing.

6 With no further comments from delegates, the Chairperson concluded the session at 5:05 pm.

7 The Report of the Dialogue with Russian Federation will be included in the main Report of the 39th AIPA General Assembly.



**39th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
3-7 SEPTEMBER 2018, SINGAPORE**

Towards a Resilient and Innovative Community

Doc 39GA/2018/Dia/TL

**REPORT OF THE DIALOGUE WITH
TIMOR LESTE**

The Dialogue session with Timor Leste took place on 5 September 2018 at 3.40 pm. The session was presided over by Mr Sitoh Yih Pin of the Parliament of Singapore as the Chairperson, and Mr Saktiandi Supaat of the Parliament of Singapore was the Rapporteur. The following delegates attended the session:

OBSERVER PARLIAMENT

Timor Leste

- a) Ms Maria Angelina Lopes Sarmento

AIPA MEMBER PARLIAMENT

Brunei Darussalam

- a) Mr Pg Haji Ali Pengiran Maon

Cambodia

- a) Mrs Khoun Khun Dy

Indonesia

- a) Mrs Amelia Anggraini

Lao PDR

- a) Mr Amphay Chitmanonh
- b) Mrs Thatsadaphone Sengsouliya

Malaysia

- a) Mr Muslimin Bin Yahaya
- b) Mr Ahmad Bin Hassan

Myanmar

- a) Ms Htoot May

Philippines

- a) Dr Elisa T. Kho

Singapore

- a) Mr Gan Thiam Poh

Thailand

- a) Adm Saksith Cherdboonmuang
- b) Assoc Prof Sarana Boonbaichaiyapruck

Vietnam

- a) Mrs Dinh Thi Phuong Lan

2 The session discussed the following issues:

a) **Active ageing:**

- i. Ageing population is a key and growing concern for many countries. The challenges of an ageing population include the rising demand for healthcare and an ageing labour force.
- ii. All countries shared that they had introduced policies to promote active ageing, such as increasing the retirement age and providing subsidies for daily necessities for the elderly e.g. healthcare, transport, groceries.

b) **Climate change:**

- i. All countries agreed that the issue with climate change needed to be taken seriously and that global action was required, as they had experienced first-hand the impact of climate change.
- ii. Countries agreed that there is a need to strike a balance between economic growth and environmental protection to achieve sustainable development.
- iii. All countries have ratified the Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and remain committed to working towards reducing carbon emissions and greenhouse gases. Policies and action plans have been introduced to implement tax on carbon emissions and promote the use of renewable energy resources.

c) **Timor-Leste's application to join ASEAN:**

- i. The point was made that Timor-Leste had been an observer country for more than 15 years and have had applied to become a full member in 2011. The country has made efforts to respond to the requirements and frameworks required to be part of ASEAN.
- ii. It was also shared that countries had expressed their support for Timor-Leste's application and seek to iron out bilateral opportunities in trade and investments and other areas.

3 With no further comments from delegates, the Chairperson concluded the session at 5.00 pm.

4 The Report of the Dialogue with Timor Leste will be included in the main Report of the 39th AIPA General Assembly.