



PARLIAMENT OF MALAYSIA

**STATEMENT SPEECH
BY**

**H.E. TAN SRI DATUK SERI PANGLIMA PANDIKAR AMIN BIN HAJI MULIA
MP, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**AT THE 32ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
ASEAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (AIPA)**

**ON 20TH SEPTEMBER 2011
AT PEACE PALACE, PHNOM PENH
KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA**

Thank You Mr. Chairman,

President of National Assembly of Cambodia, AND President of AIPA, HON. HENG SAMRIN;

Honourable AIPA SECRETARY GENERAL.

Honourable Head of Delegations,

Honourable ASEAN Members of Parliament,

The Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN,

Distinguished Delegation from observers countries and Special Observers.

Fellow Delegates,

**Mr. Chairman,
Ladies and Gentlemen.**

Over the years, **ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA)** has played her role in helping to realize the **ASEAN Community** by the year 2015.

This **32nd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA)**, hosted by Cambodia - the Kingdom of Wonders, is a proof of that continuous commitment.

As Head of a Delegation, I reaffirmed Malaysian's Parliament full commitment towards strengthening ASEAN as a regional organization and achieving her **vision** of establishing **the ASEAN Security Community; the ASEAN Economic Community and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community**.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

To realize this vision, ASEAN LEADERS have adopted a master plan called **THE MASTER PLAN OF ASEAN CONNECTIVITY**.

This master plan calls for a greater people-to-people connectivity.

AIPA activities such as this yearly General Assembly, is one of the best examples of people-to-people connectivity in action.

I believe, it is very important for AIPA to continue to focus its participation directly **on the needs** of the people of ASEAN - in all sectors of society, that is:

- to help strengthen cultural awareness,
- to forge a closer and common ASEAN identity, and
- to improve social development in the ASEAN region.

In this regards, AIPA should not only act as a bridge between ASEAN Secretariat and the People of ASEAN, but AIPA should also directly communicate to the peoples of ASEAN .

AIPA should convey to the people of ASEAN the vision of ASEAN and AIPA must undertake strategic initiatives in accordance to the blueprints of the ASEAN Community.

In realizing the goal for an **ASEAN Political Security Community**, AIPA **could** and **should** explain to the people of ASEAN the needs and importance of having a region of peace and free from all threats.

It must be explained and understood that a free and peaceful region will be a catalyst to economic development.

It must be explained and understood that Countries that are at peace with each other is conducive for good cooperation for economic development.

It must be explained and understood that countries that are at peace with each other augers well for more trade and investment which would elevate the prosperity of the people.

In realizing the goal for an ***ASEAN Economic Community***, AIPA could play a pivotal role. ASEAN Parliamentarians through AIPA can help to standardize and to regularize labor, trade and investment regimes in their respective countries.

It must be explain and understood that an uniformed economic structure of ASEAN countries would attract and facilitate more trade and investment which would elevate the prosperity of its people.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As ASEAN moves forward - to become an ASEAN Community in year 2015, the relationships between the peoples of ASEAN and the 10 different governments together with the ASEAN Secretariats, must be enhanced. The best approach to achieve this is by having a two way-communication, where the peoples of ASEAN could voice out their ideas, feedbacks and views to their governments and the ASEAN Secretariat. AIPA is the stage or platform where our parliamentarians at present and in our parliamentarians in the future could play a pivotal role by being the voices of the peoples of ASEAN.

Failure to meet the expectations of the people through their representatives in parliament will force them to channel their voices in the streets by way of demonstrations and protests which may lead to chaos and political crisis. In this regards, AIPA needs to play more assertive role in meeting the expectations set by the peoples of ASEAN.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Malaysian delegation, welcome the admission of the Parliament of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar as a member of AIPA.

Malaysian Delegation salute the government of Cambodia for hosting this conference and for being an excellent host.

Thank You.