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**ACCEPTANCE SPEECH**

**DR. (HC). PUAN MAHARANI**

**SPEAKER**

 **OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA**

**ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (AIPA)**

**PHNOM PENH, 24 NOVEMBER 2022**

*Your Excellency President of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia,*

*Your Excellency President of the Senate of the Kingdom of Cambodia,*

*Excellencies Speakers of Parliament of ASEAN member states,*

*Honorable Members of Parliament and Delegates,*

First of all, I would like to congratulate the National Assembly and the Senate of the Kingdom of Cambodia for successfully organizing this 44th AIPA General Assembly.

This meeting has once again showed strong commitment of ASEAN member parliaments to support the work of AIPA*.*

Today, the world is facing multi - dimensional crises.

As we collectively work to recover from the pandemic, we are also confronted with the rise of geopolitical tensions, high inflation, as well as food and energy crises. Not only that, the impacts of climate change have become increasingly more threatening.

As we are required to stand together, however, we see rising fragmentation and polarization in the world.

Similarly in Southeast Asia, we are also faced with various threats to regional stability, such as the return of great power rivalry, disruption of supply chain, and the challenge to regional architecture.

***Distinguished Delegates,***

Indonesia will assume the ASEAN chairmanship in 2023. In the same year, the Indonesian House of Representatives will also assume the chairmanship of AIPA.

Indonesia is poised to continue the AIPA 2022 agenda under the leadership of Cambodia.

Indonesia's agenda for AIPA in 2023 will be one that is ambitious, inclusive, and action-oriented.

The AIPA 2023 agenda will highlight the importance of maintaining ASEAN unity amid various global crises.

For this to happen, we need to build a shared vision in managing global and regional order, and in creating one earth for all.

The global order must be supported by regional order.

We can achieve this by ensuring compliance with international laws and the United Nations Charter.

This can also be done by using dialogue and diplomacy, and rejecting violence as means of resolving differences and disagreements.

Furthermore, we need to build *mutual understanding, mutual respect, and mutual trust* among countries in the region.

South-east Asia must lead by example in fostering regional cooperation as a catalyst for building stability, economic progress, and recovery process.

In addressing the threats of climate change, we must renounce the paradigm of ´*grow now, clean up later*.´

In realizing the shared vision, parliaments of ASEAN member countries should be actively involved in promoting democracy, as well as creating peace, and prosperity.

Parliaments must also help prepare the region in preventing future crises in Southeast Asia.

For this reason, the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia is committed to maintaining ASEAN centrality amidst regional geopolitical dynamics.

The 2023 AIPA Presidency will be carried out within the framework of Indonesia's chairmanship of ASEAN in 2023: *ASEAN Matters: Epicentrum of Growth.*

As the AIPA Chair in 2023, I would like to ask all of you, AIPA member parliaments, to work together to face our common challenges.

Together,… we will build the shared vision of a peaceful and prosperous South-east Asia.

And together,… we will make real and beneficial contribution for the people that we serve.

I look forward to welcoming you all in Indonesia in 2023.

Thank you Cambodia, and see you in Indonesia next year.

I thank you.

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