

PRESS RELEASE BY PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE

HOSTING OF THE 12TH CAUCUS MEETING OF THE ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

The Parliament of Singapore is hosting the 12th Caucus meeting of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) on 16 June 2021. The one-day meeting is held virtually.

2 With the COVID-19 pandemic continuing to expose vulnerabilities in global supply chains and trade links, delegates attending the meeting will exchange views, share lessons learnt and discuss how regional parliamentarians can support ongoing efforts to keep supply chains open, connected and resilient under the topic “Strengthening Supply Chain Resilience and Enhancing Trade Connectivity”. They will also discuss the implementation status of resolutions adopted at the 41st AIPA General Assembly, which Vietnam hosted in September 2020.

3 In his Opening Address (see *Annex*) for the 12th AIPA Caucus, Mr Tan Chuan-Jin, Speaker of the Parliament of Singapore, highlighted how AIPA continues to play a pivotal role to raise awareness among lawmakers on important and pressing regional issues. Amidst challenges posed by COVID-19, ASEAN has recognised early on and collectively affirmed the importance of unimpeded cross-border flow of essential products in the region. Speaker Tan thus urged AIPA parliamentarians to support ASEAN’s efforts in keeping supply chains open and to explore how to further advance the region’s supply chain resilience; in preparation for other unexpected events or the next disruption to our trade connectivity.

4 Singapore Member of Parliament (MP), Mr Lim Biow Chuan, has been appointed as the Chairperson of the 12th AIPA Caucus Meeting. Mr Edward Chia heads the Singapore delegation that also comprises Mr Chua Kheng Wee Louis.

5 The 12th AIPA Caucus meeting is attended by about 50 AIPA parliamentarians, parliament staff and representatives from the AIPA and ASEAN Secretariats, including AIPA Secretary-General, Mrs Nguyen Tuong Van.

6 The Report of the 12th AIPA Caucus will be submitted to the Executive Committee of AIPA for consideration and subsequent adoption at the 42nd AIPA General Assembly to be hosted by Brunei in August 2021.

**Office of the Clerk of Parliament
16 June 2021**