



**RESOLUTION ON
WOMEN, POVERTY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

The Twenty-Ninth General Assembly:

Recalling that the Declaration of the Advancement of Women in the ASEAN Region (1988) recognises the role of women in economic and social development and promotes the equitable and effective participation of women in all fields;

Recognising the importance of capacity-building activities to alleviate poverty and address the social dimensions of globalisation;

Being aware that women are disproportionately represented in the lower-income groups, and constitute a disproportionate section of the general population living in dire poverty in Asia;

Noting that inequitable economic development has inadvertently placed new burdens on women that have contributed to this growing proportion of women represented in the lower income groups and subsequently in the section of the general population living in poverty;

Acknowledging the subsequent vulnerability of women in economic development and its restructuring as a result of their disadvantaged position in terms of income;

Understanding that a rural-urban divide in terms of accessibility to resources such as healthcare, education, basic sanitation and other amenities accentuates the difficulties faced by women in poverty;



Affirming ASEAN's commitment to eradicate the feminisation of poverty through initiatives that address the factors that relegate women to lower-income groups;

Reaffirming ASEAN's commitment to promote women's participation in economic and social development through the realisation of the Declaration of the Advancement of Women in the ASEAN Region (1988) and the objectives of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

Hereby resolves to:

Address the manifold effects of economic development on women in terms of education, employment and economic opportunities for advancement, with the aim of eradicating the root causes of the feminisation of poverty;

Promote the advancement of women through government commitments and community-led initiatives to improve basic amenities including education, healthcare especially reproductive health of women and sanitation in rural areas;

Support ASEAN Member Countries' initiatives for advancement of women in economic and social development through supporting women-led micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and co-operatives;

Enhance cooperation among ASEAN Member Countries in provision of technical assistance and/or information and knowledge for the empowerment of women.