

SENADORA CORA CECILIA PINEDO ALONSO

INFORME DE ACTIVIDADES "31°. REUNIÓN ANUAL DEL FORO PARLAMENTARIO ASIA PACÍFICO (APPF)"

INFORME DE ACTIVIDADES QUE PRESENTA LA SENADORA CORA CECILIA PINEDO ALONSO, PRESIDENTA DE LA COMISIÓN DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES ASIA-PACÍFICO-ÁFRICA, CON MOTIVO DE SU PARTICIPACIÓN EN LA 31°. REUNIÓN ANUAL DEL FORO PARLAMENTARIO ASIA PACÍFICO DEL 23 AL 26 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2023 EN LA CIUDAD DE PÁSAY, FILIPINAS.

Introducción

¿QUÉ ES EL APPF?

1. El APPF es un foro de estructura flexible y no exclusiva de los parlamentos de la región Asia-Pacífico, en el cual los legisladores participan en representación de sus propios parlamentos o en su calidad de parlamentarios de la región.
2. El APPF busca proveer oportunidades para que los parlamentarios de la región Asia Pacífico:
 - a. identifiquen y discutan temas de interés y preocupación común y ponerlos de relieve en un contexto global;
 - b. Profundicen su entendimiento sobre las preocupaciones políticas, intereses y experiencias de los países de la región;
 - c. Examinen los eventos políticos, sociales y culturales resultantes del crecimiento económico y la integración;
 - d. Alienten y promuevan la cooperación regional en todos los niveles acerca de los temas de preocupación común para la región; y
 - e. Desempeñen el papel de parlamentarios fomentando en sus respectivos países un sentimiento de cohesión regional, entendimiento y cooperación.
3. El APPF funciona con base en:
 - a. El compromiso para un diálogo franco y constructivo;
 - b. El respeto igualitario para los puntos de vista de todos los participantes; y



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- c. El pleno reconocimiento de los papeles desempeñados por los gobiernos, las empresas, los sindicatos, los institutos de investigación y otros.
- 4. El APPF actúa para promover una mayor identificación y cooperación regional con especial énfasis en:
 - a. La cooperación para el progreso de la paz, la libertad, la democracia y la prosperidad;
 - b. La cooperación abierta y no exclusiva para la expansión del libre comercio, la inversión, el desarrollo sustentable y las prácticas ambientales sanas;
 - c. La cooperación no militar que tome en cuenta los temas relacionados con la paz y la seguridad regionales; y
 - d. La preservación y promoción de las diversas culturas de los pueblos de la región.

El acta de fundación de APPF es la Declaración de Tokio, documento suscrito por 59 parlamentarios de 15 naciones en 1993, que fue sustituido por la nueva Declaración de Tokio, adoptada por los miembros en enero de 2012.

PAÍSES MIEMBROS

Australia, Camboya, Canadá, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Colombia, Ecuador, Estados Unidos de América, Fiji, Filipinas, Indonesia, Japón, Laos, Malasia, Islas Marshall, México, Estados Federados de Micronesia, Mongolia, Nueva Zelanda, Papúa Nueva Guinea, Perú, República de Corea, Rusia, Singapur, Tailandia y Vietnam. (Brunei Darussalam participa como observador).

BREVE HISTORIA

La primera reunión preparatoria del Foro Parlamentario Asia Pacífico fue celebrada en Singapur, en agosto de 1991. Parlamentarios de nueve países, a saber, Australia, Canadá, Indonesia, Japón, Nueva Zelanda, Filipinas, República de Corea, Singapur y los Estados Unidos de América, asistieron a esta reunión.

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La segunda reunión preparatoria fue realizada en Canberra el 10 y 11 de diciembre de 1991. Treinta y siete parlamentarios de quince países asistieron a la reunión: Australia, Brunei (observador), Canadá, Indonesia, Japón, México, los Estados Federados de Micronesia, Nueva Zelandia, Papúa Nueva Guinea, la República Popular China, Filipinas, la República de Corea, Singapur, Tailandia, y los Estados Unidos de América.

En la reunión de Canberra, los participantes decidieron que la Asamblea inaugural del APPF fuera celebrada en 1992 en Corea o en Japón y que la fecha fuera determinada por el Comité Directivo. Este Comité, presidido por el Honorable Yasuhiro Nakasone, gestor de la organización, lo integraron un país del ANSEA (Tailandia), Australia, Japón, Corea y los Estados Unidos, fue establecido para realizar las coordinaciones necesarias para la reunión inaugural.

En febrero de 1992, el Comité decidió, con el consenso general de los participantes de la reunión de Canberra que la reunión inaugural fuera celebrada en Tokio el 14 y 15 de enero de 1993.

DOCUMENTOS BÁSICOS

En la reunión inaugural de 1993 en Tokio, la Asamblea formalmente aprobó la Declaración de Tokio que oficialmente estableció el Foro Parlamentario Asia Pacífico como una organización inter-parlamentaria, conformada inicialmente por 15 miembros fundadores. Esta Declaración, establece la organización básica del APPF y es considerada su acta de fundación.

La segunda reunión en Manila, Filipinas, aprobó una resolución que cubría las reglas de procedimiento a aplicarse en el manejo de los asuntos administrativos del Foro. Igualmente, la cuarta reunión anual celebrada en Tailandia en 1994, aprobó una resolución sobre la ejecución de un Sistema de Intercambio Legislativo, que dio origen al Plan Operativo APOINT 2001.

Finalmente, la quinta reunión anual realizada en 1997 en Vancouver, Canadá, adoptó la Declaración de Vancouver, otro documento esencial que estableció la visión de la región de Asia Pacífico en el siglo XXI y los objetivos de la organización en las seis áreas de interés del APPF.

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REUNIÓN ANUAL APPF

Es el órgano de decisión de más alto nivel del APPF. Las delegaciones de los países miembro se reúnen anualmente. El anfitrión de cada reunión anual es determinado en la reunión precedente.

Las reuniones anuales celebradas hasta la fecha se enlistan a continuación:

1. Asamblea Inaugural, Tokio Japón, enero 13-15, 1993
2. Segunda Reunión Anual, Manila, Filipinas, enero 14-15, 1994
3. Tercera Reunión Anual, Acapulco, México, enero 13-15, 1995.
4. Cuarta Reunión Anual, Cha-am, Phetchaburi, Tailandia, enero 15-18, 1996.
5. Quinta Reunión Anual, Vancouver, Canadá, enero 7-10, 1997
6. Sexta Reunión Anual, Seúl, Corea, enero 7-10, 1998
7. Séptima Reunión Anual, Lima, Perú, enero 11-14, 1999
8. Octava Reunión Anual, Canberra, Australia, enero 8-14, 2000
9. Novena Reunión Anual, Valparaíso, Chile, enero 14-19, 2001
10. Décima Reunión Anual, Hawái EE.UU., enero 6-9, 2002
11. Décima primera Reunión Anual, Kuala Lumpur, Malasia, enero 13-15, 2003
12. Décima segunda Reunión Anual, Beijing, China, enero 12-14, 2004.
13. Décima tercera Reunión Anual, Ho Long, Vietnam, enero 9-14, 2005
14. Décima cuarta Reunión Anual, Yakarta, Indonesia, enero 15-20, 2006.
15. Décima quinta Reunión Anual, Moscú, Federación de Rusia, enero 21-26, 2007.
16. Décima sexta Reunión Anual, Auckland, Nueva Zelanda, enero 19-27, 2008.
17. Décima séptima Reunión Anual, Vientiane, República Popular y Democrática de Laos, enero 10-16, 2009.
18. Décima octava Reunión Anual, Singapur, enero 17-22, 2010.
19. Décima novena Reunión Anual Ulan Bator, Mongolia, enero 23-27, 2011.
20. Vigésima Reunión Anual, Tokio, Japón, enero 8-12, 2012.

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21. Vigésima primera Reunión Anual, Vladivostok, Federación de Rusia, enero 27-31, 2013.
22. Vigésima segunda Reunión Anual, Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, México, enero 12-15, 2014.
23. Vigésima tercera Reunión Anual, Quito, Ecuador, enero, 10-15, 2015.
24. Vigésima cuarta Reunión Anual, Vancouver, Canadá, enero 17-21, 2016.
25. Vigésima quinta Reunión Anual, Sigatoka, Fij, enero 15-19, 2017.
26. Vigésima sexta Reunión Anual, Hanói, Vietnam, enero 18-21, 2018.
27. Vigésima séptima Reunión Anual, Siem Reap, Camboya, enero 14-17, 2019.
28. Vigésima octava Reunión Anual, Canberra, Australia, enero 13-16, 2020.
29. Vigésima novena Reunión Anual, Seúl, República de Corea, diciembre 13-15, 2021.
30. Trigésima Reunión Anual, Bangkok, Reino de Tailandia, octubre 26-29, 2022.
31. Trigésima Primera Reunión Anual, Pósay, Filipinas, noviembre 23-26, 2023.

Estructura del Foro

El Foro Parlamentario Asia Pacífico (APPF) fue establecido en enero de 1993 en Tokio, Japón, en su reunión inaugural.

Todas las decisiones del Foro son tomadas a través de consenso. Las reuniones del APPF se llevan a cabo anualmente (regularmente durante el mes de enero).

Los trabajos de Foro son en idioma inglés. El país sede deberá proveer de interpretación simultánea de inglés al idioma del país sede y viceversa; además, el parlamento anfitrión debe facilitar el equipo técnico adecuado para otras delegaciones que prefieran expresarse en su idioma materno a través de un intérprete propio.

Para preparar las reuniones anuales y administrar las actividades del APPF entre cada Reunión anual, el Foro deberá elegir a un Comité Ejecutivo que

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consiste en representantes subregionales, totalizando nueve países o menos, con base en una "representación regional equitativa". El presidente del APPF funge como presidente del Comité Ejecutivo *ex officio*.

En el año 2004, se estableció la posición de Presidente Honorario. El destacado ex primer ministro de Japón, S.E. Yasuhiro Nakasone, quien hasta entonces había dirigido el Comité Ejecutivo, fue elegido para esa posición.

Los grupos de trabajo se establecen por recomendación del Comité Ejecutivo durante la reunión anual, con el fin de dar cabida a aspectos específicos sobre el borrador del comunicado conjunto, su revisión, su aprobación, adopción y publicación hasta completar los trabajos del Foro Anual.

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Antecedentes:

Con fundamento en lo dispuesto por los artículos 10, fracción VIII y 283, fracción VI del Reglamento del Senado de la República, se presenta el informe de actividades de la Senadora Cora Cecilia Pinedo Alonso, del Grupo Parlamentario del Partido del Trabajo (PT), correspondiente a



su participación como integrante de la Delegación mexicana ante la 31ª. Reunión Anual del Foro Parlamentario Asia Pacífico (APPF), del 23 al 26 de enero de 2023 en Pásay, Filipinas.

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De conformidad con lo dispuesto por el Peto de la 30ª Reunión Anual del Foro Parlamentario Asia Pacífico (APPF), cuya sede se realizó en Bangkok, Tailandia, la 31ª. Reunión Anual del APPF se llevó a cabo en la ciudad de Pásay del 23 al 26 de noviembre de 2023, teniendo como anfitrión, al Parlamento de Filipinas.

Es así, que 21 delegaciones de los países miembros de APPF, entre ellos, Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Camboya, Canadá, Chile, China, Corea, Fiji, Filipinas, Indonesia, Japón, Laos, Malasia, México, Micronesia, Nueva Zelanda, Papúa Nueva Guinea, Perú, Rusia, Tailandia y Vietnam; se reunieron para analizar y discutir temas de interés común bajo la siguiente agenda temática:

"Asociaciones Resilientes para la Paz, la Prosperidad y la Sostenibilidad"

AGENDA

Día 1, 23 de noviembre

ENCUENTRO DE MUJERES PARLAMENTARIAS

- a. Género y Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible
- b. Participación y Liderazgo de las Mujeres

Día 1, 23 de noviembre

INAUGURACIÓN

Día 2, 24 de noviembre

SESIÓN PLENARIA 1: ASUNTOS POLÍTICOS Y DE SEGURIDAD

- a. Fortalecimiento de la capacidad de los parlamentos para promover la paz y la estabilidad
- b. Lucha contra los delitos transnacionales

Día 2, 24 de noviembre

MESA REDONDA DE JÓVENES PARLAMENTARIOS

Tecnologías digitales

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Día 2, 24 de noviembre

SESIÓN PLENARIA 2: ASUNTOS ECONÓMICOS Y COMERCIALES

- a. Repensar la infraestructura crítica
- b. Desarrollo del Capital Humano y Crecimiento Inclusivo

Día 3, 25 de noviembre

SESIÓN PLENARIA 3: COOPERACIÓN REGIONAL EN LA REGIÓN ASIA - PACÍFICO

- a. Cooperación Regional a través de la Educación y la Cultura
- b. Atención sanitaria universal en Asia y el Pacífico

Día 3, 25 de noviembre

SESIÓN FINAL Y CLAUSURA

- a. Informe de la Reunión de Mujeres Parlamentarias
- b. Informe de la Reunión del Comité de Redacción
- c. Declaración del Presidente sobre el trabajo del APPF
- d. Adopción de Resoluciones y Comunicado Conjunto
- e. Firma del Comunicado Conjunto
- f. Ceremonia de Clausura.

Reunión de Mujeres Parlamentarias de APPF



Previo al inicio de los trabajos formales del APPF, se realizó la sexta reunión de mujeres parlamentarias, previo a la ceremonia de inauguración.

La Sesión Plenaria de Mujeres Parlamentarias de APPF tuvo lugar el 23 de noviembre de 2023 y contó con la participación de once delegaciones entre ellas: Australia, Brunei Darussalam,

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Camboya, Canadá, Chile, China, Filipinas, Indonesia, Japón, Malasia, Micronesia, México, Perú, Rusia, Tailandia; misma que fue presidida por la Senadora filipina, Hon. Pía S. Cayetano.



La Reunión de Mujeres Parlamentarias resolvió que los parlamentos miembros del APPF señalaron que es deber garantizar que todos los países logren la igualdad de

género, integración de perspectivas de género, en procesos legislativos y la agenda nacional de desarrollo, así como la asignación de recursos para apoyar iniciativas que promuevan la igualdad de género y el bienestar de las mujeres.

Asimismo, enfatizaron la importancia de aumentar la representación de las mujeres en los parlamentos y la política, puestos de liderazgo y órganos electos, señalando la contribución significativa en la promoción de inclusión y eficacia en el proceso de toma de decisiones. De igual manera, reconocieron que las mujeres constituyen una parte importante de la fuerza laboral y sus contribuciones son vitales para el crecimiento y el desarrollo económico.

Finalmente, agregaron que el empoderamiento de la mujer y la promoción de la igualdad de género siguen siendo temas cruciales para acelerar el desarrollo sostenible, por lo que se acordó que los Parlamentos deberán mejorar y tomar medidas para asegurar el acceso a la educación, innovación y tecnología para mujeres y niñas, tal y como lo establece la Agenda 2030 de Desarrollo Sostenible de Naciones Unidas en sus Objetivos 4 y 5, a fin de no dejar a nadie atrás.

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Sesión Solemne de Inauguración

La 31ª Reunión Anual del Foro Parlamentario Asia Pacífico se inauguró el 23 de noviembre de 2023 en el Centro Internacional de Convenciones en la ciudad de Pásay, Filipinas. La sesión de inauguración estuvo presidida por el Hon. Sr Juan Miguel Zubiri, presidente del Senado Filipino y Presidente 31º, APPF y contó con la presencia del Hon. Sr., Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, Presidente de la Cámara de Representantes y palabras del Hon. Sr. Pornpetch Wichitcholchai, Presidente del Senado Tailandés, en su calidad del predecesor de la presidencia 30ª. de APPF.



Durante el discurso de inauguración, el presidente Zubiri agradeció la presencia de cada uno de los legisladores presentes.

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deseando que durante los 3 días de trabajo, puedan disfrutar de una buena estadía en Filipinas. Hizo mención especial, que esta edición contaba con la participación de Parlamentos que no habían podido estar presentes en otras reuniones, así como la participación de países observadores.

Mencionó que sólo trabajando de manera conjunta se podrá asegurando la paz, y por tanto, el progreso en la región. En este sentido, se refirió a las principales problemáticas que atraviesa los países miembros de APPF. En primer lugar, la pobreza, y es que debido a la pandemia de COVID trajo de vuelta un retroceso que ya se había logrado disminuir en muchos de nuestros países de nuestra región, acercándose cada vez más a la agenda 2030 de Naciones Unidas. En seguida, subrayó que la inflación está lastimando a las sociedades de las personas más necesitadas, por lo que hizo un llamado para trabajar en



legislaciones y movilizar recursos para proveer apoyos financieros y económicos para que nadie se quede atrás. Asimismo, dijo que la economía mundial está en constante recuperación y la región de Asia-Pacífico sigue siendo el motor clave del crecimiento global, señaló que la región se estima crezca un 4,6 por ciento este año. Y que en el tercer trimestre de este año el PIB Filipinas creció hasta un 5,9 por ciento, lo que convirtió a Filipinas en una de las economías de más rápido crecimiento en Asia.

El presidente del Senado filipino también citó la necesidad urgente de tomar acciones en consenso ante la continua amenaza del cambio climático y sus efectos, dada la creciente aparición de fenómenos

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meteorológicos extremos como tormentas, tifones y sequías prolongadas, el aumento de los niveles del mar, la escasez de agua dulce, la acidificación de los océanos y la desertificación de las zonas cultivables. Y como recientemente ocurrió en la Bahía de Acapulco, en México donde un huracán de categoría 5 azotó de manera devastadora a la población. En este aspecto, el presidente Zubiri se solidarizó con el pueblo mexicano y envió sus más sinceras condolencias para las familias de las víctimas acaecidas por este fenómeno. Es a través de cooperación cultural, económico y sociocultural que los países miembros de APPF se han podido levantar de catástrofes naturales como tifón en 2013, tsunami en Japón, Indonesia y por supuesto la pandemia del COVID.

Finalmente, hizo un llamado a los delegados y delegadas para trabajar de manera conjunta en la agenda temática señaló para fortalecer y trabajar juntos en una sola comunidad y dejar un legado de paz y prosperidad para las futuras generaciones de la región Asia-Pacífico, pues, los grandes desafíos como el cambio; el libre comercio y la inversión se han visto amenazadas y los disturbios políticos y sociales continúan escalando.

Primera Sesión Plenaria: Asuntos Políticos y de Seguridad

La primera sesión tuvo lugar el 24 de noviembre de 2023 plenaria y versó en dos subtemas: el fortalecimiento de la capacidad de los parlamentos para

promover la paz y la estabilidad; y la lucha contra los delitos transnacionales.

En el primer subtema, se señala que ninguna nación de Asia-Pacífico puede por sí sola garantizar la paz y la estabilidad en la región. Las constantes amenazas



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para la economía y la seguridad general sólo puede combatirse mediante un esfuerzo conjunto de todos los países miembro de APPF. De esta forma, se instó a los parlamentarios a recurrir a la diplomacia parlamentaria para discutir la consolidación de la paz y los conflictos,

En el segundo subtema sobre la lucha contra los delitos transnacionales, se enfatiza que éstos representan una gran amenaza para la paz y la seguridad en la región de Asia-Pacífico. La complejidad y el carácter transfronterizo de delitos como el tráfico de drogas, la trata y tráfico de personas, requieren de una mayor colaboración de los gobiernos para poder preservar la paz y seguridad en la región y respetar los derechos humanos de la población.

La Senadora Cora Cecilia Pinedo Alonso, en su calidad de Presidenta de la Comisión de Relaciones Exteriores Asia-Pacífico-África, participó en la Primera Sesión Plenaria, la cual tuvo lugar el 24 de noviembre de 2023. En esta sesión plenaria, la



Senadora Pinedo Alonso a nombre de la delegación mexicana presentó un proyecto de resolución bajo la temática "fortalecimiento de la capacidad de los parlamentos para promover la paz y la estabilidad".

Mencionó que ante un contexto mundial complejo en el que recrudecimiento de conflictos regionales es latente, México asume con responsabilidad su papel en el escenario internacional y refrenda su vocación pacifista, así como su visión de que sólo a través del diálogo se podrán resolver de manera permanente estos crecientes diferendos. Por ello, aseguró que la delegación respalda los principios establecidos en la Carta de Naciones Unidas sobre integridad territorial, derecho humanitario

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y proporcionalidad; y hoy más que nunca, sumamos esfuerzos para que el Objetivo 16 de la Agenda 2030 que aboga por la "Paz, justicia e instituciones sólidas" se asegure con mayor energía.

Sin duda, refirió que para lograr este propósito es necesario reducir todas las formas de violencia y las correspondientes tasas de mortalidad en el mundo, además de restablecer la confianza y retorar la capacidad de las instituciones para garantizar la justicia a todas las personas y facilitar transiciones pacíficas hacia el desarrollo sostenible. De igual manera, dijo que era vital aumentar la cooperación regional e internacional, aunado a las negociaciones, la mediación y una mayor actuación de canales alternos como lo es la diplomacia parlamentaria, para coadyuvar a los procesos de paz y estabilidad globales.

De esta manera, a nombre de la delegación mexicana, la senadora Pineda presentó el siguiente proyecto de resolución que tiene como objetivo:

- Exhortar a los países miembros del APPF a incrementar sus esfuerzos, en la medida de sus posibilidades, para cumplir con el Objetivo 16 de la Agenda 2030 para el Desarrollo Sostenible a fin de alcanzar sociedades pacíficas, justas e inclusivas, donde todas y todos podamos vivir sin temor y sin violencia.
- Promover desde los espacios parlamentarios la búsqueda de soluciones pacíficas y duraderas a los conflictos, anteponiendo siempre el diálogo y las negociaciones, con base en el respeto a los principios del derecho internacional,
- Alentar a los países Miembros del APPF a que, a través de la paz, se busque edificar el camino para impulsar sociedades seguras, inclusivas, justas y que puedan desarrollarse en un entorno libre de violencia.
- Continuar impulsando canales de diálogo para lograr que la Península de Corea sea un espacio de paz y estabilidad duradera, mediante el cumplimiento de las resoluciones del Consejo de

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Seguridad de las Naciones Unidas (CSNU), así como de los diversos llamados de APPF al respecto.

- Invitar a los integrantes del APPF a entablar un diálogo franco y constructivo que ayude a mantener y reforzar la paz, la estabilidad y prosperidad en la región de Asia Pacífico.

En este ámbito, las Delegaciones de APPF se expresaron profundamente alarmados por la ampliación de las polaridades geopolíticas que amenazan la paz internacional y seguridad internacionales y por los efectos destructivos de la escalada de tensiones, los conflictos armados, el terrorismo, la proliferación nuclear, crímenes transnacionales, los riesgos que rodean la inteligencia artificial y otras tecnologías emergentes, el cambio climático, enfermedades y emergencias de salud pública para la supervivencia humana, la sostenibilidad económica de países afectados y los fundamentos mismos de la democracia, como el sistema parlamentario, el Estado de derecho y los derechos humanos. Por ello, reafirmaron el apoyo para lograr una prosperidad compartida, estabilidad y paz en la región, así como la importancia de resolver pacíficamente las controversias por medio del derecho internacional bajo los principios de la Carta de las Naciones Unidas.

Señalaron el propósito compartido de hacer de la región Asia-Pacífico un espacio lleno de oportunidades y esperanza para el futuro, conscientes de que lograr esta visión requiere esfuerzos colectivos para abordar los riesgos, amenazas y desafíos, a la



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paz, la seguridad y la estabilidad no sólo en la región sino también en todo el mundo;

Por último, también expresaron su apoyo solidario frente a la desnuclearización y el proceso de pacificación en la Península coreana, así como la situación apremiante en la Franja de Gaza.

Segunda Sesión Plenaria: Asuntos económicos y de comercio

Durante la segunda sesión plenaria, que tuvo lugar el 24 de noviembre de 2023, se abordaron dos temas: el subtema 1. "Repensar la infraestructura crítica" y subtema 2 "desarrollo de capital humano y crecimiento inclusivo"

En esta segunda sesión plenaria las y los parlamentarios miembros de APPF refirieron que la infraestructura crítica es esencial para el funcionamiento de las sociedades y las economías, especialmente durante la pandemia del COVID-19, que surgió la necesidad de repensar el diseño, gestión y protección frente a la crisis sanitaria, haciéndose más evidente las múltiples desigualdades y deficiencias que existían en los sistemas educativos y lamentablemente sus efectos impactaron de manera adversa en el



acceso a una educación equitativa, inclusiva y de calidad que, además de ser reconocido como un derecho humano, es una condición indispensable para asegurar el óptimo desarrollo cognitivo de millones de niñas, niños y jóvenes que puede ofrecerles mayores oportunidades de tener un futuro mejor.

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Además, las y los delegados mencionaron que tienen la responsabilidad fundamental de atender, sin demora, problemas urgentes relacionados con los déficits de financiación, la pobreza en el aprendizaje, la brecha de género, la caída de la cobertura educativa, las tasas elevadas de desempleo juvenil y los rezagos en la transformación digital de este sector a fin de responder adecuadamente a las dinámicas del mundo globalizado y en constante cambio.

Para responder a estos desafíos, añadieron que deben tener como guía el ODS 4 de la Agenda 2030 que busca "garantizar una educación inclusiva, equitativa y de calidad y promover oportunidades de aprendizaje durante toda la vida para todas", junto con la Visión Putrajaya 2040 y el Plan de Acción de Aotearoa encaminados a considerar el papel y la contribución de la juventud en la senda del crecimiento económico inclusivo y sostenible, así como las directrices para fomentar el desarrollo del capital humano.

Teniendo en cuenta las resoluciones previas adoptadas en el marco del Foro Parlamentario Asia-Pacífico, la resolución presentada por la delegación mexicana tiene entre sus propósitos:

- Invitar a los Estados miembros de APPF a acelerar las acciones rumbo a 2030 para cumplir con el ODS 4 a fin de remediar el estancamiento y evitar mayores retrocesos en la educación, atendiendo el acceso universal a la formación primaria y secundaria, y la capacitación técnica, para ayudar a esta generación a cumplir sus expectativas de vida y transformar sus sociedades.
- Alentar a los países de APPF a considerar la asignación adecuada de financiamiento a la educación y la prestación de asistencia social con miras a cumplir con los metas del ODS 4 que puede ayudar a la creación de empleos adicionales.

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- Convocar a los países miembros de APPF a repensar y reconstruir sistemas educativos bajo un enfoque de desarrollo de capital humano que permita a las personas acumular conocimientos, habilidades y buena salud que puede traducirse en mayores capacidades de protección y recuperación ante las crisis emergentes como las pandemias, el cambio climático, los desastres naturales y otras amenazas relacionadas con los entornos tanto internacional como nacionales.
- Formular acciones en beneficio de las y los jóvenes centradas en la capacitación adaptada, la intermediación laboral, los programas de emprendedores y otras iniciativas orientadas a mejorar la fuerza laboral dado el reto urgente de abatir los obstáculos para acceder a empleos decentes y productivos.
- Intensificar la cooperación económica y técnica para fortalecer el desarrollo del capital humano en nuestros países, así como intercambiar buenas prácticas en otras cuestiones relacionadas con la innovación, la alfabetización y la adquisición de habilidades y competencias para acelerar la transformación digital y económica en la región.
- Alentar a los Parlamentos nacionales de APPF a hacer pleno uso de sus facultades para garantizar la asignación de financiamiento adecuado para la educación, el seguimiento de los avances, así como la transparencia y la rendición de cuentas.

Tercera Sesión Plenaria: Cooperación regional en Asia-Pacífico

La tercera sesión plenaria tuvo lugar el 25 de noviembre de 2023 y se abocó en dos tópicos: Cooperación regional a través de la



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educación y la cultura; y Atención sanitaria universal en Asia-Pacífico. La sesión estuvo presidida por el senador Francis Tolentino y copresidida por el vicepresidente Raymond Demócrito Mendoza.

Para esta sesión plenaria, la Senadora Cora Cecilia Pinedo Alonso participó a nombre de la Delegación mexicana presentando un proyecto de resolución denominado "Atención sanitaria universal en Asia y el Pacífico" que tiene por objeto, desplegar acciones a favor de garantizar que las sociedades puedan acceder de manera integral a los servicios médicos que necesitan, de acuerdo con los derechos humanos establecidos en instrumentos internacionales de los que somos parte y de conformidad a nuestras legislaciones nacionales.

Mencionó la senadora Pinedo Alonso que tras la crisis sanitaria por COVID-19 se observó que cuando la salud se encuentra amenazada por enfermedades emergentes o pandemias, el bienestar general de la población y su desarrollo también lo está; y subrayó que una atención sanitaria universal no sólo permitiría mejorar la salud de la población, sino que también coadyuvaría a reducir las brechas financieras al crear nuevas oportunidades económicas, reducir la pobreza y fomentar la construcción de una sociedad más estable y justa.

Agregó que es fundamental reconocer las deficiencias y los complejos desafíos en los sistemas de salud de la región, así como las desigualdades sociales y económicas, los cuales agravan aún más las dificultades para acceder a los servicios sanitarios, aunado a los limitados presupuestos destinados a esta materia.

Por ello, señaló que la meta 3.8 de los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible, "alcanzar cobertura universal de salud", la cual busca garantizar el acceso



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a los servicios de salud de calidad pese a los riesgos financieros, aunado al documento "El camino hacia cobertura sanitaria universal" de la Organización Mundial de la Salud y la Unión Interparlamentaria, ponen en evidencia la relevancia de que los parlamentos de mundo adoptemos mejores medidas legales y políticas para alcanzar una cobertura universal de salud.

En este sentido, la senadora Cora Cecilia señaló que tomando en consideración las resoluciones adoptadas en reuniones anuales previas de Foro Parlamentario Asia-Pacífico, incluyendo el aumento de la inversión en los servicios sanitarios para fortalecer la resiliencia de los sistemas de salud y la promoción de innovación tecnológica y financiera en los servicios de atención primaria propuso al Pleno a nombre de la Delegación Mexicana, el proyecto de resolución a fin de que los países miembros de APPF realicen las siguientes acciones:

- Abogar por que, en los países miembros del Foro Parlamentario Asia-Pacífico, la Cobertura Universal de Salud se convierta en un objetivo nacional y promover el diálogo para construir mejores medidas para alcanzarla incluyendo las perspectivas de todos los sectores sociales, económicos y políticos.
- Identificar mecanismos parlamentarios que promuevan el desarrollo en diferentes áreas de la cobertura universal de salud, y en caso de no existir fomentar su creación en los diferentes foros parlamentarios regionales y universales.
- Impulsar presupuestos adecuados para que la Cobertura Universal de Salud sea una realidad para las poblaciones de los países miembros del APPF, así como mayores presupuestos para investigación y desarrollo de vacunas y tratamientos médicos para enfermedades emergentes.
- Apoyar acciones concretas para ampliar los servicios prioritarios, incluir a más personas y reducir los gastos de bolsillo de la población en los servicios de salud.

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- Asegurar que se haga un seguimiento para evaluar el progreso hacia la cobertura universal de salud, y garantizar que los informes al respecto estén disponibles para los actores interesados.
- Promover y/o reforzar los sistemas de alerta temprana frente a futuras pandemias y riesgos sanitarios emergentes, así como los mecanismos de fortalecimiento de la resiliencia de los sistemas de salud.
- Alentar a la inclusión del tema de la cobertura universal de salud en la agenda de las comisiones parlamentarias correspondientes (como salud, economía, educación, asuntos sociales, atención a la pobreza y cooperación internacional) y en los debates regulares de los Parlamentos de los países integrantes de APPF.

A término de la participación de los delegados y delegadas, resolvieron facultar a los parlamentarios para proteger, preservar y promover el patrimonio cultural, implementar sistemas educativos inclusivos y abordar las disparidades en la educación en la región Asia-Pacífico, priorizando la educación de niños y adolescentes.

Asimismo, se exhortó a los parlamentos miembros del APPF que establecieran un marco jurídico para la Atención Médica y garantizar el derecho a la salud pública y a la atención médica, sin discriminación, estableciendo mecanismos parlamentarios para promover la cobertura universal de salud, incluida la provisión de servicios de salud adecuados, financiación, investigación y desarrollo, con servicios y costos reducidos, haciendo énfasis en la importancia de identificar y dirigirse a los grupos en situación de vulnerabilidad con el objetivo de "no dejar a nadie atrás".

Cuarta Sesión: Plenaria Final

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En la última sesión plenaria de la 31ª. Reunión Anual del Foro Parlamentario Asia Pacífico, se dio lectura al informe referente a los resultados de la Reunión de Mujeres Parlamentarias, así como de la Reunión con Jóvenes Parlamentarios en la sesión plenaria, además de un breve informe sobre las reuniones del Comité de Redacción.

De igual forma, se presentaron y sin objeción alguna, se aprobaron 10 resoluciones que presentaron las Delegaciones de APPF, mismas que fueron presentadas, discutidas y promovidas durante las Sesiones Plenarias, los Grupos de Trabajo y el Comité de Redacción. Particularmente, todas las propuestas de la Delegación mexicana fueron consideradas en dichas resoluciones finales. Posteriormente, cada uno de los Jefes de Delegación firmaron el Comunicado Conjunto correspondiente a esta edición del Foro.

Trabajo Futuro del APPF

Respecto al trabajo futuro del APPF y la elección del anfitrión de la próxima reunión anual, el Presidente de la Cámara de Senadores de Filipinas y Presidente de la 31ª Reunión Anual, Hon. Sr. Miguel F. Zubiri, indicó que seguirían este año reuniéndose con los miembros del Comité Ejecutivo del APPF para acordar la siguiente sede de APPF, así como la propuesta de modificación al reglamento de APPF para llevar a cabo las Reuniones de Jóvenes Parlamentarios fue aprobada.



Posteriormente a la aprobación, el Presidente agradeció la participación de las 21 delegaciones parlamentarias que asistieron por su colaboración y trabajo continuo para haber llegado a los mejores acuerdos para hacer de la región de Asia-Pacífico, una

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"asociación resiliente para la paz, la prosperidad y la sostenibilidad".

Reuniones Bilaterales

En el marco de la 31ª Reunión Anual del Foro Parlamentario Asia Pacífico, la delegación mexicana sostuvo una reunión bilateral con la delegación de Filipinas, con el fin de abordar aspectos específicos de la relación.



La Delegación Mexicana estuvo conformada por el Sen. Sergio Pérez Flores, Vicepresidente (MORENA) y Jefe de la Delegación, la Sen. Cora Cecilia Pinedo Alonso (PT), Presidenta de la Comisión de Relaciones Exteriores Asia-Pacífico-África; la Sen. Indira Rosales San Román (PAN), Integrante de la Comisión de Relaciones Exteriores Asia-Pacífico-África, y los Diputados Otoniel García Montiel (MORENA), Roberto Carlos López García (PRI); y la Diputada Erika Vanessa del Castillo Ibarra; y así como Joshio Guadalupe Romero López, Tercer Secretario de la Embajada de México en Filipinas.

Por el parlamento filipino asistieron el Presidente del Senado, el Hon. Sr. Miguel F. Zubiri, Senadores Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay, Presidenta de las Comisiones de Turismo, Comunidades Culturales y Justicia Social; Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada, Presidente de la Comisión de Seguridad y Defensa Nacional, y Robinhood C. Padilla, Presidente de las Comisiones de Enmiendas y Reformas Constitucionales, Información Pública y Medios Masivos.

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Durante, la reunión y posterior a los saludos protocolarios y mensaje del



Sen. Pérez Flores, la senadora Cora Cecilia Pinedo Alonso, reiteró su más sincero agradecimiento al pueblo y al Gobierno de Filipinas por la generosa hospitalidad que les brindaron durante su estancia en el país, así como

por la excelente organización para la celebración del Foro Parlamentario Asia Pacífico.

Posteriormente, la senadora Pinedo Alonso resaltó que Filipinas es un país que se caracteriza por tener una economía estable y que promueve el libre comercio como motor de crecimiento, posicionándose como una de las economías más importantes en la región y un país protagonista en la Asociación de Naciones del Sudeste Asiático.

Expresó que aunado al pasado histórico y cultural que comparte esta nación asiática con México a través de los viajes que se realizaban en el Galeón de Manila desde los puertos de Acapulco, San Blas y Bahía de Banderas por todo el Pacífico hasta el archipiélago de Filipinas, dieron paso a que tras 70 años de sólida amistad, el diálogo político mediante el establecimiento de consultas bilaterales se ha fortalecido, el comercio bilateral se haya incrementado y la agenda de cooperación se ha vitalizado en rubros clave como lo son el turismo, el técnico-científico, la academia y la cultura.

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Asimismo, señaló que si bien, la relación de México y Filipinas ha sido provechosa en estos años, aún queda mucho trabajo por realizar para convertirla en una relación integral, que amplíe y aproveche a cabalidad su marco jurídico bilateral, y que genere beneficios y ganancias mutuas a favor de nuestras sociedades.

De igual manera, destacó que la presencia de la delegación mexicana en la 31ª. Reunión Anual del APPF demuestra el gran interés que en seguir vigorizando la relación bilateral a través de la diplomacia parlamentaria. Finalmente, refrendó su compromiso como Presidenta de la Comisión de Relaciones Exteriores Asia-Pacífico-África del Senado mexicano, para mantener un diálogo sustantivo tanto con el Senado como con la Cámara de Representantes de Filipinas, y resaltó la importancia del Foro Parlamentario, pues es un tema de vital importancia para continuar fomentando la cooperación entre los miembros de la región.

Finalmente, el Presidente Miguel Zubiri, agradeció la presencia de la delegación mexicana, siendo un actor clave para el desarrollo de los



trabajos del Foro Parlamentario y tras la petición de la delegación mexicana, se acordó revitalizar la Plaza México, espacio histórico en la relación bilateral, así como continuar trabajando de manera cercana para codyuvar a una relación más profunda.

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Visita a la Plaza México



Derivado de la reunión bilateral con la delegación filipina, el 25 de noviembre, el Presidente del Senado filipino y la delegación mexicana acudieron a la Plaza México, lugar

conmemorativo que señala la expedición de Miguel López de Legazpi y Andrés de Urdaneta desde Nueva España (México) a Manila, así como las expediciones que realizó el Galeón Manila-Acapulco para fortalecer los vínculos comerciales.

En esta plaza también se encuentran los monumentos dedicados al ex presidente mexicano, Adolfo López Mateos y los 400 años de la Expedición Marítima México-Filipinas para conmemorar las relaciones de amistad entre México y Filipinas en 1964.



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Bajo este contexto, el Presidente Zubiri se comprometió junto con la administradora de la región de Manila, a dedicar una parte del presupuesto de la Cámara

Alta para restaurar y revitalizar la importancia que tiene esta plaza histórica que conmemora la relación añeja que tienen ambos países.



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En dicha visita, estuvieron presentes Sen. Sergio Pérez Flores, Vicepresidente (MORENA) y Jefe de la Delegación, la Sen. Cora Cecilia Pinedo Alonso (PT), Presidenta de la Comisión de Relaciones Exteriores Asia-Pacífico-África; la Sen. Indira Rosales San Román (PAN), Integrante de la Comisión de Relaciones Exteriores Asia-Pacífico-África, y los Diputados Otoniel García Montiel (MORENA), Roberto Carlos López García (PRI); y la Diputada Erika Vanessa del Castillo Ibarra; y así como el Embajador Daniel Hernández Joseph y Joshio Guadalupe Romero López, Tercer Secretario de la Embajada de México en Filipinas.

Reunión con el Embajador Daniel Hernández Joseph, Titular de la Embajada de México ante Filipinas.

Paralelo a los trabajos de la Reunión Anual del Foro Parlamentario, la Delegación del H. Congreso de la Unión sostuvo un encuentro con el Embajador Daniel Hernández Joseph, Titular de la Embajada de México ante Filipinas así como la Consejera Daniela Gil Sevilla, Jefa de Cancillería y el Tercer Secretario, Joshio Guadalupe Romero López.

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En dicho encuentro, comentaron sobre las áreas de oportunidad en materia de cooperación política y económica entre México y Filipinas así como la importancia de la diplomacia parlamentaria que ha desempeñado el Senado de la República con dicho país. Aunado a la celebración de la 31ª. Reunión Anual del Foro Parlamentario, el Embajador Daniel Hernández puntualizó que del 23 al 24 de noviembre, se llevaría a cabo la Tercera Reunión del Mecanismo de Consultas Políticas México-Filipinas de manera virtual, por lo que era un excelente ocasión para profundizar los lazos de cooperación y propuestas de mayor intercambio futuro.



La senadora Pinedo Alonso, en su calidad de Presidenta de la Comisión de Relaciones Exteriores Asia-Pacífico-África, enfatizó que la realización de APPF y el Mecanismo de Consultas Políticas, eran eventos de vital importancia que vigorizan el diálogo político a nivel diplomático y

parlamentario que permiten coadyuvar en elevar, las relaciones a un mayor nivel con país filipino. Y se comprometió a seguir cultivando el diálogo con la Embajada de Filipinas en México, desde el Senado de la República para fortalecer los lazos que unen a ambos pueblos.-000-

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ANEXOS

- 1) Comunicado Conjunto
- 2) Reporte del Comité Ejecutivo
- 3) Lista de Participantes, oradores y presidencias
- 4) Enmienda al Reglamento de APPF
- 5) Resoluciones Aprobadas



**31st ANNUAL MEETING
THE ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM (APPF 31)
23 - 26 NOVEMBER 2023
Philippine International Convention Center, Pasay City, Philippines**

"Resilient Partnerships for Peace, Prosperity and Sustainability"

JOINT COMMUNIQUE

Upon the invitation of the Senate of the Philippines and House of Representatives of the Philippines, the 31st Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) was held in Pasay City, Philippines from 23 to 26 November 2023. A total of 267 delegates from Member Countries of the APPF, and one guest of the host attended the Meeting (Annex A).

Executive Committee

1. The Executive Committee, chaired by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri, President of the Senate of the Philippines, and co-chaired by Representative Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, Speaker of the House of Representatives, approved the Agenda and Program of Activities in a meeting held on 23 November 2023.
2. The Meeting approved the designation of the Chairs, Co-Chairs, and Alternate Chairs of the Drafting Committee, Plenary Sessions, Working Groups on Political and Security Matters, Economic and Trade Matters, Regional Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific Region, Meeting of Women Parliamentarians, and the Roundtable Discussion of Young Parliamentarians (Annex B).
3. The Executive Committee approved the agenda, which includes the Philippine delegation's proposal to amend the Rules of Procedure to institutionalize the "Meeting of Young Parliamentarians" in the Annual Meeting of the APPF.
4. The Chair informed the Executive Committee that the host invited guests from the United Nations and UNITE Parliamentarians Network for Global Health.
5. The Executive Committee was apprised that 37 draft resolutions were submitted by 10 Member Parliaments. In accordance with the practice of APPF Annual Meetings, the host secretariat proposed draft joint resolutions to consolidate submissions with similar content and facilitate their consideration by the Working Groups. The Executive Committee Meeting approved the referral of 36 draft resolutions to the appropriate Working Groups and the deferred resolution from the 30th APPF to the Drafting Committee.
6. The Executive Committee resolved to defer the "Resolution on Combating Glorification of Nazism, Neo-nazism, and Other Discrimination Practices" to the Annual Meeting next year.

7. The Executive Committee approved the referral of Indonesia's draft "Resolution on Enhancing Maritime Security Cooperation in Asia-Pacific" to the Working Group on Political and Security Matters.

8. The draft "Resolution on Achieving Denuclearization and Peace on the Korean Peninsula" proposed by Japan, and the draft "Resolution on the "Korean Peninsula" proposed by the Republic of Korea, were likewise referred to the Working Group on Political and Security Matters for consideration.

Inaugural Ceremony

9. The Inaugural Ceremony was held on 23 November 2023. Speaker Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez delivered the welcome remarks. In his remarks, he emphasized that solidarity and cooperation are vital components in building a resilient and sustainable Asia-Pacific region. He emphasized that peace remains a paramount objective and expressed support for a rules-based international order, governed by the principles of international law and informed by the principles of equity and justice. Speaker Romualdez sought the support of APPF Member Countries for the Philippines' candidature to the United Nations Security Council for the term 2027-2028.

10. The Honorable Pornpetch Wichitcholchai, Senate President of the Parliament of Thailand, delivered a message as last year's host. In his opening address, he said that the promotion of economic development, peace, and prosperity is a prerequisite for the achievement of the sustainable development goals. He added that addressing great challenges requires the spirit of cooperation and goodwill in international relations, as well as the harmony and concord of APPE.

11. Senate President Juan Miguel F. Zuhiri delivered the Keynote Address. He recognized that the gathering of Asia-Pacific Parliamentarians in Manila affirmed the spirit of Asia-Pacific parliamentary solidarity remains active. He underscored the importance of building resilient partnerships for peace, prosperity, and sustainability—a theme which resonates in our collective post-pandemic experience and continuing aspirations to make the 21st Century, a truly Asia-Pacific Century. He encouraged Parliamentarians to remain determined to recover and overcome any of the remaining traces of the pandemic and soar above the current challenges of the region.

Proposal to Amend the Rules of Procedure

12. APPE31 agreed and is committed to consider the Philippines' proposed amendment to the Rules of Procedure (Annex C), to conduct a Meeting of Young Parliamentarians in subsequent APPF meetings and to further consider the same at the 32nd Annual Meeting of the APPE.

Meeting of Women Parliamentarians

13. The Meeting of Women Parliamentarians was conducted on 23 November 2023. Senator Pia S. Cayetano chaired and Representative Camille Villar co-chaired the meeting. The Meeting covered two topics: (a) Gender and Sustainable Development Goals and (b) Women's Participation and Leadership.

14. The APPF Member Parliaments highlighted the timeline for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development Goals and emphasized that the fulfillment of the SDGs is directly linked to gender equality. They emphasized the need to establish strategies for the development and

execution of policies aimed at enhancing the status of women, and the elimination of gender-based violence and discrimination. They also stressed the importance of gender equality in the workplace, equal pay for all and digital inclusion.

15. The APPF Member Parliaments recognized that women bring unique perspectives and experiences that enrich the entire governance process. An emerging topic discussed by the delegates is on unpaid care and domestic work, urging the re-examination of traditional roles that are assigned based on gender, which can hinder women's full participation and leadership. The delegates called for equal representation in policy-making bodies, in all areas of decision-making on issues involving climate change, healthcare, and the negotiation of conflict.

Roundtable of Young Parliamentarians

16. The Roundtable of Young Parliamentarians was held on 24 November 2023. House of Representatives Deputy Majority Floor Leader Jude Acidre chaired and Senate Deputy Majority Floor Leader Mark Villar co-chaired the Roundtable.

17. The APPF Member Countries acknowledged the opportunities and benefits of digital technology, especially for the youth. They expressed optimism that digital economy development around the world will contribute to the growth of labor productivity, reduction of production costs, creation of new skilled jobs, and in overcoming poverty and inequality.

18. The APPF Member Countries likewise called for intensified efforts to reduce the "digital divide" between developed and vulnerable developing countries, as well as the socio-economic inequality within states. They likewise expressed the necessity of investing and allocating more resources to digital literacy and capacity-building.

19. Participants in the Roundtable signed a Declaration (Annex D) recognizing the potential role that young parliamentarians can play in addressing contemporary challenges while advocating for the value of having young people represented in policy discussions and in parliamentary bodies.

Drafting Committee

20. The Drafting Committee conducted meetings from 24 to 25 November 2023 to consider the resolutions referred to it by the Executive Committee and Working Groups. It was chaired by Senate President Pro Tempore Loren Legarda and co-chaired by House of Representatives Deputy Majority Floor Leader Lorenz Defensor, Senate Minority Floor Leader Aquilino Pimentel III and Senate Deputy Majority Floor Leader Joseph Victor Ejercito served as alternate chairs.

21. The Drafting Committee, through the leadership of the Philippines and the collaborative and diligent efforts of all participating delegates, successfully navigated through several contentious issues, fostering consensus on key matters. The resolution of these issues reflects the commitment of all APPF Member Parliaments to constructive dialogue and compromise, highlighting the spirit of cooperation that underlies our collective pursuit of shared objectives. This collaborative achievement reinforces our belief in the effectiveness of parliamentary diplomacy and the power of consensus-building in addressing complex challenges.

22. After extensive yet productive discussions, the Drafting Committee approved all resolutions referred to it by the Working Groups – a notable achievement in the history of APPF:

- a. Resolution on Strengthening the Capacity of Parliaments to Promote Peace and Stability;
- b. Resolution on the Korean Peninsula;

- c. **Resolution on Combatting Transnational Crimes;**
- d. **Resolution on Gender and Sustainable Development Goals;**
- e. **Resolution on Women's Participation and Leadership;**
- f. **Resolution on Rethinking Critical Infrastructure;**
- g. **Resolution on Enhancing Regional Cooperation on Climate Action, Biodiversity Conservation, and Disaster Risk Reduction;**
- h. **Resolution on Human Capital Development and Inclusive Growth;**
- i. **Resolution on Regional Cooperation through Education and Culture; and**
- j. **Resolution on Regional Cooperation on Universal Health Care in the Asia-Pacific.**

Plenary Sessions

23. The First Plenary Session on Political and Security Matters focused on two topics: (a) **Strengthening the Capacity of Parliaments to Promote Peace and Stability,** and (b) **Combatting Transnational Crimes.** The Session was chaired by Senator Ronald Dela Rosa and co-chaired by Representative Maria Rachel Arenas.

24. The APPE Member Parliaments emphasized the importance of bilateral and multilateral collaboration as well as parliamentary diplomacy to promote stronger institutions, resolve regional conflict, and overcome contemporary challenges.

25. The APPE Member Parliaments resolved to strengthen the capacity of parliaments in promoting regional peace and stability by, among others, supporting their Government's efforts to meet Goal 16 of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda; enhancing cooperation in addressing terrorism, nuclear proliferation, information and communication technology (ICT) threats, transnational crimes, climate change, emerging diseases and public health emergencies; promoting confidence-building measures; and supporting continued adherence to the 1982 Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of Disputes.

26. The APPE Member Parliaments further committed to increase their efforts in promoting and maintaining peace, security, stability, safety, and freedom of the high seas, consistent with the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The APPE Member Parliaments also resolved to protect the marine environment and biodiversity and promote a safe and sustainable blue economy that will benefit all nations.

27. The APPE Member Parliaments resolved to combat transnational crimes by, among others, passing pieces of legislation that consider existing international legal conventions on terrorism and transnational organized crimes; adopting efficient and effective mechanisms for seizure and confiscation of income from criminal activity within the framework of their national legislation systems.

28. The Second Plenary Session on Economic and Trade Matters focused on two topics: (a) **Rethinking Critical Infrastructure,** and (b) **Human Capital Development and Inclusive Growth.** The Session was chaired by Representative Stella Luz Quimbo.

29. The APPE Member Countries espoused a shared commitment towards building community resilience in the face of disasters and climate change and achieving low carbon and sustainable growth in accordance with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Paris Agreement, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

30. The APPE Member Parliaments raised the need to facilitate the development of policies, programs, and other measures designed to strengthen the resilience of critical infrastructure, to adopt the 'build

right at first sight' approach in preventing disaster loss, and to invest in emergency preparedness relating to critical infrastructure.

31. The APPF Member Parliaments resolved to empower all APPF Member Countries to advance blue and green economies, promote natural capital accounting, and integrate circular economy and nature-based solutions, including ecosystem-based adaptation into national and local climate adaptation, mitigation, and disaster risk reduction policies and plans, and further promote sharing of best practices—nationally, regionally and internationally.

32. The APPF Member Parliaments reaffirmed commitment to ambitious climate action and resilience through mutual cooperation and partnerships, and continued provision of finance, technology development and transfer, and capacity building, anchored on climate justice and equity, best available science, national circumstances, consistent with relevant international instruments.

33. The APPF Member Parliaments also resolved to further strengthen international cooperation to achieve global climate ambitions and targets, including averting, minimizing, and addressing loss and damage associated with climate change, in view of the specific vulnerabilities of Asia-Pacific region.

34. The APPF Member Parliaments agreed to implement measures that address free and compulsory education, learning of basic skills, increase in the number of teachers, improvement of basic school infrastructure, digital transformation, and improvement of levels of competence in ICTs that require universal and meaningful connectivity. They also agreed to formulate actions focused on adapted training, labor intermediation, entrepreneurship programs, and other initiatives.

35. The Third Plenary Session on Regional Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific Region covered two topics: (a) Regional Cooperation through Education and Culture, and (b) Universal Health Care in the Asia-Pacific. The Session was chaired by Senator Francis Tolentino and co chaired by Deputy Speaker Raymond Demacrito Mendoza.

36. The APPF Member Parliaments resolved to empower parliamentarians to protect, preserve, and promote cultural heritage, pursue inclusive educational systems and address disparities in education in the Asia-Pacific region, prioritizing the education of illiterate children and adolescents.

37. The APPF Member Parliaments were called upon to establish a legal framework for Universal Health Care (UHC) to guarantee the right to public health and medical care, without discrimination, and to establish parliamentary mechanisms to promote UHC, including the provision of adequate funding, research and development, expanded services, and reduced out-of-pocket costs.

Final Plenary

38. In the Final Plenary Session, Senator Pia S. Cayetano, Chair of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians, presented the Report of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians and Senate President Pro Tempore Loren B. Legarda, Chair of the Drafting Committee, reported on the accomplishments of the Drafting Committee.

39. Senate President Juan Miguel F. Zubiri, APPF31 Chair, delivered his statement on the work that was achieved in the APPF, congratulating the delegations for productively approaching all discussions with respect, diplomacy, and friendship. He also stressed the need to work towards an Asia-Pacific region that is connected by bridges of peace, shared seas, free and open trade, vibrant cultural exchange, and by an unwavering belief in the power of cooperation.

40. A total of ten (10) resolutions and a joint Communiqué were adopted during this Annual Meeting.

41. Speaker Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, APPF31 Co chair, concluded the Forum by underscoring the indispensable value of regional partnership as a cornerstone for peace and sustainable development in the Asia Pacific region. As echoed in the discussions, "Only through collaborative efforts and shared vision can we address the complex challenges of our times and pave the way towards a future marked by prosperity and stability for all."

42. The Philippines will continue consulting with other APPF Member Countries regarding next year's hosting of the APPF.

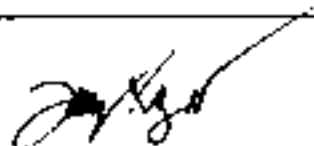
Signed in Pasay City, Metro Manila, Philippines
on 25 November 2023



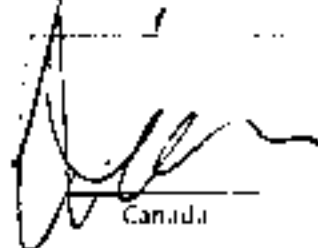
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Brunei Darussalam



Kingdom of Cambodia



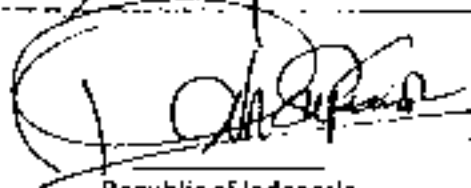
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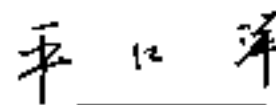
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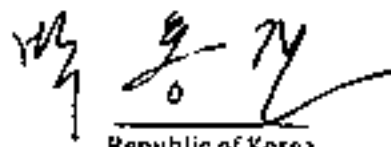
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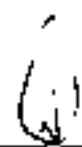
Republic of Indonesia



Japan



Republic of Korea



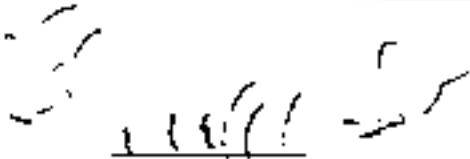
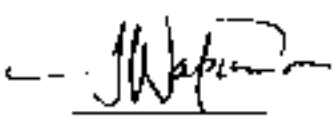
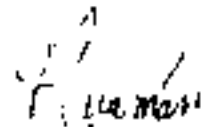
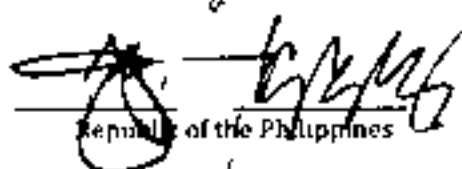
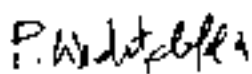
Lao People's Democratic Republic



Malaysia



The United Mexican States

 Federated States of Micronesia	 The Independent State of Papua New Guinea
 Republic of Peru	 Republic of the Philippines
 The Russian Federation	 The Kingdom of Thailand
 The Socialist Republic of Vietnam	


 JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI
 Chair, APPF31


 FERDINAND MARTIN S. BOMUALDE
 Co-Chair, APPF31



**31st Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF31)
23-26 November 2023, Manila**

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

23 November 2023

The Executive Committee Meeting was held on 23 November 2023. In attendance were the representatives of the member countries of the Executive Committee, namely: the Philippines (as Host Country), Thailand (as Previous Host), Japan and China (for Northeast Asia), Vietnam and Indonesia (for Southeast Asia), Australia (for Oceania), and Canada (for the Americas).

The meeting was chaired by Senate President Juan Miguel Zubiri of the Senate of the Philippines and co-chaired by Speaker Martin Romualdez of the Philippine House of Representatives.

The Executive Committee resolved that:

1. Senator Ronald Dela Rosa and Senior Deputy Speaker Aurelio Gonzales Jr. be made Co-Heads of the Delegation to represent the Philippines, in accordance with Article 35 of the Rules of Procedure;
2. A proposal from the Philippine delegation to amend the rules of the APPF to include the Meeting of Young Parliamentarians as a Regular Meeting of the APPF be considered for the Annual Meeting and be referred to the Drafting Committee;
3. The Agenda and Program of Activities of the 31st Annual Meeting of the APPF be adopted;
4. The guests from the United Nations Philippines and UNITE Parliamentarians Network for Global Health be recognized;
5. The Plenary Session and Working Group on Women Parliamentarians be chaired by Senator Pia Cayetano and co-chaired by Deputy Speaker Camille Villar, the Plenary Session and Working Group on Political and Security Matters be chaired by Senator Ronald Dela Rosa and co-chaired by Representative Mohamad Khalid Dimaporo and its Working Group have Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada as alternate chair, the Plenary Session on Economic and Trade Matters be chaired by Representative Stella Luz Quimbo, the Plenary Session on Regional Cooperation be chaired by Senator Francis Tolentino and co-chaired by Deputy Speaker Raymond Democrito Mendoza, the Roundtable

Discussion on Young Parliamentarians be chaired by Representative Jude Acordre and co-chaired by Senator Mark Villar, the Working Group on Economic and Trade Matters be chaired by Senator Sherwin Gatchalian and Representative Francisco Benitez with alternate chair Senator Mark Villar, the Working Group on Regional Cooperation be chaired by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito and Representative Mark Go with Senator Risa Hontiveros as alternate chair, and the Drafting Committee be chaired by Senate President Pro Tempore Loren Legarda and co-chaired by Representative Lorenz Defensor, with alternate chairs Senator Aquilino Pimentel III and Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito;

6. The Draft Resolutions submitted by 10 member parliaments be referred to the relevant Working Groups;
7. The Draft Resolution on "Combating Glorification and Nazism" submitted by the Russian Federation, lacking consensus, be considered in the next Annual Meeting;
8. The Draft Resolution on Promoting Parliamentary Diplomacy for Regional Security, deferred to this year's meeting from the 30th APPF Annual Meeting in Bangkok, be sent to the Drafting Committee for consideration;
9. The Implementation Reports of Thailand, Japan, the Russian Federation, and Indonesia on their previously adopted resolutions be acknowledged; and
10. The Executive Committee consist of the Philippines as Host Country, Thailand as Previous Host Country, Japan and China as representatives of the Northeast Asia sub-region, Indonesia and Vietnam as the representatives of the Southeast Asia sub-region, New Zealand and Australia as the representatives of the Oceania sub-region, Canada as the representatives of the Americas sub-region, and the next host country, which has yet to be chosen at the time of the Executive Committee Meeting.



ANNEX "B"

Chairs of Plenary Sessions, Working Groups and Drafting Committee

MEETING OF WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS

Chair: Senator Pia Cayetano

Co-Chair: Deputy Speaker Camille Villar

FIRST PLENARY SESSION ON POLITICAL AND SECURITY MATTERS

Chair: Senator Ronald Dela Rosa

Co-Chair: Representative Maria Rachel Arenas

SECOND PLENARY SESSION ON ECONOMIC AND TRADE MATTERS

Chair: Representative Stella Luz Quimbo

THIRD PLENARY SESSION ON REGIONAL COOPERATION IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

Chair: Senator Francis Tolentino

Co-Chair: Deputy Speaker Raymond Democrito Mendoza

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION OF YOUNG PARLIAMENTARIANS ON DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

Chair: Representative Jude Acidre

Co-Chair: Senator Mark Villar

DRAFTING COMMITTEE

Chair: Senate President Pro-Tempore Loren Legarda

Co-Chair: Representative Lorenz Defensor

Alternate Chairs: Senator Aquilino Pimentel III and Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

WORKING GROUP ON WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS

Chair: Senator Pia Cayetano

Co-Chair: Representative Margarita Nograles

WORKING GROUP ON POLITICAL AND SECURITY MATTERS

Chair: Senator Ronald Dela Rosa

Co-Chair: Representative Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo

Alternate Chair: Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada

WORKING GROUP ON ECONOMIC AND TRADE MATTERS

Chair: Senator Sherwin Gatchalian

Co-Chairs: Representative Francisco Benitez

Alternate Chair: Senator Mark Villar

WORKING GROUP ON REGIONAL COOPERATION IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

Chair: Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

Co-Chair: Representative Mark Go

Alternate Chair: Senator Risa Hontiveros



ANNEX "C"

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

MEETING OF YOUNG PARLIAMENTARIANS

47. A MEETING OF YOUNG PARLIAMENTARIANS WILL BE HELD ON THE OCCASION OF THE APPF ANNUAL MEETING.

48. THE MEETING OF YOUNG PARLIAMENTARIANS WILL SERVE AS A FORUM TO STRENGTHEN THE ENGAGEMENT OF YOUNG PARLIAMENTARIANS BELOW THE AGE OF 45 YEARS IN THE APPF, TO ADVANCE THE YOUTH PERSPECTIVE ON CONTEMPORARY ISSUES, AND TO DISCUSS THE CONCERNS AND PRIORITIES OF THE YOUTH AND YOUNG PEOPLE.

49. THE CHAIR OF THE MEETING OF YOUNG PARLIAMENTARIANS SHALL BE A MEMBER OF THE HOST PARLIAMENT.

50. THE MEETING OF YOUNG PARLIAMENTARIANS MAY ELECT CO-CHAIRS FROM AMONG PARTICIPATING DELEGATES.

51. THE MEETING OF THE YOUNG PARLIAMENTARIANS WILL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE PLENARY SESSION.



ANNEX "A"

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

AUSTRALIA

- | | | |
|---|----------------------|---|
| 1 | Mr. Steve GEORGANAS | Head of Delegation
Member of the House of
Representatives |
| 2 | Ms. Tracey ROBERTS | Member of the House of
Representatives |
| 3 | Mrs. Bridget ARCHER | Member of the House of
Representatives |
| 4 | Mrs. Michelle LANDRY | Member of the House of
Representatives |
| 5 | Mr. Russell CHAFER | Delegation Secretary |

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

- | | | |
|----|--|---|
| 1 | Mr. Pehin Dato Suyoi OSMAN | Head of Delegation
Member of the Legislative
Council of Brunei Darussalam |
| 2 | Mr. Pehin Dato Adanan YUSOF | Member of the Legislative
Council of Brunei Darussalam |
| 3 | Mr. Salleh Bostaman ZAINAL ABIDIN | Member of the Legislative
Council of Brunei Darussalam |
| 4 | Ms. Hajah Rosmawatty HAJI ABDUL
MUMIN | Member of the Legislative
Council of Brunei Darussalam |
| 5 | Mr. Isa ALIUDDIN | Member of the Legislative
Council of Brunei Darussalam |
| 6 | Mr. Haji Mohamad Danial YA'AKUB | Member of the Legislative
Council of Brunei Darussalam |
| 7 | Mr. Mohammad ABDULLAH | Member of the Legislative
Council of Brunei Darussalam |
| 8 | Mr. Mohammad Faiq HAJI MOHD
YASSIN | Officer |
| 9 | Mr. Haji Mohammad Amalul Muttaqin
HAJI ISMAIL | Officer |
| 10 | Ms. Dayangku Aqilah Nursyahidah
PENGIRAN ROSLAN | Officer |

CAMBODIA

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Mr. Kittisethabindit CHEAM YEAP | Head of Delegation
First Vice-President of the
National Assembly |
|---|---------------------------------|--|

2	Mr. Chheang VUN	Member of Parliament, Chairperson of the Commission on Economy, Finance, Banking and Audit
3	Mr. Chhit KIM YEAT	Senator, Vice-Chairperson of the Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, Information and Media
4	Mr. Keo PISETH	Member of Parliament, Secretary of the Commission on Legislation and Justice
5	Mr. Pan SORASAK	Member of Parliament, Secretary of the Commission on Public Works, Transport, Telecommunications, Posts, Industry, Mines, Energy, Commerce, Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction
6	Mrs. Mom SANDAP	Senator, Secretary of the Commission on Public Health, Social Work, Veterans, Youth, Rehabilitation, Labor, Vocational Training and Women's Affairs
7	Mr. Ty SOKUN	Member of Parliament, Secretary of the Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, Information and Media
8	Mr. San SARANA	Member of Parliament, Member of the Commission on Planning, Investment, Agriculture, Rural Development, Environment and Water Resources
9	Mr. Lim BUNHOK	Deputy-Secretary General of the National Assembly
10	Mr. Kim SANTEPHEAP	Chief of the Cabinet of the First Vice-President of the National Assembly
11	Mr. Uk PHALLA	Advisor and Personal Doctor of the First Vice-President of the National Assembly
12	Mr. Pou SOVANN	Advisor to the First Vice-President of the National Assembly
13	Mr. Hok BUNLY	Deputy Chief of the Cabinet of the First Vice-President of the National Assembly
14	Mr. Prom VRAK	Director General of International Relations, Protocol and Information of the Secretariat General of the National Assembly
15	Mr. Heang THUL	Director of the International Relations Department of the Secretariat General of the National Assembly

16	Mrs. Chea MALIKA	Deputy-Director of International Relations Department of the Secretariat General of the Senate
17	Mrs. Vann VIMOL	Assistant
18	Ms. Te LEINA	Deputy Chief of the Multilateral Office of the Secretariat General of the National Assembly
19	Mr. Ten VEASNA	Deputy Chief, Assistant to the Commissions Office
20	Mr. Bun LONG	Administrational Section Chief of Protocol Department
21	Mr. De RATHA	Deputy Chief of Media Office, Media

CANADA

1	Mr. Stanley KUTCHER	Head of Delegation Senator
2	Mr. Paul MASSICOTTE	Senator
3	Mr. Terry SHEEHAN	MP
4	Mr. Han-Peng DONG	MP, Independent
5	Mr. Victor OH	Senator
6	Mrs. Flordeliz OSLER	Senator
7	Mr. Yves PERRON	MP
8	Mr. Grant MCLAUGHLIN	Delegation Secretary
9	Ms. Geneviève GOSSELIN	Association Advisor

CHILE

1	Mrs. Carmen HERTZ	Head of Delegation First Vice President of the Chamber of Deputies of Chile
2	Mrs. Carla MORALES	Deputy
3	Mrs. Jacqueline PELLARD	Delegation Secretary

CHINA

1	Mr. WANG Ke	Head of Delegation Vice Chairperson, Foreign Affairs Committee, National People's Congress (NPC)
2	Mrs. WU Zeng	Member, Constitution and Law Committee, NPC; Deputy Director, Legislative Affairs Commission, NPC Standing Committee
3	Mr. TAN Tianxing	Vice Chairperson, Social Construction Committee, NPC
4	Mr. SHEN Zheyi	Delegation Secretary

5	Ms. YANG L yang	Diplomat
6	Mr. Di Tongyang	Level II Principal Staff Member
7	Ms. Qi Mengyuan	Staff
8	Mr. WANG Zining	Diplomat
9	Mr. CHEN Chaoyi	Interpreter
10	Ms. SU Lei	Interpreter
11	Mr. ZHOU Zengbin	Interpreter

INDONESIA

1	Mr. Putu Supadma RUDANA	Head of Delegation Vice Chairperson of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation
2	Mr. Achmad Hafisz TOHIR	Vice Chairperson of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation
3	Ms. Vanda SARUNDAJANG	Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation
4	Ms. Puteri Arelta KOMARUDIN	Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation
5	Mr. HUGUA	Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation
6	Ms. Himmatul ALIYAH	Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation
7	Ms. Arzeti Bibina SETYAWAN	Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation
8	Mr. Syahrul Aidi MAAZAT	Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation
9	Mr. Asman ABNUR	Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation
10	Ms. Ena Umriyyatul CHUSNAH	Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation
11	Ms. Warsit. ALFIAH	Secretary to Delegation
12	Ms. Anne WIDYANA	Assistant Secretary to Delegation
13	Ms. Refaini Hasna GHASSANI	Assistant Secretary to Delegation
14	Mr. AHMADI	Assistant Secretary to Delegation
15	Mr. Tide Aji PRATAMA	Advisor
16	Mr. Isep Pand YAHYA	Advisor
17	Ms. Shane Savera SADIYAM	Media
18	Ms. Yuliana TANSIL	Interpreter

JAPAN

1	Mr. HIRAGUCHI Hiroshi	Head of Delegation Member, House of Representatives
2	Ms. OYA Fusae	Member, House of Councillors
3	Mr. SHINOHARA Takashi	Member, House of Representatives
4	Mr. KANKE Ichiro	Member, House of Representatives
5	Mr. IKESHITA Taku	Member, House of Representatives
6	Mr. AOSHIMA Kenji	Member, House of Councillors
7	Mr. FUTAMI Akira	Associate Director, Interparliamentary Relations Division, H.R.
8	Mr. KATAYAMA Masahiro	Deputy Director, Interparliamentary Relations Division, H.R.
9	Mr. SHIMA Ryosuke	Section Chief, Interparliamentary Relations Division, H.R.
10	Ms. MIYATAKE Yui	Secretary, Interparliamentary Relations Division, H.R.
11	Mr. MAKISHI Shun	Assistant Director, International Conferences Division, H.C.
12	Ms. KATSUMATA Kiyaki	Chief, International Conferences Division, H.C.
13	Ms. HIGUCHI Akari	Secretary, International Conferences Division, H.C.
14	Ms. UME Kayo	Interpreter
15	Ms. UJITA Yuko	Interpreter
16	Ms. OTA Haruko	Interpreter
17	Ms. KUMANO Risa	Interpreter
18	Ms. SUYAMA Emiko	Interpreter
19	Ms. NAKAGAMI Michiyo	Interpreter
20	Mr. MATSUURA Shun	Interpreter
21	Ms. NAMIKAWA MILLER Masako	Interpreter
22	Ms. WATANABE Satoko	Interpreter

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

1	Mr. PARK Yongjun	Head of Delegation Member of the National Assembly
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2	Mr. YOON Youngchan	Member of the National Assembly
3	Mr. CHOI Seungjae	Member of the National Assembly
4	Ms. HYUN Seonin	Delegation Secretary/Advisor/Staff
5	Ms. KIM Yeonkyung	Delegation Secretary/Advisor/Staff
6	Mr. GIL Homin	Delegation Secretary/Advisor/Staff
7	Mrs. JEONG Soyoung	Interpreter
8	Mrs. CHA Yeunkyeng	Interpreter

LAO PDR

1	Mr. Sommad PHOLSENA	Head of Delegation Vice-President of the National Assembly of the Lao PDR
2	Mr. Thanta KONGPHALY	Vice-Chairman of Planning, Finance and Audit Committee
3	Mrs. Kayson KE OMANYKHOT	Deputy Director General of Inter-Parliamentary Relations Department
4	Mr. Souliphone KHAMPAYA	Interpreter
5	Mr. Chanphone LOUNGPHANE	Technical officer

MALAYSIA

1	Mr. Wan Junaidi TUANKU JAAFAR	Head of Delegation President of Senate
2	Mrs. Zurainah MUSA	Member of Senate
3	Mr. Azhar AHMAD	Member of Senate
4	Mrs. Norani IDRIS	Member of Senate
5	Mr. Ahmad IBRAHIM	Member of Senate
6	Mr. Lingeshwaran R. ARUNASALAM	Member of Senate
7	Mrs. Ros Suryati ALANG	Member of Senate
8	Mr. Abxin Sui ANYIT	Member of Senate
9	Mr. Roderick Wong SIEW LEAD	Member of Senate
10	Mrs. Susan Chemera ANDING	Member of Senate
11	Mr. Mohd Sujain ABDULLAH	Secretary of the Senate
12	Mr. Mohammad Fahmi MUSTAFA	Special Officer to the President of Senate
13	Mrs. Norhayati ABDUL MANAF	Press Secretary to the President of Senate
14	Mr. Fazli MOHD RUSLAN	Special Officer to the President of Senate
15	Mr. Azri Norfikri AZIZ	Delegation Secretary
16	Mr. Mohsin ABDUL MALEK	Delegation Secretary
17	Ms. Hamizah BAHARUDIN	Delegation Secretary
18	Ms. Nuraini ROSLAN	Delegation Secretary
19	Mr. Augustine Leonard JEN	Research Officer

MEXICO

1	Mr. Sergio PÉREZ FLORES	Head of Delegation Vice President of the Mexican Senate
2	Ms. Indira de Jesús ROSALES SAN ROMÁN	Senator
3	Mrs. Cora Cecilia P NEDO ALONSO	Senator
4	Mr. Oriol GARCÍA MONTIEL	Representative
5	Ms. Celia Vanessa DEL CASTILLO IBARRA	Representative
6	Mr. Roberto Carlos LÓPEZ GARCÍA	Representative
7	Ms. Arianna Lorena HERREJÓN MÁRQUEZ	Delegation Secretary

FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

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6	Mr. David Ron ROPRA	Delegation Secretary
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8	Mr. Kato Kil A	Staff
9	Mr. Edwin PEREAP	Protocol Officer
10	Mr. Kenneth GUV L	Foreign Service Officer

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1	Mrs. Margot PALACIOS	Head of Delegation Vice President of the Subcommittee on Constitutional Accusations
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| 2 | Mr. Ferdinand Martin G. ROMUALDEZ | Speaker of the House of Representatives |

SENATE

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Senator |
| 4 | Ms. Loren LEGAROA | Senate President Pro Tempore |
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| 6 | Mr. Aquilino PIMENTEL III | Minority Floor Leader |
| 7 | Mr. Joseph Victor G. EJERCITO | Deputy Majority Floor Leader |
| 8 | Mr. Mark A. VILLAR | Deputy Majority Floor Leader |
| 9 | Ms. Risa MONTIVEROS | Deputy Minority Floor Leader |
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| 11 | Mr. Jinggoy Ejercito ESTRADA | Senator |
| 12 | Ms. Maria Lourdes Nancy S. BINAY | Senator |
| 13 | Ms. Grace L. POE | Senator |
| 14 | Ms. Cynthia A. VILLAR | Senator |
| 15 | Mr. Sherwin GATCHALAN | Senator |
| 16 | Mr. Christopher Lawrence T. GO | Senator |
| 17 | Ms. Imee R. MARCOS | Senator |
| 18 | Mr. Francis N. TOLENTINO | Senator |
| 19 | Mr. Robinhood C. PADILLA | Senator |

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58	Mr. Sandro Fernando OAMINAL	Representative
59	Ms. Micaela Angela B. SUANSING	Representative

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62	Mr. Regina d. S. VELASCO	Secretary General of the House of Representatives
63	Ms. Nelza M. MARGET C.	Chief of Staff of Senate President Juan Miguel F. ZUBIRI

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11	Mr. Alexsei BYKOV	Parliament staff
12	Mr. Alexsei ANUFRIEV	Parliament staff

13	Mr. Pavel KUKARKIN	Interpreter
14	Ms. Dana SKVORISOVA	Interpreter
15	Mr. Yury SAPLIN-SILANOV TSKIY	MFA
16	Ms. Anastasia MEKHOVA	MFA
17	Mr. Dmitrii STEPANOV	Deputy Head of the Division of the State Duma Department on Interparliamentary Cooperation
18	Ms. Tatyana DONGAK	Assistant to the Deputy Chairman of the State Duma Mr. Shulbin Karagod
19	Ms. Tatyana LAZAREVA	Interpreter
20	Mr. Andrey LESOKHIN	Interpreter

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6	Ms. Wilailuck ARINTHAMAPONG	Member of the Senate
7	Mr. Virasakdi FUTRAKUL	Member of the Senate
8	Mr. Romtham KHUMNURAK	Member of the House of Representatives
9	Mr. Somchai TECHATHAVORNCHAROEN	Member of the House of Representatives
10	Ms. Sutejil TAIPIBOONSUK	Advisor to the Delegation, Deputy Secretary General of the Secretariat of the House of Representatives
11	Ms. Naichianun ROOPKHAJORN	Secretary to the Head of Delegation, Secretary to the Vice-President of the National Assembly
12	Mrs. Boontarika JUNHANANOANA	Secretary to the Delegation Director of the Bureau of Inter-Parliamentary Organizations
13	Mrs. Oranich RUNGTH PANON	Assistant Secretary to the Delegation, Director of the Special Affairs Division
14	Ms. Ratchanee IAMPRAPAS	Assistant Secretary to the Delegation
15	Ms. Somprathana KLANGNARONG	Assistant Secretary to the Delegation
16	Ms. Panadda SUNGKHUM	Assistant Secretary to the Delegation
17	Ms. Shakanya SATHAPORNWAJANA	Assistant Secretary to the Delegation

VIET NAM

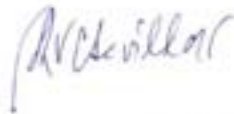
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|---|--------------------------|--|
| 1 | Mr. NGUYEN Duc Hai | Head of Delegation
Vice President of the National Assembly |
| 2 | Mr. DINH Cong Sy | Vice Chairman of the Committee on Culture and Education of the National Assembly of Viet Nam |
| 3 | Mrs. THAI Quynh Mai Dung | Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the National Assembly of Viet Nam |
| 4 | Mr. PHAM Ngoc Lam | Secretary to the Vice President |
| 5 | Mrs. LE Thi Yen | Deputy Director of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Office of the National Assembly of Viet Nam |
| 6 | Mr. VU Dai Phuong | Chief of Division, Department of Protocol and International Cooperation, Office of the National Assembly of Viet Nam |
| 7 | Mrs. DANG Thi Van Lam | Officer of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Office of the National Assembly of Viet Nam |
| 8 | Mr. LUU Anh Tuan | Delegation Secretary/Advisor/Staff |
| 9 | Mr. TRAN Manh Cuong | Security Officer for the Vice President |

GUEST OBSERVER

UNITE Parliamentarians Network for Global Health

- | | | |
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| 1 | Ms. Paromita ROY | Regional Coordinator for Asia-Pacific |
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Prepared by:



ROSA VICTORIA C. SEVILLA

Head, 31st APPF Registration Committee



31st Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF31)
23-26 November 2023, Manila

RESOLUTION ON COMBATTING TRANSNATIONAL CRIMES

Sponsored by Malaysia, Canada, Russian Federation, Japan, and Philippines

We, the parliamentarians of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF), gathering in Manila, Republic of the Philippines for the 31st Annual Meeting of the APPF under the theme "Resilient Partnerships for Peace, Prosperity, and Sustainability":

Recognizing the worldwide proliferation of drugs, trafficking in persons, especially women and children, money laundering, piracy and armed robbery against ships, and illicit trade in small arms and light weapon and cybercrimes, collectively known as transnational crimes that have continuously endangered global peace and security;

Recalling the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC), also known as the "Palermo Convention," and its protocols: (1) The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, (2) The Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air, and (3) The Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition; the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances; the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; and relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions;

Recalling also the biennial United Nations General Assembly Resolutions under the agenda "Advancement of Women on Violence against Women Migrant Workers" and "Trafficking in Women and Girls" and previously adopted APPF resolutions focusing on combatting terrorism and transnational crimes;

Mindful of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 3 which targets prevention and treatment of substance abuse and SDG 8 which calls for immediate and effective measures to eradicate human trafficking;

Welcoming the Bali Process and repeated holding of ministerial meetings based on the Process, and the continuation of the voluntary, inclusive, and non-binding forum for policy dialogue, information-sharing, and capacity building, as an international cooperation on trafficking in persons;

Welcoming also regional cooperation to prevent and suppress trafficking in persons, including through the Roadmap to Address Transnational Organized Crime and Trafficking in Persons Associated with Casinos and Scam Operations in Southeast Asia agreed between ASEAN Member States and the People's Republic of China, and **desiring** to further enhance such regional cooperation in other areas;

Acknowledging that transnational organized crime has become increasingly coordinated, high-tech and aggressive on an international level; radical terrorist organizations and extremist groups are merging with transnational organized crime; and millions in revenues from criminal activity are directed for international criminality purposes and become the financial support for terrorist structures;

Deeply concerned over the persistent existence of drug trafficking and human trafficking networks and the exploitation of advanced technology and the speed, convenience, and anonymity of the internet to find novel ways to subvert the criminal justice system, reach a more comprehensive array of victims, and influence impressionable young individuals across nations and borders;

Observing that cybercrimes encompass malicious attacks on critical infrastructure, breaches of privacy, the creation and use of malware and ransomware, extremist indoctrination, hate crimes, money laundering, online and commercial sexual exploitation and the targeting of vulnerable populations, including seniors, women, children, youth, people with disabilities, racialized communities and Indigenous peoples;

Drawing attention to the United Nations' cyber-related work, including the Security Council's June 2021 inaugural formal meeting on cyber threats, multiple General Assembly resolutions adopted regarding ICT developments in the context of international security, and the establishment of intergovernmental processes, notably the Group of Governmental Experts on Advancing responsible State behavior in cyberspace in the context of international security, the Open-ended Working Group in the Field of Information Telecommunications in the Context of International Security, and the Ad Hoc Committee to Elaborate a Comprehensive International Convention on Countering the Use of Information and Communications Technologies for Criminal Purposes;

Recalling the Inter-Parliamentary Union's adoption in 2023 of a resolution entitled "Cybercrimes: The new risks to global security", and of debates about cybersecurity and cyber threats at various other interparliamentary meetings;

Acknowledging that many countries have developed national strategies, adopted legislation, and fostered international cooperation designed to address cybercrimes and the malicious use of cyberspace, but that the development of legal and policy instruments has not kept pace with the evolving threats presented by such crimes;

Emphasizing the importance of preserving the leading role of the UN in coordination of international efforts on combatting transnational organized crime and international terrorism;

Stressing the value of multidisciplinary professional cooperation and the necessity of facilitating the formal and, to the extent permitted under domestic law, non-formal exchange of information, and communication necessary to prevent and combat crime through the support of intergovernmental organizations such as the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL);

Acknowledging the importance of resilient partnership among states achieved through open, unrestricted dialogue and trust among parliamentarians in combatting transnational crimes and addressing the threats and cross-cutting challenges posed by these crimes to the survival, livelihood, and dignity of the people in the region;

Underscoring that legislatures and legislators have a role to play in national, regional and international actions designed to combat transnational crimes, including cybercrimes;

Recognizing the current global situation where crime cases of organ trafficking and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal with the involvement of brokers and international crime organization are suspected, **strongly criticizing** the illegal and unethical acts that tarnish with money the great medical accomplishment of organ transplantation, and **noting with great concern** that the accurate scale of such crime is unclear due to reasons such as hesitation to report among victims who are exploited because of poverty or other social or economic vulnerability, or the lack of specialized countermeasures; and

Noting the Declaration of Istanbul on Organ Trafficking and Transplant Tourism (2018 Edition) that upholds such principles as that countries should strive to achieve self-sufficiency in organ donation and transplantation, trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal should be prohibited and criminalized, organ donation should be a financially neutral act, and governments and health professionals should implement strategies to discourage and prevent the residents of their country from engaging in transplant tourism;

RESOLVE TO:

1. **Affirm** the importance of human rights and need to take domestic, regional, and international actions designed to combat all types of transnational crimes, including cybercrimes and trafficking in persons, while respecting state sovereignty and freedoms;
2. **Encourage** all Member Parliaments to enhance their commitment in proactively combatting transnational organized crimes, with a specific focus on underlying causes such as poverty, corruption, and poor governance, as well as addressing demand factors;
3. **Call upon** Member Parliaments to pass pieces of legislation considering existing regional and international legal conventions on terrorism and

transnational organized crime to effectively close any potential loopholes in legislation across different countries;

4. **Promote** cooperative approaches to combat the growing number and complexity of transnational crimes, and to address their negative consequences for citizens' safety and well-being, for national and international peace and security, and for democratic processes and institutions;
5. **Appeal to** APPF Member States to actively use parliamentary diplomacy to facilitate the development of a comprehensive strategy for combatting transnational crime and to **work towards** the development or strengthening of mechanisms for enhanced cross-border coordination and efficient information-sharing with law enforcement agencies, intelligence communities, and judicial authorities in other countries in the region and international partners;
6. **Call upon** the APPF Member States to strengthen the international efforts in combatting the pressing criminal challenges and threats, taking into account the central coordinating role of the UN, observing the principles of international law, and based on equality and mutual respect;
7. **Focus on** the search for efficient methods for strengthening international cooperation in combatting transnational organized crime, including cooperation in extradition and mutual legal assistance in criminal cases both through the legal framework and through ensuring professional, honest, and responsible interaction between law enforcement agencies;
8. **Call upon** all states to adopt efficient and effective mechanisms for seizure and confiscation of income from criminal activity within the framework of their national legislation systems and to strengthen international cooperation to ensure the efficient and fast return of the funds and valuables to their legitimate owners;
9. **Consider** the possibility of establishing a regular dialogue mechanism concerning the issues of joint counteraction against threats with involvement of interested states and international organizations in addition to the existing international formats of combatting the challenges of transnational organized crime, international terrorism, and drug trafficking in the region;
10. **Continue** developing a comprehensive, integrated legal base for practical cooperation among law enforcement agencies of Asia-Pacific countries in different fields of combat against transnational crimes;
11. **Advocate** for scientific evidence-based policies and programs in combatting illicit drugs, with utmost priority on holistic approaches that give equal attention to demand and supply reduction, and the rehabilitation and reintegration to society of substance abuse victims;

12. **Request** the APPF Member Parliaments to fully exercise their investigative and scrutiny power to understand the actual situation of organ trafficking and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal;
13. **Request** the APPF member states to further inform and enlighten citizens on organ transplantation based on the international principle that countries should strive to achieve self-sufficiency in organ donation and transplantation, as well as to reinforce cooperation with relevant academic societies and relevant organizations in the medical field in each country;
14. **Commend** the work of the United Nations and other international organizations aimed at addressing the malicious use of ICT in domestic, regional and international contexts;
15. **Confirm** that one of the priorities is enhancing cooperation between the APPF Member States in combatting disinformation and the use of ICT for criminal purposes;
16. **Promote** a whole-of-society approach to prevent violent extremism conducive to terrorism and **support** the development and enforcement of effective legal, regulatory, and administrative counter-terrorism frameworks;
17. **Urge** the states to conduct a systematic and periodic review of national legislation and policy frameworks to ensure that their provisions and design adequately address cyber threats as they evolve and lead to meaningful reductions in cybercrime;
18. **Enhance** protections for vulnerable populations in cyberspace, including but not limited to seniors, women, children, youth, people with disabilities, racialized communities and indigenous peoples;
19. **Provide** the financial and other resources needed for national cybersecurity centers, infrastructure and other tools needed to protect citizens in cyberspace, as well as for the investigation, prosecution and adjudication of cybercrimes;
20. **Request** the APPF Member States to further reinforce technical support and support for human resource development through industry-government-academia cooperation and public-private cooperation, in order to utilize specialized knowledge at all levels, as a part of support for the capacity building of law enforcement institutions to address crimes that are becoming increasingly complex and advanced, such as cybercrime;
21. **Encourage** APPF Member States to accede, ratify, and implement relevant international law to combat transnational crime and develop appropriate regulatory procedures to prevent any criminal activity within their jurisdictions and its spillover to others; and

22. **Recognize** APPF as an essential platform to forge resilient partnerships among states through meaningful dialogues and exchange of best practices in curbing transnational crimes in the region.



31st Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF31)
23-26 November 2023, Manila

RESOLUTION ON WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP

Sponsored by Canada, Mexico, Australia, Russian Federation, and Philippines
Co-sponsored by Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, China, and Indonesia

We, the parliamentarians of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF), gathering in Manila, Republic of the Philippines for the 31st Annual Meeting of the APPF under the theme "Resilient Partnerships for Peace, Prosperity, and Sustainability":

Recalling the adopted APPF Resolutions on gender equality, women empowerment and participation; the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW); the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action; the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically SDG 5; the 2019-2030 La Serena Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth; the Final Document of the Third Eurasian Women's Forum in 2021; and the Final Communiqué of the W20 Summit in 2022;

Acknowledging that women's full and equal involvement in political, economic, and public life is a human right, yet women's participation, representation, and leadership at the global, regional and national levels remain low and are not representative of the women's population;

Emphasizing that women's inclusion in all levels of decision-making and their representation in decision-making bodies is crucial to strengthening democracies, promoting sustainable and lasting peace, and promoting shared prosperity, economic development, and social cohesion in the Asia-Pacific region and the world;

Welcoming UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) adopted by the United Nations Security Council in 2000, and subsequent resolutions which acknowledge the disproportionate and unique impact of armed conflict on women and girls and the vital role that women's leadership and full, equal and meaningful participation play in preventing conflict;

Highlighting women's special role and competent leadership in resolving pressing global problems, and the need to create conditions for women's effective and comprehensive participation in scientific, social, political, cultural and economic life as well as in peace dialogues, to fully utilize their creative, wholistic, and empathic perspective in providing solutions to concerns on health, peace, and other global issues;

Acknowledging the need to improve national legislation to eliminate violence and discrimination against women, support women's empowerment and entrepreneurship and promote women's leadership;

Considering the priority areas of the Asia Pacific Regional Consultation on the priority themes of the 67th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, which include fostering inclusive education in the digital age, promoting women and girls' participation and leadership in STEM education and careers, and addressing all forms of gender based violence and discrimination, and the Agreed Conclusions of the 67th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women which is focused on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the context of innovation, technological change, and education in the digital age;

Noting the need to close the digital gender gap in order to eliminate inequality between men and women in the job market, to increase the degree of their financial integration, and facilitate women's access to decision-making on relevant social, political, and economic issues;

Recognizing that women traditionally take on the primary responsibility of care and domestic work, which affects their access to education, and opportunities for work, and public life;

Drawing attention to the initiatives of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation to advance women's representation in leadership and decision-making roles, particularly in the economy;

Emphasizing the need to promote solidarity between parliamentarians in the Asia-Pacific to deal with all issues that affect women, enhancing their influence as a serious political force in Asia-Pacific and the world;

Welcoming the IPU Kigali Declaration on "Gender Equality and Gender-Responsive Parliaments as Drivers of Change for a More Resilient and Peaceful World", which included, *inter alia*, prioritizing underrepresented groups, addressing gender balance in all parliamentary leadership positions, and establishing zero-tolerance policies for violence against women, sexual harassment, and intimidation in parliaments;

Bearing in mind the role and responsibility that legislatures and legislators can play in either facilitating or impeding women's participation and leadership in political, economic and public life; and

Noting that an increase in women's representation in parliaments, leadership positions, and elected bodies, contributes significantly in the promotion of inclusivity and effectiveness of women participation in the decision-making processes that will redound to their benefit and welfare;

RESOLVE TO:

1. **Call on** parliaments to support gender equality and create conditions for women's leadership and comprehensive participation at all levels and areas of decision-making in political, economic, social, cultural life, and recognize the contributions of women as essential to democracy, peace, prosperity, and humanitarian efforts;
2. **Condemn and effectively ameliorate** violence and harassment directed against women in domestic settings, in the workplace, in society and public life, whether occurring in person or online, and **implement** policies and measures to reduce such actions and provide services to affected individuals;
3. **Consider** implementing measures including awareness campaigns, affordable childcare, networking and mentorship programs to encourage and support participation and leadership in political, economic, and public life and address institutional and practical barriers to women's full participation;
4. **Promote** gender equality at a regional and global level, through dialogue and cooperation;
5. **Support** the representation of women in national and global agenda-setting, strategic planning, and decision-making processes, enabling them to identify priorities and develop measures for socio-economic development, to ensure preparedness for global challenges including those related to healthcare, and promote gender equality on issues that affect women, their families and their communities;
6. **Urge** APPF Member Parliaments to promote women's representation in political, economic, social, and humanitarian spheres, while ensuring APPF Member Countries to strengthen policies that close gender gaps and eliminate legal, administrative and administrative barriers to women's participation;
7. **Call on** APPF Member Parliaments to facilitate women's digital inclusion by ensuring their access to digital information, resources, and skills training programs that empower women to take active part in all aspects of society through ICT and digital platforms, and scale up their opportunities for work and participation in decision-making;
8. **Promote** women's education in science and technology through internships, professional training, and admission to educational programs in order to increase women's participation in leadership and decision-making in the STEM sector;
9. **Recommend** to the APPF Member States the establishment of a mechanism for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of gender equality policies, in collaboration with government agencies, women's organizations, and civil society organizations, including strengthening data collection on women's

participation in parliamentary and leadership positions, as well as labor force participation statistics, to measure the effectiveness of our actions;

10. **Implement** policies to ensure women's reintegration in the labor force, equal access to education, innovation, technology, entrepreneurship, training and professional development, promoting their income security and economic autonomy;
11. **Examine and review** existing policies with the goal of adopting measures that provide women with adequate familial and institutional support as they fulfill multiple responsibilities, and encourage men to take an active role as crucial allies and partners in achieving gender equality, including supporting women and redistributing unpaid care and domestic work;
12. **Create** enabling environments and policies that would facilitate equal partnership between men and women in domestic and working roles while recognizing the multiple burdens of women;
13. **Promote** gender mainstreaming throughout all legislative work and structures, supported by the provision of effective training for legislators and their staff about gender-based analysis, periodic collection of gender-disaggregated data at the national level and in the Asia-Pacific Region, and expanded research on the impact of gender-related issues on women and girls, particularly involving poverty, economic participation, health, education, gender-based violence and leadership;
14. **Build** gender-sensitive parliaments that adopt measures to allow elected representatives to balance family and public responsibilities – and in particular, encourage parliaments to ensure that their timetables and working methods enable elected representatives to reconcile work and family life;
15. **Urge** APPF Member Parliaments to pursue the objectives of SDG 5, consider UN Women's recommendations, take concrete steps to fulfill commitments under the Kigali Declaration, implement the conclusions of the Sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women to ensure women's participation free from violence and structural inequalities;
16. **Promote** the meaningful inclusion of women in peace processes and conflict resolution, including conflict prevention, post-conflict reconstruction, and humanitarian response, in order to enhance security, peace and sustainable development; and
17. **Encourage** nations to ratify, implement and monitor treaties, conventions and regulatory frameworks on gender equality and women empowerment.



**31st Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF31)
23-26 November 2023, Manila**

RESOLUTION ON GENDER AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

*Sponsored by Chile, Mexico, Japan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Canada, and
Thailand
Co-sponsored by Cambodia*

We, the parliamentarians of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF), gathering in Manila, Republic of the Philippines, for the 31st Annual Meeting of the APPF under the theme "Resilient Partnerships for Peace, Prosperity and Sustainability":

Reaffirming our commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the resolutions on the Gender and Sustainable Development Goals adopted in previous APPF meetings;

Considering the targets of Sustainable Development Goal 5 on Gender Equality which propose to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women, ensure their participation at all levels in decision-making positions, grant equal rights to economic resources, and promote gender equality and empowerment;

Pursuing the priority actions recommended by UN Women to accelerate fulfillment of the targets of SDG 5, such as addressing gender-based violence, securing women's leadership positions, ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health, and promoting a more equitable division of unpaid care and household work;

Recognizing that gender equality is not only a goal under the 2030 Agenda but is indispensable to the success of all SDGs, pursuant to the UN's pronouncement that global goals cannot be achieved without full and equal rights for half of the world's population;

Reiterating that gender equality is a fundamental right and a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable society;

Deeply concerned that according to post-pandemic reports, the world is not on track to achieve the 17 SDGs by 2030 and is regressing on gender equality;

Admitting that climate change can threaten achievements in gender equality as it impacts men and women unevenly;

Recognizing that women are disproportionately affected by climate change, as well as lack of access to clean water and sanitation, and can therefore lend unique perspectives on water resource management and food production, and participate in initiatives meant to reduce emissions, promote renewable energy, and build resilience to the impact of climate change; and

Reaffirming the importance of providing support to enable women to participate in decision-making and exert leadership in all areas, including political, economic, and social spheres, in order to improve low ratio of women in leadership positions;

RESOLVE TO:

1. **Urge** APPF Member Countries to create platforms to showcase successful practices that promote gender equality and gender mainstreaming around the world;
2. **Commit** to build a more inclusive, equitable, and sustainable future for women and their children and ensure that policies are guided by insights for the future;
3. **Encourage** APPF Member Countries to increase women's interest in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) fields as well as to develop a framework that promote women's active participation in STEM fields;
4. **Address** data gaps on gender equality to ensure that States are on track with the SDGs, particularly SDG 5;
5. **Pursue** systematic mainstreaming of women and gender perspectives in the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs;
6. **Integrate** gender perspective in laws and policies aimed at reducing poverty and eradicating hunger;
7. **Undertake** gender-responsive programs to promote food security, taking into consideration the contribution of women in food production, sustainability, and sufficiency, specifically in the context of climate change;
8. **Promote** "Gender-Responsive Climate Action" which recognizes the impact of climate change on women and girls and ensure their active participation and leadership in climate change mitigation, adaptation, and disaster risk reduction efforts, while simultaneously addressing gender-specific vulnerabilities and challenges, and prioritizing the leveraging of women's knowledge and expertise in these areas;
9. **Ensure** that water resource management, environmental protection, and peacebuilding meet the rights, needs and interests of women and girls, take their experiences into consideration, and ensure their participation and leadership;

10. **Invite** APPF Member Countries to assess and monitor the efforts towards equality and strengthening women's participation, as well as to share experiences and good practices regarding gender equality and the strengthening of women's participation among different countries;
11. **Encourage** more women leaders to play an active role in protecting women's rights in different areas of society and promoting their full participation in all initiatives towards sustainable development;
12. **Encourage** APPF Member Countries to provide support for women's acquisition of digital skills and employment, as well as to develop a labor environment ensuring flexible workstyles and stable income, considering the progress of digitalization and the increase of employment in the digital sector;
13. **Call on** all the States to sign and ratify relevant international agreements to promote and safeguard the status of women;
14. **Call upon** all APPF Member Countries to acknowledge the need to safeguard the most vulnerable individuals in high risk situations in accordance with the principles of international law; and
15. **Recognize** the imperative to afford paramount protection to women, children, the elderly, and individuals with disabilities, especially in high risk situations.



**31st Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF31)
23-26 November 2023, Manila**

RESOLUTION ON RETHINKING CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

*Sponsored by Canada, Australia, and Philippines
Co-sponsored by Malaysia, Cambodia, Thailand, and Indonesia*

We, the parliamentarians of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF), gathering in Manila, Republic of the Philippines for the 31st Annual Meeting of the APPF under the theme "Resilient Partnerships for Peace, Prosperity, and Sustainability":

Acknowledging that while definitions of critical infrastructure differ across countries, a common understanding includes the 'systems or assets (whether physical or digital), facilities and networks that provide essential services and are necessary for the national security, economic security, prosperity, and health and safety of their respective nations';

Recognizing that critical infrastructure can include government facilities, utilities, hospitals, water and wastewater systems, ports and roadways, financial institutions, and information and communication technologies (ICTs);

Underlining that critical infrastructure can be negatively affected by disruptions, such as those resulting from natural disasters or the malicious use of cyberspace, with implications for the well-being of individuals, the effective functioning of governments and the security of countries;

Noting that climate change is increasing the number and severity of weather events that have negative impacts on infrastructure that is essential for health, security and economic wellbeing;

Recognizing that the COVID-19 pandemic has driven a new focus on critical infrastructure and highlighted the fragility of essential services, and that several other risks to critical infrastructure have come into sharper focus in recent years – including climate change and the associated increase in severe weather events, infrastructure failures due to social unrest, and the particular risks to ICT systems posed by cyber-attacks;

Recognizing further that resilience efforts fall under Sustainable Development Goal 9 (SDG 9), which is to 'build resilient infrastructure, inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation', and the 2015 Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction;

Drawing attention to the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goal 9 (SDG 9) that addresses the topics of building resilient infrastructure, promoting sustainable industrialization and fostering innovation, and to the UN Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, which aims to prevent and reduce disaster-related risks to infrastructure caused by natural or human-made hazards;

Believing that efforts to improve the resilience of critical infrastructure should include measures and actions in a variety of areas, including those designed to reduce the impact of damage, ensure the affected system's or asset's rapid recovery, and support adaptation to current and future threats;

Noting that international fora have advocated for Build Right at First Sight with more resilient infrastructure;

Highlighting that many countries are increasingly focused on reducing the vulnerabilities and enhancing the resilience of the critical infrastructure located on their territory;

Emphasizing the significance of sustainable development, environmental conservation, and the integration of natural capital accounting and the green and blue economy into critical infrastructure planning and implementation;

Recognizing the urgency for collaborative action to address the challenges posed by climate change, disasters, and environmental degradation, especially concerning infrastructure resilience and sustainability;

Considering the principles of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) of the United Nations as a comprehensive framework for integrating environmental and economic data to inform policymaking and sustainable development objectives;

Acknowledging the collective commitment of Member States to combat climate change and promote sustainable and low carbon, climate-resilient development, as well as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction aiming to enhance the resilience of nations and communities through critical infrastructure policies;

Affirming the urgent need to rethink critical infrastructure to align with the principles of the green and blue economy and natural capital accounting, in response to the challenges posed by climate change, environmental degradation, and the increasing frequency and impact of natural disasters;

Welcoming the Internet and Digital Economy Roadmap adopted by Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation members, which encourages the development of digital infrastructure, the enhancement of confidence and security in the use of ICTs, the facilitation of e-commerce and cooperation regarding digital trade;

Observing that ICTs are essential not only for the operation and security of critical infrastructure, but also for improving citizens' access to government services, financial services, consumer goods and services, health, education and recreation, as well as for other reasons;

Emphasizing that critical infrastructure is no longer solely a domestic issue, with globalization of service delivery and increasing foreign investment in infrastructure provision making transnational collaboration for critical infrastructure resilience essential;

Being convinced that mitigating the risks to critical infrastructure requires partnerships within countries, including among governments and those who own, operate, and use infrastructure, as well as across countries through efforts designed to promote international collaboration and coordination;

Highlighting regional cooperation on critical infrastructure resilience through fora including the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum, ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2025, the Bandar Seri Begawan Roadmap; AN ASEAN Digital Transformation Agenda, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility; and

Underscoring the role that legislatures and legislators play in ensuring the protection and resilience of critical infrastructure, including through developing legislation and strategies that address vulnerabilities and ensure emergency preparedness;

RESOLVE TO:

1. **Support** the attainment of SDG 9 by taking the actions outlined in the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction* and other UN instruments, as well as the implementation of other international initiatives that have the goal of building resilient infrastructure and reducing the impact of damage to infrastructure caused by natural or human-made hazards;
2. **Encourage** members to develop a common understanding of the impacts of critical infrastructure failures, with a focus on the risks applicable to our region;
3. **Facilitate** the development of policies, programs, and other measures designed to increase the resilience of critical infrastructure, as well as the sharing of best practices (nationally, regionally, and internationally) as regards their development and implementation;
4. **Recommend** Member States to prioritize the integration of the principles of the green and blue economy and natural capital accounting into their strategic approach to critical infrastructure development, aiming for sustainable and resilient solutions that uphold environmental conservation and economic progress;

5. **Urge** the facilitation of regional cooperation and knowledge exchange among Member States to promote best practices in integrating the principles of the green and blue economy and natural capital accounting into infrastructure planning and implementation, particularly in regions vulnerable to climate change and natural disasters;
6. **Call** for the support and involvement of international organizations, financial institutions, and development partners to provide technical assistance, capacity building, and financial resources to aid Member States in integrating the principles of the green and blue economy and natural capital accounting into critical infrastructure projects;
7. **Stress** the importance of engaging diverse stakeholders, including civil society organizations, private sector entities, and local communities in the decision-making processes, planning, and monitoring of sustainable infrastructure projects to ensure inclusivity and stakeholder ownership;
8. **Encourage** Member States to align their infrastructure development plans with the commitments made under the Sendai Framework, emphasizing the importance of mitigation, climate resilience, disaster risk reduction, strategic impact assessment that includes infrastructure objectives and alternatives, and environmental sustainability;
9. **Support** the promotion of research, innovation, data science for planning effective and efficient delivery of the objectives of proposed infrastructure projects and programs and the dissemination of sustainable infrastructure technologies and practices aligned with the principles of the green and blue economy and natural capital accounting, aiming to foster collaboration and knowledge sharing across the Asia Pacific region;
10. **Call** for the establishment of regional mechanisms for monitoring and reporting on the integration of the principles of the green and blue economy and natural capital accounting into critical infrastructure development, to assess progress and identify areas for improvement;
11. **Stress** the need for capacity building and awareness-raising activities aiming to enhance understanding of the benefits and importance of rethinking critical infrastructure through the principles of the green and blue economy and natural capital accounting among policymakers, practitioners, and the general public;
12. **Urge** Member States to allocate and invest resources towards sustainable and resilient infrastructure that aligns with the principles of the green and blue economy and natural capital accounting, ensuring long-term environmental, social, and economic benefits;

13. **Call** for the establishment of a regular platform for dialogue and knowledge sharing on rethinking critical infrastructure through the principles of the green and blue economy and natural capital accounting, bringing together policymakers, experts, and stakeholders from the Asia Pacific region;
14. **Urge** multilateral banks, lending institutions and private investors to calculate gains and losses in natural capital in their assessment of loan proposals;
15. **Foster** international cooperation aimed at strengthening protections for critical infrastructure that has transnational dimension;
16. **Strengthen** the resilience of critical infrastructure by reinforcing the ICT systems that are vital for the operation of such infrastructure, including through enhanced cybersecurity efforts;
17. **Invest** in emergency preparedness relating to critical infrastructure through activities that include planning, financing, capacity building, technology transfer, training exercises and post-disaster assessments of response efforts;
18. **Endorse** a 'build forward better' approach to reconstructing and rehabilitating critical infrastructure affected by disasters in order to support the revitalization of livelihoods and economies, and to reduce communities' vulnerability to future disasters;
19. **Encourage** collaborative efforts within and across countries that contribute to the goal of adopting a coherent approach to preventing, reducing and recovering from disruptions to critical infrastructure, and sectors for investment;
20. **Call on** governments to acknowledge climate change impacts in developing infrastructure resilience, and support preparedness planning for severe weather events and shared response capabilities;
21. **Develop** strategies to communicate to citizens, communities and businesses the importance of taking appropriate actions to protect critical infrastructure, including through promoting best practices for cybersecurity;
22. **Promote** a consistent approach to combatting cyber-crime, given that malicious activity may disrupt critical infrastructure delivery, and sharing of information on cybersecurity threats to critical infrastructure;
23. **Recommend** that countries consider impacts of climate change on critical infrastructure and how to adapt appropriately to it; and
24. **Promote** the sustainability of pandemic-response capabilities, so that the lessons of COVID-19 can help mitigate future dangers.



**31st Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF31)
23-26 November 2023, Manila**

**RESOLUTION ON REGIONAL COOPERATION ON
UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC**

Sponsored by Mexico and Philippines

We, the parliamentarians of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF), gathering in Manila, Republic of the Philippines for the 31st Annual Meeting of the APPF under the theme "Resilient Partnerships for Peace, Prosperity, and Sustainability":

Recognizing that the Asia-Pacific region's high vulnerability to a wide range of natural disasters, as well as the outbreaks of infectious diseases, including the most recent COVID-19 pandemic, poses significant challenges to the region's health systems;

Acknowledging that access to quality healthcare is a fundamental human right, and that universal health coverage is an important factor in preventing and responding to natural disasters and outbreaks;

Committing to ensuring that all citizens have equal access to a universal healthcare system, regardless of their status in life, gender, or race, and that they can access the medical services they need, wherever and whenever, without financial barriers, in accordance with international human rights principles;

Recognizing the need to tackle health inequities and inequalities within and among countries through political commitments, policies, and international cooperation, including those that address social, economic, environmental, and other determinants of health;

Noting the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage adopted during the United Nations General Assembly High-level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage 2023, to enhance our efforts to achieve universal health coverage by 2030;

Considering Goal No. 3.8 of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the World Health Organization and the Inter-Parliamentary Union's document "The Path to Universal Health Coverage", which both emphasize the importance of achieving universal health coverage, including access to quality and affordable healthcare services, financial risk protection, and essential medicines and vaccines for all;

Reaffirming the resolutions adopted at previous meetings of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum, including increasing investment in health services to strengthen the resilience of health systems, and promoting technological and financial innovation in primary health care services;

Recalling, through the years, the relentless efforts of the APPF to address the issues on universal health care (UHC) relative to natural disasters and outbreaks through the adoption of a number of resolutions, such as the following:

- Resolution on Cooperation for the Prevention and Eradication of Emerging and Infectious Diseases (APPF12/Res. 16);
- Resolution on Facing Ebola and Other Infectious Diseases in a Coordinated Manner for the Prevention of Emergencies and Health Disasters (APPF23/Res. 11);
- Resolution on Regional and Sub-Regional Strategies on Combatting Non-Communicable and Communicable Diseases (APPF25/Res.11); and
- Resolution on Developing Health Services and Facilitating Equitable Access to Primary Health Care (APPF30/Res. 10);

Acknowledging the progress made towards universal healthcare in the Asia-Pacific region, while recognizing the persistent challenges, including weak health systems, limited access to quality and affordable healthcare, the disproportionate impact of disasters and outbreaks on vulnerable groups, economic constraints, financing difficulties, coordination and preparedness gaps, inadequate resilient infrastructure, and insufficient health workforce capacity;

Considering the consequences of COVID-19, making it evident that, when health is threatened by emerging diseases or pandemics, the general well-being of the population and its development is also threatened;

Underscoring that universal health care would not only improve the health of the population and reduce financial gaps, but would also help create new economic opportunities, reduce poverty, and help build a more stable and fair society;

Acknowledging that resilient national health systems and universal access to healthcare are critical foundations to prepare for future health crises;

Welcoming coordination mechanisms such as the Global Action Plan for Healthy Lives and Well-being for All (SDG3 GAP) established in 2019, which brings together thirteen (13) multilateral health, development, and humanitarian agencies to help countries accelerate progress on health-related Sustainable Development Goals targets, and UHC 2030 which provides a global platform for multiple stakeholders to connect, work together, and influence national and international commitments;

Acknowledging the commitment of the ASEAN Member States in the “Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection” adopted in 2013, to collectively accelerate the progress towards UHC in the region by strengthening the capacity to assess and manage health systems to support UHC through the sharing of experiences,

information, and experts, and in the "ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on ASEAN as an Epicentrum of Growth" at the 43rd ASEAN Summit to identify synergies and potential cross-sectoral and cross-pillar collaborations to accelerate ASEAN's efforts in achieving Universal Health Coverage;

Reaffirming the important role of parliaments in advancing the UHC agenda, and the need for meaningful collaboration with public authorities, non governmental organizations, academic institutions, private sector entities, and all relevant stakeholders to achieve UHC;

Noting that despite progress towards UHC, only about 63.4% of the Asia-Pacific population is covered by a health care scheme, leaving over 1.6 billion people unprotected, with inequalities within and across countries;

Expressing concern that vulnerable groups such as women, children, adolescents, the elderly, and people with disabilities, who often have limited financial resources, bear the greatest burden of ill health and preventable deaths, placing them at an economic disadvantage and higher risk of poverty;

Realizing that UHC implies national health policies and programs ensuring all individuals and communities have access to a wide range of essential, quality health services, delivered in a respectful, equitable, and cost-effective manner;

Recognizing that UHC must ensure equal service provision, without discrimination, ensuring no one, especially the vulnerable and marginalized, is left behind;

Reiterating that primary health care, including immunization campaigns, is the most inclusive, effective, and efficient approach to enhancing people's physical and mental health and well-being, and is also the cornerstone of a sustainable health system capable of UHC;

Emphasizing that investing in UHC involves sustainable and adequate health funding, and investment in human capital that generates jobs, increases growth, and reduces inequalities, especially gender inequality;

Acknowledging that resilient national health systems and universal access to healthcare are critical foundations to prepare for future health crises;

Urging the APPF Members to share best practices in overcoming difficulties to achieving a universal health care in their respective countries, and ideas on how they can collaborate to enhance the required collective preparedness and response to natural disasters and epidemics; and

Reaffirming the commitment of the APPF members to attaining universal healthcare access;

RESOLVE TO:**1. Call on APPF Member Parliaments to:**

- Promote universal health coverage (UHC) as a national goal and foster dialogue to develop better measures to achieve it, engaging all social, economic, and political sectors;
- Establish parliamentary mechanisms to promote UHC, including adequate budgets, research and development, expanded services, and reduced out-of-pocket costs;
- Use data efficiently to support UHC implementation and track progress;
- Promote and strengthen early warning systems and resilience mechanisms to prepare for future health crises;
- Encourage UHC inclusion in parliamentary agendas and debates;
- Advocate for increased public health spending, with a focus on primary care and disease prevention;
- Support the development and implementation of national UHC plans that guarantee equitable access to affordable, high-quality healthcare for all, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, or socioeconomic status;
- Collaborate with other stakeholders to plan and implement the transition of health systems towards universal coverage, while continuously investing in and strengthening health delivery systems to meet the health needs of the population in the Asia-Pacific region;
- Monitor the implementation of UHC programs and hold governments accountable for progress;
- Advocate for investments in human resources, infrastructure, and medical equipment to increase the resilience of health systems during crises;
- Support calls for investments in training, developing, recruiting and retaining a skilled health workforce, including doctors, nurses, midwives and community health workers, as fundamental to strong and resilient health systems;
- Support calls for sustained improvement of working conditions and management of the health workforce to ensure the safety of health workers;
- Support cross-sectoral collaboration to address the social determinants of health, including poverty, malnutrition, and lack of education access;

- Plan for the effective implementation of cost control measures to ensure the stability and sustainability of the universal healthcare system without compromising the quality of services;
 - Establish a legal framework for UHC to guarantee the right of everyone to public health and medical care, without discrimination;
 - Work closely with national parliaments to raise awareness among parliamentarians about UHC and engage them fully in the process, to sustain political support towards achieving UHC by 2030;
 - Integrate UHC into national development plans and policies, recognizing health as an immediate prerequisite and a factor in countries' sustainable development;
 - Adopt a partnership-based approach to achieving UHC, raise public awareness of UHC, and engage communities and all relevant stakeholders in developing plans and strategies that respond to prevailing conditions;
 - Establish an integrated national results-based monitoring and evaluation system for measuring progress on UHC, ensuring regular reporting and accurate use of disaggregated data to identify and eliminate gender-based discrimination in the implementation of UHC; and
 - Ensure financial protection to reduce out-of-pocket payments for health services and eliminate financial barriers that prevent access to health;
2. **Facilitate** strengthened regional cooperation on UHC for natural disasters and outbreaks through:
- Sharing of best practices and lessons learned, developing joint programs and initiatives, and mobilizing resources;
 - Ensuring that parliamentarians have a vital and meaningful role in developing and implementing UHC plans and disaster risk reduction strategies; and
 - Providing parliamentarians with the necessary resources and support to carry out their role effectively;
3. **Urge** the APPF Member Parliaments to work together to strengthen the region's collective preparedness and response to future health crises through:
- Developing regional health security frameworks;
 - Harmonizing health regulations and standards;

- Conducting joint drills and exercises; and
 - Maintaining surveillance and early warning systems;
4. **Develop** a system for the APPF to:
- Assess and manage risks, monitor, evaluate, and report on the progress of Member Parliaments in achieving UHC and constructing resilient health systems;
 - Facilitate the sharing of best practices and lessons learned among Member States; and
 - Provide Member States with technical assistance and support as they develop and implement UHC plans and disaster risk reduction strategies.



**31st Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF31)
23-26 November 2023, Manila**

**RESOLUTION ON ENHANCING REGIONAL COOPERATION ON CLIMATE
ACTION, BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION, AND
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

Sponsored by Japan and Philippines

We, the parliamentarians of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF), gathering in Manila, Republic of the Philippines for the 31st Annual Meeting of the APPF under the theme "Resilient Partnerships for Peace, Prosperity, and Sustainability":

Recalling all the relevant resolutions in the United Nations General Assembly regarding the protection of the global climate for the present and future generations of human beings;

Recognizing the imperative to intensify and accelerate climate action under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and other pertinent agreements including the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement, the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction;

Underscoring the pivotal role of the Asia-Pacific region countries in championing and advancing ambitious global climate action including during the 28th Conference of Parties (COP28) to the UNFCCC in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, and in the UNFCCC process for the global stocktake and updating of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs);

Welcoming the decision to establish a loss and damage fund as a part of the loss and damage support measures in COP27;

Expressing expectation for the start of its early operation after the designing of a detailed system in COP28;

Recognizing the role that can be served by the carbon market based on Article 6 of the Paris Agreement that is operated under the implementation guidelines decided in COP 26 and the rules decided in COP27;

Emphasizing the necessity of accelerating efforts by developed countries to at least double the contribution for adaptation in developing countries by 2025 compared to the level in 2019 based on the decision of COP26, in the context of achieving a balance between mitigation and adaptation in the provision of scaled-up financial resources;

Expressing concerns on the goal for the developed countries that was officially decided in COP16, namely “mobilizing jointly USD 100 billion per year by 2020, in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation,” remained unmet;

Looking forward to the prompt achievement of the succeeded goals for 2020 and 2025, and its first achievement in 2023;

Highlighting the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) adopted during the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 15) to the Convention on Biological Diversity, particularly emphasizing target 3, which aims to ensure and enable that by 2030, at least 30 percent of terrestria and inland water areas, as well as marine and coastal areas, crucial for biodiversity are effectively conserved. This entails establishing ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable, and integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean, while ensuring that any sustainable use, where appropriate in such areas, is fully consistent with conservation outcomes, recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, including over their traditional territories;

Emphasizing the necessity to considerably expand contributions to the Green Climate Fund that supports mitigation and adaptation, law enforcement and incentives in developing and least developed countries;

Welcoming the 2024 Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction to be held in Manila as the main regional platform in the Asia-Pacific for promoting coordination and cooperation on disaster risk reduction, and the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction;

Acknowledging the imperative to combat plastic pollution, and *recognizing* the need for mutual understanding, fairness, and collaborative effort among APPF countries, in line with the Agreement on Plastic Pollution adopted at United Nations Environment Assembly 5.2. This Agreement seeks to actively mitigate plastic discharge into oceans, reflecting our shared commitment to safeguarding marine environments and addressing the critical issue of plastic pollution on a global scale;

Noting that the Asia-Pacific region is among the climate vulnerable regions, particularly cited by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in its Sixth Assessment Report, underscoring that Asia-Pacific countries confront various climate impact drivers, including temperature increase, droughts, extreme precipitation events and related flooding, sea-level rise, ocean warming/stratification, and other climate-

related issues which interact with human disturbances, resulting in loss and damage, population displacement, impacts on agriculture and food systems, biodiversity and habitat loss, and human and ecosystems health;

Keeping in mind that the Synthesis Report of the Sixth Assessment Report of the IPCC points out that "Global GHG emissions in 2030 implied by NDCs announced by October 2021 make it likely that warming will exceed 1.5°C during the 21st century and make it harder to limit warming below 2°C,";

Acknowledging that action on adaptation to climate change is an urgent priority and a global challenge faced by all countries, in particular developing and least developed and least developed countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change;

Emphasizing the necessity of accelerating international cooperation on coping with the adaptation including according to the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) based on the Paris Agreement and the "Glasgow-Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the global goal on adaptation";

Acknowledging again the goal of the Paris Agreement, namely to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, and pursue efforts to limit the global average temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels;

Emphasizing the critical role that healthy ecosystems play in increasing climate resilience and enabling adaptation, including through nature-based solutions; and noting with concern that degradation of ecosystems undermines their capacity to address and minimize the impacts of climate change;

Acknowledging the inextricable links between climate change, biodiversity and sustainable development;

Recognizing the critical role of parliamentarians in the areas of national legislation, budgetary allocation and oversight of government performance, and in safeguarding the integrity and domestic implementation of international agreements;

Stressing that parliamentarians can further contribute to enhanced climate action, resilience-building, and conservation of biological diversity by encouraging the participation of various sectors and stakeholders in the exercise of their functions and strengthening inter-parliamentary cooperation;

Noting that the APPF serves as a platform to identify and discuss issues of regional interest and concern such as impact of natural disasters on critical infrastructure, health care and E-commerce infrastructure, and vulnerability of digital infrastructure/information communication facilities, with the aim of promoting them in the global context;

Recalling the resolutions on climate change and disaster risk reduction at the past APPF Annual Meetings and highlighting RESOLUTION 10 on "Calling for Regional Cooperation on Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation" adopted at the 26th Annual Meeting held in January 2018, urging all Member States to "integrate climate change adaptation and mitigation and disaster risk reduction into their development agenda, plans, policies, programs and investments at the national and local levels and using a whole of society approach," and, further, "to work towards a long-term legislative framework for action on climate change in the Asia-Pacific region" and, "to contribute to the capacity-building of parliamentarians in the development of policies for enhanced climate action and ambition";

Recalling further that in earlier resolutions, the APPF resolved to implement an inter-parliamentary communication mechanism to share information, successful experiences, and knowledge for effective response to climate change, and appealed to Member-States to expand mutual cooperation;

Reconfirming our commitments in carrying out the resolutions regarding climate change that were adopted in the past APPF annual meetings; and

Confirming that APPF will serve a leading role for the promotion of dialogue between parliaments in the Asia-Pacific region and the acceleration of multinational cooperative actions in the Asia-Pacific region and the world, for responding to climate change;

RESOLVE TO:

1. **Call upon** all the Parties to the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, especially major economies, to endeavor to align their 2030 NDC targets or long-term GHG emission development strategies (LTS) with a 1.5°C pathway and invest in clean energy technologies with a view to achieving net zero emissions by 2050;
2. **Recognize** the importance of the commitment confirmed in COP26, namely to accelerate efforts toward phase down of unabated coal power generation and phase out of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, and require the governments of APPF member countries to consider the possibility of commitment to accelerate the phase down of unabated fossil fuels;
3. **Urge** all APPF Member-States to update their climate change adaptation and mitigation targets and integrate climate change action, biodiversity conservation, and disaster risk reduction into their development plans, policies and programs at the national and local levels, using a whole-of-society approach to build resilient communities;
4. **Enjoin** APPF Member-States to adopt a "whole of ecosystems" approach as a framework strategy to ensure that climate adaptation and mitigation measures,

as well as biodiversity conservation, in forms of policies, programs and actions, are anticipatory, based on best available science including indigenous and local knowledge, and aligned with the principles of climate justice and equity, common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in light of national circumstances;

5. **Encourage** all APPF Member-States to strengthen cooperation in finance, technology development and transfer, and capacity-building, ensuring that just transition is facilitated globally, and that developing and least developed countries are supported in the transition;
6. **Reiterates** that according to the Paris Agreement, developed country Parties should continue to take the lead in mobilizing climate finance from a wide variety of sources, instruments and channels, noting the significant role of public funds, through a variety of actions, including supporting country-driven strategies, and taking into account the needs and priorities of developing country Parties, including mitigation, adaptation, and loss and damage;
7. **Encourage** APPF Member-States who are recipient of contribution to secure appropriate implementation and management of supported projects so that they generate maximum effects;
8. **Call upon** the governments of APPF Member-States to consistently improve the investment environment for technology development, considering that innovation is essential to meet global net-zero emissions by 2050;
9. **Empower** all APPF Member-States to integrate nature based solutions and ecosystem-based adaptation into national and local climate adaptation strategies, disaster risk reduction plans, and development policies, ensuring consideration of potential climate change impacts in order to strengthen the health and resilience of ecosystems and vulnerable communities;
10. **Inspire** all APPF Member-States to take ambitious action to address plastic pollution through regulatory, voluntary, and economic incentives to promote a circular economy and phase-out problematic plastics;
11. **Request** all APPF Member-States to work towards a long-term legislative framework for action on climate change in the Asia-Pacific region in line with the global blueprints for disaster risk reduction, climate change, and biodiversity conservation;
12. **Call upon** the governments of APPF Member-States to promote international cooperation in capacity-building for implementing Article 6 of the Paris Agreement;
13. **Request** the APPF to contribute to the capacity-building of parliamentarians in the development and enhancement of policies for enhanced climate change

adaptation and mitigation action, disaster risk reduction, and biodiversity conservation;

14. **Urge** APPF Member Parliaments to adopt laws and legislative models that support climate change mitigation and adaptation within and outside the country, and to fulfill obligations under the Paris Agreement; and
15. **Request** APPF Member Parliaments to continuously hold and enhance dialogues between parliaments in the Asia-Pacific region and the world on responses to climate change.



**31st Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF31)
23-26 November 2023, Manila**

**RESOLUTION ON REGIONAL COOPERATION
THROUGH EDUCATION AND CULTURE**

*Sponsored by Canada, Russian Federation, Australia, Philippines
Co-sponsored by Cambodia*

We, the parliamentarians of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF), gathering in Manila, Republic of the Philippines for the 31st Annual Meeting of the APPF under the theme "Resilient Partnerships for Peace, Prosperity, and Sustainability":

Reaffirming the fundamental right to education enshrined in Articles 28 and 29 of the "United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child" and its crucial role in human capital development, economic and social progress, peacekeeping, and nation-building;¹

Acknowledging that education and culture are fundamentally important for sustainable development, human welfare, mutual understanding, peace, economic and social development, innovative growth, and are enshrined as fundamental human rights in international conventions;

Recognizing the Asia-Pacific region's diverse education systems and cultural expressions, while acknowledging the disparities in education accessibility, level, and infrastructure, with 27 million children and adolescents remaining illiterate and significant disparity in education accessibility, level, and infrastructure;

Emphasizing the capacity of culture and education to help establish and expand bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region, promote multilingualism, foster dialogue, and join efforts within and between the countries, including through cultural diplomacy, as evidenced by the growing cultural engagement within the United Nations system, also at the country level;

Recognizing the pressing need to address the lingering barriers to equitable and inclusive access to education and culture for all, particularly in light of the unprecedented disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has had a particularly notable effect on children's education;

Affirming that international cooperation in education and culture fosters innovative growth, strengthens regional ties, expands specialist exchanges, accelerates economic development by sharing knowledge and skills, preparing students for the 21st-century globalized and knowledge-based society, and ensures the development of solutions to the challenges posed by climate change;

¹ Malaysia expressed its partial reservation on this paragraph

Emphasizing the urgency of implementing effective and responsive learning recovery measures, providing tools for adjusting, creating, and adapting to new learning platforms and instruments, and building resilient education systems and culture in light of climate change and other disruptive events;

Aspiring for inclusive educational systems that uphold the right to quality education of all students, especially those with special needs and learning disabilities, and students from diverse cultures and backgrounds;

Recognizing the crucial role of technology in education delivery to expand access to learning opportunities, accelerate learners' acquisition and development of 21st-century skills, and provide long-term solutions to various challenges facing the educational system;

Reimagining the future of education with the use of artificial intelligence and other related technologies while understanding and mitigating their potentially disruptive consequences;

Acknowledging the possible detrimental effects of the excessive use of the internet and social media on the mental and physical well-being, communication skills, academic performance, and cultural rootedness of children;

Promoting access to reliable information platforms that provide opportunities for self-expression, communication, and cross-cultural discourse;

Noting the APPF Vancouver Declaration that encourages mutual understanding, friendship, and confidence-building among countries;

Encouraging partnership and collaboration in the sharing of best practices, policy research and development, and the formulation of legislative interventions that promote education and culture in the region;

Recognizing that culture is an essential component of human development as it represents a source of identity, innovation, and creativity for the individual and an important factor in social inclusion;

Reaffirming the 1972 Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage and the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage on the international commitment to the protection of tangible and intangible cultural heritage;

Recognizing the importance of respect and understanding for cultural diversity throughout the world and of working together and not against each other and of fostering intercultural understanding and dialogue, mutual listening and learning, and an ethic of global citizenship and solidarity;

Acknowledging the importance of the promotion of national cultures, artistic creation in all its forms, and international and regional cultural cooperation, as defined by the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity adopted in 2001;

Recalling the APPF's previous resolutions on education and culture, such as:

- Resolution Promoting Cooperation in Education, Culture, Science and Technology in the Asia-Pacific Region (APPF22/Res. 20);

- Resolution on Strengthening Regional Cooperation on Youth Skills Development and Employment in the Asia-Pacific (APPF25/Res. 28);
- Resolution on Promoting Technical and Vocational Education and Training in the Asia-Pacific (APPF29/Res. 14); and
- Resolution on Promoting Disability-Inclusive Education and Training in the Asia-Pacific (APPF29/Res. 13);

Reaffirming resolutions at previous meetings of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum, including on improved access for women to education, including but not limited to technical training, information technology, culture, science and technology, such as: APPF 27 Resolution No. 2; APPF 29 Resolution No. 13; and APPF 30 Resolution No. 8;

Acknowledging the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Education Strategy 2016-2030, which covers three major objectives: enhancing and aligning competencies to the needs of individuals, societies, and industries; accelerating innovation; and increasing employability;

Taking into consideration the adoption of other resolutions in the region emphasizing the importance of education, such as the ASEAN Declaration on Inclusive Education adopted by the ASEAN Ministers Education Meeting (ASEM) in 2015, the Declaration on the Digital Transformation of Education Systems in ASEAN, and the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Education for Out-of-School Children and Youth (OOSCY), and other international agreements and conventions related to children's rights, welfare, protection, education, and culture to which APPF Member Parliaments are signatories;

Reaffirming the commitment to the goals of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to "ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all";

Acknowledging the findings of UNESCO and UNICEF's 2021 5-Year Progress Review of SDG 4 – Education 2030 in Asia-Pacific, which indicated that despite overall progress, most countries surveyed were not on track to achieve SDG 4;

Bearing in mind the relevant international frameworks and conventions, including:

- The Incheon Declaration and the Framework for Action for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 4, which provide concrete guidance on ways to achieve this goal through concrete actions;
- The Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, which reaffirms the right of States to adopt policies and programs that support the creation and distribution of cultural goods and services;
- The World Heritage Convention, which enshrines the principles of cultural and natural heritage protection and preservation;

Recognizing that human resources are the most valuable asset for societal and economic growth, necessitating investment in education, skills development, and overall well-being; and acknowledging the critical role of education in preparing future employees, including healthcare professionals, to address the needs of the general population;

Recognizing the experience and negative consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic for education, including on in-person classes, students and academic exchanges, and for cultural performances and public access to cultural spaces;

Accepting the diversity in education systems, practice, and culture in the Asia-Pacific region, as well as the socio-economic disparities on learning and the accessibility of education among girls, women, children with disabilities, and all stateless people and displaced persons;

Reaffirming the importance of decreasing hindrances to skills development and technical and vocational education and training, as well as increasing lifelong learning opportunities for the youth and adults, which would contribute in addressing education-job mismatch and job-skill's mismatch;

Realizing that global cooperation is a crucial component of workforce development and for ensuring that programs are responsive to the ever-changing needs of the labor market;

Recognizing that building trust and peacefully resolving disagreements within and between societies with different cultures, ethnic groups, and regions is a crucial condition for achieving progress, prosperity, and a better quality of life;

Noting scientific collaboration within and across countries as an avenue for fostering innovation, improving competitiveness, and ensuring economic growth, as well as its importance in developing solutions to the challenges posed by climate change and the need to accelerate progress toward a net-zero society;

Understanding that national collaborations in discovery research conducted at postsecondary educational institutions is necessary for global wellbeing;

Aware that measures to further improve the standards and quality of education for better employment must include increased and equal accessibility to education, trainings, and learning for all;

Emphasizing the responsibility of Member States to protect, preserve, and responsibly use the exceptional and diverse cultural heritage of the Asia-Pacific region, including prohibiting and preventing the illegal import, export, and transfer of valuable cultural objects, and to collaborate when necessary to save it for future generations;

Underscoring the crucial role of parliamentarians in developing policies and legislation to promote and protect UNESCO cultural principles, establishing mechanisms for managing cultural heritage sites, determining their cultural significance, maintaining their authenticity, and preserving their value;

Advocating for universal access to culture, free from discrimination, conditions, or inequality based on any personal characteristic or status; and

Promoting stronger ties and cooperation across the Asia-Pacific region, enabling each nation to fully develop its cultural potential;

RESOLVE TO:

1. **Affirm** the right to education, recognizing its role in human development;
2. **Acknowledge** the importance of education and culture for sustainable development and peaceful coexistence;
3. **Address** disparities in education in the Asia-Pacific region, prioritizing the education of illiterate children and adolescents;
4. **Use** culture and education to foster regional cooperation and dialogue;
5. **Eliminate** barriers to equitable access to education, especially considering the impact of COVID-19 on children's education;
6. **Promote** international cooperation in education to foster innovation and economic development;
7. **Establish** new learning platforms and instruments to address challenges in education and culture;
8. **Implement** learning recovery measures and build resilient education systems;
9. **Pursue** inclusive educational systems that uphold the right to quality education for all students;
10. **Embrace** technology in education to expand access to learning;
11. **Reimagine** the future of education with artificial intelligence, while mitigating potential negative impacts;
12. **Address** the possible detrimental effects of excessive internet use on children's well-being and academic performance;
13. **Promote** access to reliable information platforms for self-expression and cross-cultural discourse;
14. **Implement** the APPF Vancouver Declaration to promote mutual understanding among countries;
15. **Encourage** partnerships for sharing best practices and formulating legislative interventions in education, including providing more scholarship grants to students in developing countries;
16. **Build upon** previous APPF resolutions on education and culture to strengthen regional cooperation;
17. **Incorporate** relevant international agreements into regional education initiatives;
18. **Reaffirm** our commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 4, aligning regional initiatives with the Incheon Declaration and addressing the identified gaps highlighted

in UNESCO and UNICEF's review, while upholding the principles of cultural diversity and heritage preservation as enshrined in international conventions;

19. **Invest** in education and skills development, empowering individuals to drive innovation and prosperity;
20. **Eliminate** education disparities, ensuring equal opportunities for all;
21. **Embrace** lifelong learning, bridging the gap between education and employment;
22. **Strengthen** regional cooperation in workforce development, aligning programs with labor market needs;
23. **Harness** parliamentary diplomacy to foster trust, resolve disputes, and promote peaceful coexistence;
24. **Nurture** scientific collaboration, addressing climate change and enhancing competitiveness;
25. **Foster** national synergies in research, advancing global well-being and scientific progress;
26. **Elevate** education standards and accessibility, ensuring opportunity for all;
27. **Safeguard** and responsibly utilize cultural heritage, preserving our shared legacy and promoting intercultural understanding;
28. **Empower** parliamentarians to protect, preserve, and promote cultural heritage;
29. **Advocate** for universal access to culture, dismantling barriers and fostering a vibrant cultural landscape;
30. **Raise** public awareness of the importance of cultural diversity for sustainable development, promoting its positive value through education and media tools;
31. **Promote** effective integration and mainstreaming of culture into economic, social, and environmental development policies and strategies at all levels; and
32. **Advocate** to promote capacity-building, for the development of dynamic cultural and creative sectors by encouraging creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship, supporting the development of cultural institutions and cultural and creative sectors, providing technical and vocational training for culture professionals, and increasing employment opportunities in the cultural and creative sectors for sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and development.



31st Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF31)
23-26 November 2023, Manila

RESOLUTION ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA

We, the parliamentarians of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF), gathering in Manila, Republic of the Philippines for the 31st Annual Meeting of the APPF under the theme "Resilient Partnerships for Peace, Prosperity, and Sustainability":

Noting the UN Security Council Resolutions 1695, 1718, 1874, 2087, 2094, 2270, 2321, 2356, 2371, 2375, 2397, the international community's position that the DPRK cannot possess nuclear in any circumstances and shall not be recognized as a nuclear state stipulated in the Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks in September 2005, the Joint Statement of the 5th MIKTA Speakers' Consultation in November 2019, G7 Summit Communique in June 2021, Resolution on the Implementation of the NPT Safeguards Agreement between the IAEA and the DPRK at the 65th IAEA General Assembly in September 2021, the Chairman's Statement of the 16th East Asia Summit (EAS) in October 2021, the Resolutions on the Situation of Human Rights in the DPRK adopted at the UN Human Rights Council in April 2022 and at the UN General Assembly in December 2021;

Reaffirming all the APPF Resolutions including the resolution on Peace on the Korean Peninsula (APPF29/RES/04) adopted at the 29th Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) Annual Meeting held in Seoul, Republic of Korea in December 2021 and resolutions on the Korean Peninsula adopted at the prior annual meetings of the APPF;

Emphasizing the importance of establishing regional and international cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region and in the world to secure peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula is a key issue that directly links to peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond through meaningful dialogue between the Republic of Korea and DPRK and between the DPRK and the international community among concerned parties;

RESOLVES TO:

1. **Request** the APPF Member Parliaments to reaffirm the importance of the complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula for the peace and stability of the Peninsula, (as well as of the Asia-Pacific region), and to fully and steadily implement the relevant UNSC Resolutions;
2. **Encourage** the APPF Member Parliaments to express grave concern to the nuclear tests and launches of ballistic missiles conducted by DPRK, **urge** DPRK to abide by

relevant UNSC resolutions and the Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks in September 2005, not to conduct any further provocative actions including nuclear tests or any launch of all ranges using ballistic missile technology, and to abandon all weapons of mass destruction and existing nuclear programs, including uranium enrichment activities, as well as ballistic missile programs of all ranges, in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner in accordance with relevant UNSC Resolutions and also **urge** APPF Member States to fully and effectively implement these resolutions;

3. **Call on** the DPRK to comply with the complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and refrain from conducting further nuclear and ballistic missile test as it agreed with relevant parties and the international community, and, in particular, to abandon its nuclear plan and ballistic missile plan in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner in accordance with all resolutions of the UN Security Council and to make efforts for substantial progress toward the complete denuclearization and lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula, and **request** international community to lift sanctions and offer possible cooperation to DPRK when DPRK carries out the complete denuclearization;
4. **Call on** relevant parties to exercise proper restraints;
5. **Support** the efforts of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea fully to hold an inter-Korean parliamentary speakers' meeting and **encourage** a dialogue between the parliaments of APPF Member States and the DPRK in order to establish peace on the Korean Peninsula and in the Asia-Pacific region;
6. **Urge** DPRK to take concrete actions to improve its human right situation taking into account the reasonable humanitarian concerns of its neighbors, including the abductions issue;
7. **Encourage** the APPF Member Parliaments to confirm the full support of APPF Member States in building multilateral security cooperation in Northeast Asia to address the risk of instability on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia;
8. **Call on** APPF Member Parliaments to pay continuous attention to the situation on the Korean Peninsula including improvement of inter-Korean relations and to provide full support to make active efforts for achieving the complete denuclearization and a peaceful settlement of the Korean Peninsula issue, and cooperate so that the UN General Assembly and the UN Human Rights Council will adopt, by consensus, the Resolution on the Situation of Human Rights in the DPRK.



31st Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF31)
23-26 November 2023, Manila

**RESOLUTION ON STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF PARLIAMENTS TO
 PROMOTE REGIONAL PEACE AND STABILITY**

*Sponsored by Indonesia, Chile, Russian Federation, Japan, Mexico, Australia, and
 Philippines*

We, the parliamentarians of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF), gathering in Manila, Republic of the Philippines, for the 31st Annual Meeting of the APPF under the theme "Resilient Partnerships for Peace, Prosperity, and Sustainability":

Bearing in mind that Asia Pacific is the most economically dynamic region in the world, as well as the most populous, making it a market of remarkable dimensions, and has experienced explosive growth that places it at the center of production, trade and physical and digital connectivity networks in the global economy;

Aware that the center of growth and development in the global politics and economy is shifting to the Asia-Pacific region and that the new role the region's states play in global affairs is becoming one of the determining vectors of international relations;¹

Inspired by the shared purpose of making the Asia-Pacific region in the 21st Century a space filled with opportunities, energy, and hope for the future, as affirmed in the Valparaíso Declaration issued at the 9th Annual Meeting of the APPF, and ***aware*** that achieving this vision requires collective efforts to address risks, threats, and challenges to peace, security, and stability not only in the region but also worldwide;

Deeply alarmed by widening geopolitical polarities that threaten international peace and security;

Concerned at the destructive effects of the escalating tensions, armed conflicts, terrorism, nuclear proliferation, ICT threats, transnational crimes, risks surrounding artificial intelligence and other emerging technologies, climate change, emerging diseases and public health emergencies to human survival, economic sustainability of affected countries and national security, but also to the very foundation of democracy, namely the parliamentary system, the rule of law, and human rights;

¹ Australia with reservations

Affirming the adherence of the APPF Member Parliaments to the fundamental principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter and in the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), and affirmed in the 1982 Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes and the 1970 Declaration on Principles of International Law Concerning Friendly Relations Among States prioritizing mutual respect for independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity; settlement of disputes through peaceful means and renunciation of threats or use of force; and effective cooperation among nations;

Emphasizing the importance of the obligation under the principle of pacific settlement of disputes as set out in Article 33 of the United Nations Charter, which requires parties to any dispute that are likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and stability to "seek a solution by negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, resort to regional agencies or arrangements, or other peaceful means of their own choice;

Recognizing the importance of helping ensure compliance with international humanitarian law and the increasingly crucial role that multilateral organizations providing humanitarian assistance, including the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, play in helping alleviate the humanitarian impact of conflicts;

Cognizant that the UN General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015, which is based on five key dimensions: people, prosperity, planet, collective participation, and peace, also known as the "5 Ps" and the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration;

Mindful of APPF's lasting commitment to support the realization of the 16th UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 16) of promoting peace, justice, and strong institutions, and that achieving SDG 16 requires reducing all forms of violence and related mortality rates worldwide, as well as restoring trust and strengthening the capacity of institutions to ensure justice for all and facilitate peaceful transitions to sustainable development;

Affirming the intrinsic value of safeguarding human rights as a foundation of conflict prevention and the cultivation of sustainable peace;

Also noting the strategic position of the Asia-Pacific Ocean region as one of the busiest global shipping route and home to huge abundance of marine resources including reserves of oil, natural gas and fisheries which contribute to spur economic growth and create prosperity of the Asia-Pacific countries;

Recognizing that freedom of the high seas is a fundamental principle of maritime order and is essential for the peace and prosperity of the international community as a whole;

Recognizing that a maritime regime in the region based on international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) that sets out a legal order for the peaceful use of the seas and oceans, including freedom of navigation and overflight, and other internationally lawful uses of the sea related to these freedoms, has facilitated our region's impressive economic growth;

Considering the many maritime security issues ranging from Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, militarism², sea piracy, illicit drug trafficking, illicit trafficking of wildlife and timber, trafficking of persons and people smuggling to actions that contravene the international law of the sea in the Asia Pacific region;

Emphasizing the importance of enhancing maritime security cooperation in creating regional peace, security, and stability and contributing to the economic growth of the Asia Pacific;

Recognizing the importance of establishing maritime security and stability as necessary for the protection of the marine environment and biodiversity, promoting the blue economy and the economic health of coastal communities;

Noting that Parliaments represent their societies, and the promotion of inter-parliamentary collaborative relationships can serve to improve links and understanding between societies;

Determined to enhance the constructive impact that APPF, as an inter-parliamentary forum, is called upon to have in achieving the goals of peace, security, and sustainable development for the entire Asia-Pacific region for the benefit of all peoples;

Recalling all previous APPF resolutions on peace, security, and sustainability, including the 30th APPF Resolution on Parliaments and Sustainable Post-Covid-19 Recovery to Promote Democracy, Peace, and Security (APPF30/RES/06); 29th APPF Resolution on Parliamentary Leadership for Peace and Security in the Asia-Pacific and Beyond (APPF29/RES/01) adopted in Seoul, Republic of Korea; the 28th APPF Resolution on Building Trust for Peace, Security and Sustainable Development in the Region (APPF28/RES/13) adopted in Canberra, Australia; and the 26th APPF Resolution on Parliamentary Diplomacy for Peace, Security, and Prosperity in the Region and the World (APPF 26/RES/05) adopted in Hanoi, Vietnam;

Convinced that parliaments that are representative, transparent and open to citizens, capable of listening to and involving the people, and effective in fulfilling their functions of legislation, government oversight, representation and equitable allocation of budgets, play an important role in ensuring social peace and stability in the societies of the region; and

Noting that Parliaments can also use their budgetary, oversight and representative roles to promote peace by supporting investments conducive to peace and stability,

² The opinions or actions of people who believe that a country should use military methods, forces, etc., to gain power and to achieve its goals (Encyclopedia Britannica)

using committee systems to hear from experts and publish reports promoting their findings, and raising public awareness of issues;

RESOLVE TO:

1. **Call upon** Member Parliaments to consider revisiting, strengthening, and aligning their country's existing legislative framework in adherence to international law, including the United Nations Charter, International Humanitarian Law (IHL), International Human Rights Law (IHRL), and other relevant conventions, treaties, or international agreements;
2. **Reaffirm** our commitment to support our Governments' efforts to meet Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to achieve peaceful, just, and inclusive societies, where we can all live without fear and without violence;
3. **Enhance** cooperation among Member Parliaments with the view to intensifying efforts on addressing challenges and threats including terrorism, nuclear proliferation, ICT threats, transnational crimes, climate change, emerging diseases and public health emergencies;
4. **Promote** the enhancement of confidence-building measures (CBMs) to effectively alleviate tensions, proactively prevent disputes, and mitigate the escalation of ongoing disputes between or among states in the Asia-Pacific Region;
5. **Urge** the member Parliaments to support the continued adherence and promotion of the 1982 Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of Disputes, which encourages states to make full use of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, including the procedures and means provided for therein, particularly Chapter VI, concerning the peaceful settlement of disputes;
6. **Further urge** the Member Parliaments to work together to advance multilateralism as a framework for addressing security threats, as well as tensions and conflicts, through open dialogue, international cooperation, and in collaboration, as appropriate, with various regional organizations such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), and the Pacific Alliance, among others;
7. **Call on** governments to consider ways in which parliamentarians can make useful contributions to the conduct of international diplomacy, including participation in international negotiations, and diplomatic conferences, membership in national delegations, and undertaking special roles for which a parliamentarian has specific knowledge or experience;
8. **Actively promote** parliamentary endeavors that prioritize citizen engagement through public dialogues, enhanced accessibility to public information and the

implementation of periodic accountability mechanisms, with the view to fostering trust in institutions, fortifying social stability and upholding the principles of democracy;

9. **Encourage** Member Parliaments to support UN's efforts on conflict prevention, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding;
10. **Urge** Member Parliaments to affirm the international community's vision of a world free of nuclear weapons and to support international efforts to promote nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, including through the full and effective implementation of Nuclear Weapons Free Zones in Southeast Asia, South Pacific, Latin America, and Mongolia; to promote transparency and accountability of nuclear weapon states in complying with their nuclear disarmament obligations; and to advocate nuclear risk reduction measures as an interim measure pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, but not as a means to legitimizing their continued existence;
11. **Reinforce** existing modes of peaceful settlement of disputes as outlined by the UN Charter and the 1982 Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of Disputes, while also exploring the establishment of additional dispute settlement mechanisms;
12. **Encourage** APPF member countries to promote a comprehensive approach to security that includes aspects such as the economy, health, food and environmental protection, which pose interrelated challenges for the peoples of the Asia-Pacific region to build a future of prosperity, well-being and peaceful coexistence;
13. **Take steps** to ensure that Parliaments reflect the societies they represent so that they include the widest possible range of perspectives, drawing especially from groups that tend to be marginalized on issues of peace and stability such as women and young people;
14. **Recognize** that promoting peace and stability requires grassroots involvement, and that the capacity of parliaments to promote peace and stability will be strengthened insofar as they focus on inclusive engagement to build stronger physical infrastructure and central government institutions;
15. **Recognize** that restarting local economies to create sustainable economic opportunities is as important to promoting peace and stability as high-level political negotiations;
16. **Urge** the governments of the APPF Member States to enhance their human resource contributions as well as financial contributions to humanitarian assistance necessary due to conflicts and disasters taking place in many parts of the world, and further embolden the parliaments of the APPF Member States to strengthen humanitarian assistance by their States;

17. **Encourage** Member Parliaments to actively participate in inter-parliamentary forums and conferences, with the aim of enhancing parliamentary capacities through constructive dialogue, exchange of information, sharing of expertise and best practices, and promoting joint initiatives;
18. **Encourage** the adoption of inter-parliamentary cooperation initiatives, within the framework of the APPF or bilaterally or plurilaterally among national parliaments, to strengthen the institutional capacities of parliaments, through the exchange of experiences, the training of their staff, and the implementation of joint projects in different areas of parliamentary work and its links with citizens;
19. **Support and promote** global and regional institutions – such as the APPF, the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly, the Inter Parliamentary Union and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association – that promote collaboration between Parliaments, giving parliamentarians opportunities to share information about their countries' experience challenges and perspectives, and expertise and best practice in areas relevant to fostering peace and security;
20. **Call for** deepened synergy and concerted efforts between Member Parliaments and international organizations, such as the United Nations, and other regional bodies which offer training programs, expertise, resources, and technical assistance aimed at strengthening parliamentary capacities in promoting peace and stability, mediation and conflict resolution;
21. **Call upon** APPF Member Parliaments to strengthen their commitment to and increase their efforts in promoting and maintaining peace, security, stability, safety, and freedom of navigation and overflight across the Asia Pacific region by: adhering to the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea; adhering to the 2002 Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea; supporting the Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGs), the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) Convention; the Code of Unplanned Encounters at Sea and the rules and regulations issues by the International Maritime Organization; and
22. **Encourage** improvements in securing the safety of Sea Lines of Communications; effectively dealing with Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing protecting the marine environment and biodiversity and promoting a safe and sustainable blue economy that can benefit all nations.



31st Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF31)
23-26 November 2023, Manila

RESOLUTION ON HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH

Sponsored by Russian Federation and Mexico
Co-sponsored by Cambodia and Philippines

We, the parliamentarians of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF), gathering in Manila, Republic of the Philippines for the 31st Annual Meeting of the APPF under the theme "Resilient Partnerships for Peace, Prosperity, and Sustainability":

Inspired by the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Putrajaya Vision 2040, adopted in 2020, and ASEAN resolutions which call for an open, dynamic, peaceful, and prosperous Asia-Pacific community for all peoples and future generations; for a region resilient to crises, pandemics, and other emergencies; and with a commitment to intensify inclusive human capital development, as well as economic and technical cooperation to better equip people with the skills and knowledge for sustainable development for the future;

Reaffirming its commitment to establishing stronger, deeper, and mutually beneficial relations between the countries of the Asia-Pacific Region (APR) for achieving comprehensive and sustainable economic growth contributing to the creation of new jobs in the region;

Reiterating the goals to create favorable conditions for improving the quality of life, and ensuring equal opportunities for all people of the Asia-Pacific states;

Advocating further deepening of regional economic integration with the Asia-Pacific states in accordance with the World Trade Organization (WTO) norms and regulations;

Considering the restructuring of the global economy — its transfer to a new technological basis, including through the introduction of artificial intelligence, the latest information and communication, energy, and biological advances, nanotechnology, and digitalization, as well as the challenges and consequences caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, — as it pertains to the process of human capital creation and development;

Underlining that to develop an innovative economy, the states need to coordinate approaches to the development of digital economy and rules of electronic commerce

national and international technical regulations — and create a common conceptual framework in these areas;

Recognizing importance of developing and implementing strategies for the creation of a favorable, inclusive, open, fair, and in accordance with WTO regulations that facilitates the use of new technologies, and enables business and entrepreneurship to flourish;

Recalling our commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and recognizing the significant role that parliaments play in ensuring proper accountability and effective implementation of these goals and related commitments, which include poverty eradication and ensuring good health, well-being, gender equality, appropriate education and work, and economic growth, especially considering the need to overcome the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic;

Reiterating our willingness to contribute to the efforts of our countries and the international community in the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular, SDG 4, which enshrines the common aspiration to "ensure inclusive, equitable and quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all", accompanied by the guidelines of the Incheon Declaration for Education 2030 and its Framework for Action that reinforce this vision;

Emphasizing that education is a fundamental right for all, aimed at ensuring the full development of the human personality and dignity, which has been enshrined in national legislations and international instruments such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

Considering relevant and effective education, teaching, and learning processes, enabling people to acquire the knowledge and skills to improve opportunities throughout their lives and being engines to underpin all dimensions of sustainable development, inclusive growth, and prosperity in societies;

Noting that the APEC Leaders' Declaration 2022 supports the implementation of the Putrajaya Vision 2040, including the Aotearoa Action Plan, together with ASEAN consensus to promote the role of youth in inclusive and sustainable economic growth and to foster human capital development, particularly through professional reskilling, upskilling, lifelong learning, and other type of support to help drive decent employment for all, as well as workforce participation and leadership in digital and green economies;

Recognizing that the COVID-19 pandemic had extremely negative consequences on the education and cognitive development of millions of children and young people, which were exacerbated by structural problems related to funding deficits, learning poverty, inequalities in the equity and quality of education, the gender gap, the fall in educational coverage, lags in digital transformation of the sector, and a regional youth

unemployment rate of 14.9% in 2022 for people between 15 and 24 years old, according to the International Labour Organization (ILO);

Understanding that education must be a top priority in development agendas and that the APR has diverse educational systems, disparities between and within countries, and uneven progress that mainly impact vulnerable groups, including women, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples/ethnic groups and children in vulnerable situations; and

Considering the delays in achieving the targets set out in SDG 4 and the data that predicts that, if we do not act now, by 2030, the social cost could mean that 84 million children will be out of school and 300 million children or young people in school will abandon it without knowing how to read or write, which could result in lower incomes when they reach adulthood;

RESOLVE TO:

1. **Promote** the creation of favorable conditions for sustainable development and effective competition in the APPF member states to encourage investment and create an open and fair market and in accordance with WTO regulations in the APR that takes into account the interests of all economies;
2. **Continue** strengthening the dialogue partnership based on the principles of equality, mutual benefit, and shared responsibility to promote economic growth, sustainable development, and social progress in the APR and move towards equal strategic partnership and a cooperative multi lateral world order;
3. **Continue** searching for optimal schemes of multi lateral cooperation, taking into account integration projects and initiatives implemented in the APR with the aim to further coordinate inclusive human capital development strategies, and synchronize efforts to implement them;
4. **Promote** the development of an open and inclusive international system in the APR that would be characterized by the efficient allocation of resources, open and safe access to goods, services, finances, and technology, including ICT as well as a fair competitive environment that serves the interests of all participants in economic relations;
5. **Urge** the APPF member states to increase mutual trade, promote free and fair practices, comprehensively deepen investment collaboration, and expand production cooperation based on the principles of equality, respect, and consideration of each other's interests;
6. **Strengthen** policies aimed at creating decent jobs for all and expanding the list of electronic services and internet resources for citizens experiencing difficulties in finding a job, including the development of balanced mechanisms

for organized recruitment and protection of foreign workers in accordance with International Labor Organization (ILO) regulations;

7. **Make** more effective use of the APPF's capabilities as a powerful platform for establishing equal and mutually respectful dialogue on issues of economic interconnectedness and integration processes in the APR, and ensuring sustainable economic growth in various areas of trade and economic cooperation, social progress, and improved living conditions of the region's citizens;
8. **Emphasize** that education complements the enjoyment and effective exercise of other human rights, being one of the means to empower people and to end the pernicious cycle of exclusion, inequality, and poverty;
9. **Invite** APPF member states to accelerate actions towards 2030 to meet SDG 4 and remedy stagnation, avoiding further setbacks in education, addressing universal access to primary and secondary education, and technical training to help this generation meet their life expectations and transform their societies;
10. **Encourage** APPF countries to consider the appropriate allocation of funding to education and the provision of social assistance with a view to meeting SDG 4 targets that can help create additional jobs;
11. **Convene** APPF member countries to rethink and rebuild education systems under a human capital development approach that allows people to accumulate knowledge, skills, and good health that can translate into greater protection and recovery capacities in the face of emerging crises such as pandemics, climate change, natural disasters, and other international or national threats;
12. **Build on** the experiences of the health and economic crisis to underpin a robust recovery and growth through the establishment of resilient, equitable, and inclusive learning and teaching systems that can ultimately foster shared values, socio-economic mobility, and a more peaceful, just, and sustainable future for the region and for all humanity;
13. **Promote** concrete actions to meet the needs of children and people under 25 years of age, in accordance with their holistic development, considering they will make up more than 90% of the workforce when they reach their full productive age in 2050;
14. **Implement** measures that address free and compulsory education, learning of basic skills, increase in the number of teachers, improvement of basic school infrastructures, digital transformation, and improvement of levels of competence in information and communication technologies (ICTs) that require universal and meaningful connectivity;
15. **Formulate** actions for the benefit of young people and persons with disabilities focused on adapted training, labor intermediation, entrepreneurship programs,

and other initiatives aimed at improving the workforce, including flexible and new forms of employment, given the urgent challenge of overcoming obstacles to access decent and productive employment;

16. **Intensify** economic and technical cooperation to strengthen the development of human capital in our countries, as well as exchange best practices on other issues related to innovation, literacy, and acquisition of skills and competencies to accelerate the digital and economic transformation in the region; and
17. **Encourage** APPF National Parliaments to make full use of their powers to ensure the allocation of adequate funding for education, monitoring of progress, as well as transparency and accountability.