



Canada - China Legislative Association  
Association législative Canada - Chine



Canada - Japan Inter-Parliamentary Group  
Groupe interparlementaire Canada - Japon

**Report of the Canadian delegation  
15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the  
Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF)**

**Canada-China Legislative Association and  
Canada-Japan Inter-Parliamentary Group**

**Moscow, Russian Federation  
January 21-26, 2007**

A delegation of members of the Canada-Japan Inter-Parliamentary Group and the Canada-China Legislative Association participated in the Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum held in Moscow, Russian Federation from January 21 to 26, 2007.

# Report

The Canadian delegation was composed of the following members:

From the Senate: Hon. Joseph Day, Senator; Hon. Terry Stratton, Senator; Hon. Donald H. Oliver, Senator

From the House of Commons: Mr. Gerald Keddy, M.P. (Delegation Co-leader); Mr. Tom Wappel, M.P. (Delegation Co-leader); Mr. Dennis Bevington, M.P.; Mr. Daryl Kramp, M.P.; Mr. John Maloney, M.P.; Mr. James Rajotte, M.P.

The delegation was assisted by Mr. Paul Cardegna, Association Secretary, of the Canada-Japan Inter-Parliamentary Group and the Canada-China Legislative Association.

Mr. Gerald Keddy, M.P. and Mr. Tom Wappel, M.P., led the Canadian parliamentary delegation which participated in the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentarians Forum (APPF), held in Moscow, Russian Federation, from January 21 to January 26, 2007. Delegates from 23 member parliaments and one observer country attended the 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting. The Forum, held on an annual basis and composed of member parliaments from twenty three countries is one of the most significant and diverse gatherings of parliamentarians from the Asia Pacific Region. Canadian delegates made various interventions throughout the forum and actively participated in the debate in the drafting committee.

During the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting the delegates exchanged views on a number of agenda items which were grouped in four broad categories: 1) Political and Security Matters; 2) Economic and Trade Matters in the Asia-Pacific Region; 3) Regional Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific Region; and 4) Future Work of APPF. The agenda of the conference is attached in Appendix A.

The Forum allowed for dynamic discussions between parliamentarians and led to the adoption of the Joint Communiqué and 20 resolutions on various subjects such as climate change, combating pandemics, political, security and economic cooperation and energy security. The text of the Joint Communiqué and the text of the resolutions adopted can be found in Appendix A and B, respectively.

While attending the conference, the Canadian delegation was also able to participate in three bilateral meetings with the Chinese, Japanese and Mexican delegations:

## Meeting between the Canadian and Chinese delegations :

The Canadian delegation had the opportunity to meet with Mr. Xu Jialu, Vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and Head of the Chinese delegation to the 15<sup>th</sup> APPF conference and Mr. Feng Changgen, a member of the Chinese delegation. Both delegations recalled the long history of cordial relations between Canada and China and reiterated their desire to maintain and strengthen these

links through increased bilateral visits despite the presence of recent diplomatic irritants. Other subjects discussed were energy security policies, clean energy technology, economic and social development and increasing business ventures between China and Canada.

Meeting between the Canadian and Japanese delegations:

The Canadian delegation had the opportunity to meet with Mr. Yoshinobu Shimamura, Head of Delegation and the Japanese delegation to the 15<sup>th</sup> APPF conference. Both delegations confirmed their interest in strengthening the already robust bilateral relationship existing between the two countries. The Canadian delegates discussed their government's desire to negotiate a free trade agreement between Japan and Canada. The Japanese delegates, while interested in increasing Canadian-Japanese trade and economic links, stated that Japan has to continue protecting its agricultural industry from foreign competition in order to protect Japan's agricultural self-sufficiency. Both sides resolved to continue these discussions and others at future bilateral events.

Meeting between the Canadian and Mexican delegations:

The Canadian delegation had the opportunity to meet with Senator Carlos Jimenez Macias, Head of Delegation and the Mexican delegation to the 15<sup>th</sup> APPF conference. Both delegations noted how beneficial the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) between Canada, Mexico and the United States of America has been. However, the Mexican delegation suggested that future NAFTA discussions should include discussions on the subject of migratory workers. They suggested that parliamentarians from all three signatory countries should agree to meet annually, to discuss issues of mutual interest. The Canadian delegation agreed that tripartite discussions would be beneficial and suggested that these be held on an annual basis. The Canadian delegates also raised concerns about recent violence against Canadian tourists in Mexico. Finally, both delegations agreed that Mexico should have a position on the APPF Executive Committee.

**Conclusion**

The Canadian Parliament is a founding member of the Asia Pacific Parliamentarians Forum. The Forum has allowed Canadian parliamentarians to engage in dialogue with their international counterparts in a Region of the world which is of increasing strategic importance to Canada. The Canadian section of APPF looks forward to participating in the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Auckland, New Zealand in 2008.

A summary of the expenditures incurred for this activity is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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Hon. Joseph Day, Senator

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Hon. Marie-P Poulin, Senator

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Co-Chair

Canada-China Legislative Association

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Co-Chair

Canada-Japan Inter-Parliamentary  
Group

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Mr. Gerald Keddy, M.P.

Co-Chair

Canada-Japan Inter-Parliamentary  
Group

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Mr. Tom Wappel, M.P.

Co-Chair

Canada-China Legislative Association

## Travel Costs

<b>ASSOCIATION</b>	Canada-China Legislative Association / Canada-Japan Inter-parliamentary Group
<b>ACTIVITY</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF)
<b>DESTINATION</b>	Moscow, Russian Federation
<b>DATES</b>	January 21 – 26, 2007
<b>SENATORS</b>	Hon. Joseph Day, Senator; Hon. Terry Stratton, Senator; Hon. Donald H. Oliver, Senator
<b>MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS</b>	Mr. Gerald Keddy, M.P. (Delegation Co- leader); Mr. Tom Wappel, M.P. (Delegation Co-leader); Mr. Dennis Bevington, M.P.; Mr. Daryl Kramp, M.P.; Mr. John Maloney, M.P.; Mr. James Rajotte, M.P.
<b>STAFF</b>	Mr. Paul Cardegna, Secretary to the Delegation
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>	\$27,975.29
<b>ACCOMMODATION</b>	\$20,642.65
<b>HOSPITALITY</b>	\$0.00
<b>PER DIEM</b>	\$5,627.91
<b>OFFICIAL GIFTS</b>	\$285.20
<b>MISCELLANEOUS / REGISTRATIONS</b>	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$54,531.05</b>

# APPENDIX A

APPENDIX A



THE 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIA PACIFIC  
PARLIAMENTARY FORUM (APPF)  
*22-25 January 2007*  
*Moscow, Russian Federation*

APPF-15/JC/2007

## JOINT COMMUNIQUE

1. At the invitation of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, the fifteenth Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) was held in Moscow, Russian Federation, from 22 to 25 January 2007 with participants from 23 member parliaments and one observer country. The list of participants appears as [www.apf.org.pe](http://www.apf.org.pe)
2. The Executive Committee convened working meeting before the first plenary session on 21 January 2007 in Moscow and approved the agenda and program of activities of the Annual Meeting. The Executive Committee Meeting also agreed and supported the candidature of New Zealand as the host of the 16<sup>th</sup> APPF in 2008. The report of the Executive Committee meeting appears as [www.apf.org.pe](http://www.apf.org.pe)
3. On 22 January 2007, at the inaugural ceremony the Chairman of the Government of the Russian Federation H.E. Mr. M. Fradkov opened the Annual Meeting by welcoming all participants of the 15<sup>th</sup> APPF. In his opening remarks, H.E. Mr. M. Fradkov presented the message of the President of the Russian Federation H.E. Mr. V. Putin, where it was stated that the activities of the APPF are making an ever more substantial contribution to the strengthening of peace and stability in Asia and the Pacific, are contributing to greater confidence and mutual understanding among the peoples. Addressing the participants of the 15<sup>th</sup> APPF Meeting Mr. Fradkov stressed that in recent years the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum had emerged as a truly effective mechanism of inter-parliamentary interaction aimed at resolving a wide range of issues on the regional and international agenda. The solution of these complex tasks that face the international community makes it incumbent upon the parliamentarians of our countries to display a high degree of political responsibility and activity.
4. H.E. Mr. Agung Laksono, former President of APPF in his address pointed out that the philosophy of attaining peaceful Asia Pacific will lead this dynamic region to work harmoniously among different cultures and beliefs. The message of H.E. Mr. Yasuhiro Nakasone, the APPF Honorary President, was delivered at the inaugural ceremony. H.E. Mr. Sergei Mironov, President of the 15<sup>th</sup> APPF and Chairman of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, welcomed all delegations of the 15<sup>th</sup> APPF and declared the meeting open.

5. In the first plenary session on item 1 of the agenda: Political and Security Matters, delegations shared the view that despite relative stability and predictability, the Asia Pacific region continues to face a number of traditional and non-traditional threats and challenges to peace and security such as terrorism, especially considering its current scale and character, illicit drug trafficking and transnational organized crime, including terrorism and crimes using information technologies (IT), the current state of the nuclear weapon non-proliferation, and some others.
6. With regard to terrorism, the meeting reaffirmed that it should not be associated with any specific religion, nationality, or ethnic group, that it is a crime that can not be justified by any reasons under any circumstances. The meeting affirmed that terrorism constitutes one of the most serious threats to international and regional peace, stability, security and economic prosperity of the countries in the region.
7. The delegates pointed out that the transnational and sometimes even the global level and nature of some terrorist organizations calls for adequate response in terms of the scale and focus comprehensive activities and forms of cooperation among the countries involved in the active fighting against terrorism and finding answers to the root causes of terrorism, support and understanding of the countries whose interests are affected by terrorism to a lesser extent. In this regard they underlined the central coordinating role of the United Nations in fighting terrorism and other challenges and threats. Participants of the Meeting, called for active support of the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy, acceleration of taking effect of the International Convention on Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, finalizing the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism as well as strict, consistent and rigorous implementation of the existing international counter terrorism conventions. The delegates called for refraining from statements and appraisals which may be associated with incitement and propaganda of terrorism as well as from statements that affect national and religious feelings and result in sharp negative response; and called for rigorous implementation of the United Nations Security Council resolution 1624. The meeting stressed the importance of bilateral and multilateral cooperation to combat terrorism with active participation of other international organizations. Participants were united in highlighting the need to further raise the effectiveness of the UN and enhance its central role in international affairs.
8. The Meeting also shared the view that proliferation of all weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery remain one of the most serious security challenges of our time. The meeting further agreed that it is critical to continue joint efforts in strengthening the existing regimes of non-proliferation so that the weapons of mass destruction would not fall into the hands of terrorists.
9. Participants recognized the vital importance of fighting illicit drug trafficking, including both large and small. The meeting identified setting up additional security barriers along drug trafficking routes and improving customs control and as one of the possible key areas of cooperation for APPF countries. Delegations confirmed the intention to support their

respective governments in developing cooperation among relevant national drug control agencies. In this regard they welcomed the decisions and recommendations of the Second Ministerial Conference "On Drug Trafficking Routes from Afghanistan" held in Moscow on June 26-28, 2006.

10. Participants of the session welcomed further progress in the field of information technologies and means of telecommunication. At the same time they noted that these technologies and means can potentially be used for purposes that are inconsistent with the objectives of maintaining international stability and security and may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure of States to the detriment of their security in both civil and military fields. The participants called for the executive authorities of their countries to refrain from the actions which could potentially lead to such consequences.
11. Delegates noted that the transnational nature of information and communication technologies under the conditions of threats and challenges of the modern world calls for additional measures of providing information security by joint efforts on the bilateral, regional and global levels. They stressed that they realize the extremely complex nature of this challenge and that it is difficult to solve. However, they also understand that only by way of coordinated, consistent and systematic measures can the governments strengthen their joint efforts, find an adequate response to new challenges to security and threats in information area as well as a number of allied areas which shape the public attitudes.
12. The Meeting exchanged views on the recent developments on the Korean Peninsula. Participants acknowledged that the nuclear tests conducted in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea represents a threat to international peace and stability. At the same time, the meeting also emphasized that the only acceptable way to resolve the North Korea nuclear issue is through negotiations. In this respect the participants emphasized the vital importance of resuming the Six Party Talks aimed at denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, and welcomed the recent progress on their resumption.
13. The Meeting expressed concern about the continuing stalemate in the Middle East Peace Process and the situation in the region on the whole. Participants agreed that the principal reason for instability in the Middle East is the unresolved nature of Arab-Israeli relations in general. Participants confirmed their support of the efforts of the Quartet of international mediators and regional parties to resume a political dialogue on all tracks of the Middle East Peace Process in order to define ways of achieving just and comprehensive peace on an internationally recognized legal basis, including UNSC 242 and 338, the Madrid "Land for Peace" principle, the 2002 Arab League peace initiative and the Quartet Roadmap. Participants pointed out that the core issue of all international endeavors is the eventual emergence of a viable and democratic Palestinian State living in peace side by side with Israel. The Meeting concluded that these goals can only be achieved by joint comprehensive work of all concerned parties on all levels and in particular through the convening an international conference on the Middle East in order to bring the positions on the Middle East Peace Process together.



14. The Meeting recognized the extremely complicated nature of the situation in Iraq and the lack of visible prospects for its solution especially noting the rise of violence. Participants expressed concern that measures that are currently undertaken in Iraq have failed to produce anticipated positive results in all parts of the country, and the country is on the verge of a full-scale civil conflict. The delegations agreed that the best way out of this dangerous situation is through domestic efforts aimed at reaching national conciliation with the active support from the international community.
15. The Meeting emphasized adherence to the general policy of APPF members aimed at continued support of concrete actions on counter terrorism taken by the countries in the region.
16. Statements from delegations delivered at the first plenary session stressed the necessity to maintain peace and stability in Asia-Pacific region as an important condition of building multi polar World, which will foster APPF to grow up steadily, possibly to shape itself into a regional Parliament.
17. In the second plenary session on item 2 of the agenda: Economic and Trade Matters, the meeting took note of the dynamism and significant economic potential of the region. In particular the Meeting acknowledged the efforts by APPF members aimed at promoting trade and economic cooperation and integration. The Meeting also emphasized the need to strengthen interaction among the countries in the region to address ongoing economic integration and globalization.
18. Participants of the Meeting noted that one of the most important issues facing the countries of the Asia-Pacific in terms of facilitating economic growth and development is ensuring stable supply of hydrocarbons to the region. The meeting concluded that this calls for the early establishment of a reliable and comprehensive energy security system both on global and regional level. In this respect the Meeting commended Russia's efforts during its G8 Presidency to make energy security one of top strategic priorities for the international and regional communities for the future.
19. The Meeting underlined the significant role of ASEAN, UN-ESCAP, APEC, ADB, and other regional forums in supporting economic development of the countries in the region.
20. The Meeting welcomed the outcome of the 14<sup>th</sup> APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting (AELM) held in Hanoi, Socialist Republic of Vietnam in November 2006. The Meeting expressed its hope that APPF members will grant greater support to their respective Governments so that the Hanoi Action Plan adopted at the APEC Summit will be fully implemented to facilitate accomplishment of the Forum's stated objectives. Australia briefed the meeting on the preparation for the 15<sup>th</sup> APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting which will be held in Sydney in November 2007.
21. Participants of the Meeting reiterated their strong support to prompt accession of the Russian Federation to the WTO.
22. The Meeting reaffirmed that the trade agreements and the free trade agreements (FTAs/RTAs) under development should be transparent, consistent with the WTO principles and should embody open provisions.

They further hoped that FTAs/RTAs will take into account the interests of less developed APPF member nations, which would promote sustainable economic growth in the region. It was recognized, that APPF must become a platform for multilateral efforts to create the required environment for cooperation in the region.

23. In the third plenary session on item 3 of the agenda: Regional Cooperation in the Asia Pacific region, delegations exchanged views on a number of global and regional issues, including promotion of inter-civilization dialogue, interaction in disaster relief and emergency response, improving transport logistics, cooperation in environmental and healthcare issues, combating pandemic diseases, IT and education exchanges. Matter of poverty eradication was taken as one of the most pressing one, and being subject to especial consideration at future APPF annual meeting in 2008, along with the problem of migration.
24. In this plenary session, the Meeting agreed that APPF members should increase regional and international cooperation to mitigate the impacts of natural disasters. The meeting emphasized the need to continue coordination on establishment of a regional early warning system enabling timely detection and minimization of consequences of such natural cataclysms. The Meeting was unanimous that financial assistance for natural disaster should be managed on an accountable and transparent basis.
25. Taking into consideration the real danger posed by pandemic disease/Avian influenza, the Meeting emphasized the need for close cooperation between APPF members to address this issue. The meeting urged a coordinated approach at the national and regional level in support of regional and global efforts towards early detection of possible threats, increasing pandemic preparedness and comprehensive response planning. The Meeting hoped that APPF members strengthen cooperation on information exchange and experience sharing in dealing with Avian Influenza. The Meeting appreciated the positive role of regional cooperation within ASEAN and APEC in addressing the pandemic diseases.
26. Acknowledging the importance of building a global information society the participants stressed the fact that the international management of the Internet as the key element of the information society infrastructure should be multilateral, transparent and democratic with full involvement of governments, the private sector, the civil society and international organizations. It should ensure an equitable distribution of resources, facilitate access for all and ensure a stable and secure functioning of the Internet.
27. The Meeting agreed that the vast social and cultural diversity characteristic to the Asia Pacific region experience of successful interaction provides a good opportunity to promote mutual understanding among regional nations thus contributing to reducing the probability for the so called "clash of civilizations". The Meeting underlined the importance of a dialogue among civilizations, including interfaith dialogue, as a vital element for advancing regional political and

socioeconomical cooperation. The Meeting encouraged the APPF members to facilitate and enhance inter-civilization harmony, tolerance and freedom of expression, and in this regard supported all initiatives aimed at the promotion of inter-civilization dialogue and partnership, including the "Alliance of Civilizations" Concept endorsed by the UN General Assembly. In this context the participants also welcomed the outcome of the 4<sup>th</sup> session of the World Public Forum "Dialogue of Civilizations" and praised the efforts aimed at advancing interaction between international public and national organizations in countering violence, suppression of rights and liberties, the use of national, religious, ethnic and other feelings of people to justify and secure support of terrorism.

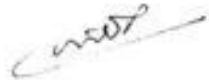
28. In the fourth plenary session on item 4 of the agenda: Future Activities of APPF, the Meeting underlined the importance of putting into practice constructive and concrete measures arising from various commitments made at the annual meeting of the APPF to the people in the Asia-Pacific region. It noted a general tendency towards strengthening of the role of parliaments and parliamentary associations on the international arena in the recent years. In this respect, the delegations concluded that the APPF is in a good position to use its authority to facilitate or even act as a mediator in the resolution of urgent global and regional matters of common concern, therefore acknowledging the necessity to enhance coordination and interaction among APPF member parliaments. The delegates unanimously accepted the kind invitation of the Parliament of New Zealand to host the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in January 2008, with the venue to be confirmed at a later date.
29. The Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum in Moscow adopted a Joint Communiqué and 20 Resolutions as follows:
  - APPF-15/RES/01: DIALOGUE OF CIVILIZATIONS AND INTERFAITH DIALOGUE  
(Sponsored by the Russian Federation, New Zealand and Indonesia)
  - APPF-15/RES/2: ENERGY SECURITY  
(Sponsored by the Russian Federation, Australia, Indonesia and the Philippines)
  - APPF-15/RES/3: SECURING PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION: THE WAY TOWARDS A MULTIPOLAR WORLD  
(Sponsored by the People's Republic of China, Federated States of Micronesia, Australia, Indonesia and Russian Federation)
  - APPF-15/RES/4: JOINT EFFORTS IN COMBATING PANDEMIC DISEASES  
(Sponsored by the Russian Federation, New Zealand, Indonesia)
  - APPF-15/RES/5: COMBATING TERRORISM, ILLEGAL DRUG TRAFFIC AND TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME  
(Sponsored by the Russian Federation, Australia, China, Indonesia, Mexico)

- APPF-15/RES/6: THE JOINT EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN PEACE AND TO PROMOTE COOPERATION IN NORTH EAST ASIA IN VIEW OF THE NUCLEAR TEST CONDUCTED BY THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA  
(Sponsored by the Russian Federation, China, Japan and Republic of Korea)
- APPF-15/RES/7: ECONOMY AND TRADE (Sponsored by Australia, Japan and Mexico)
- APPF-15/RES/8: ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL COMMUNITY  
Sponsored by Japan and the Philippines
- APPF-15/RES/9: COOPERATION IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE (Sponsored by Indonesia and Russian Federation)
- APPF-15/RES/10: CLIMATE CHANGE (Sponsored by Mexico and New Zealand, China and Micronesia)
- APPF-15/RES/11: POVERTY ALLEVIATION: PROTECTING HUMAN LIFE FROM POVERTY AND GUARANTEEING THE RIGHT TO LIFE  
(Sponsored by Japan and Indonesia)
- APPF-15/RES/12: STRENGTHENING POLITICAL AND SECURITY COOPERATION (Sponsored by Australia)
- APPF-15/RES/13: APPLICATION OF THE DOHA DEVELOPMENT AGENDA (Sponsored by New Zealand)
- APPF-15/RES/14: MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS (Sponsored by Japan, the Russian Federation, Micronesia, Indonesia and Canada)
- APPF-15/RES/15: INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT (Sponsored by Mexico, Indonesia, Chile, China)
- APPF-15/RES/16: TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS (Sponsored by Mexico and Indonesia)
- APPF-15/RES/17: UNITED NATIONS REFORM (Sponsored by Mexico, Russian Federation and China)
- APPF-15/RES/18: STRENGTHENING COOPERATION IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION TO COMBAT CORRUPTION  
(Sponsored by the Philippines, Russian Federation and China)
- APPF-15/RES/19: STRENGTHENING TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS COOPERATION IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION  
(Sponsored by the Philippines)
- APPF-15/RES/20: BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE  
(Sponsored by the Republic of Korea and Russian Federation)

The above mentioned Resolutions appear as **Appendix III**.

- 30. The Annual Meeting praised the Drafting Committee for its efforts to develop a package of significant resolutions, which contributed to the success of the 15<sup>th</sup> APPF.
- 31. The Annual Meeting expressed sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation for its organization and hospitality, especially to Mr. Sergei Mironov, President of 15<sup>th</sup> APPF and Chairman of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation for his chairmanship of the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and to the Secretariat and staff for their hard work and excellent arrangements for all participants, which contributed to the success of the Annual Meeting.

  
Australia

  
Cambodia

  
Canada

  
Chile

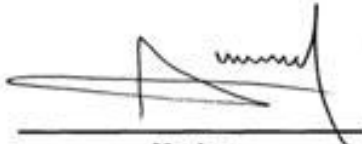
  
China

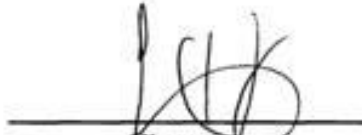
Indonesia

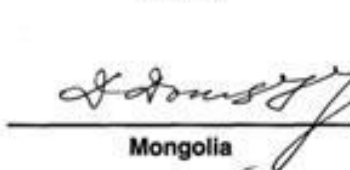
  
Republic of Korea

  
Lao PDR

2007. 1. 25  
  
Malaysia

  
Mexico

  
Micronesia

  
Mongolia

  
New Zealand

  
Peru


  
Philippines

  
Russian Federation

  
Singapore

  
Thailand

  
Vietnam

  
Brunei Darussalam  
(Observer country)



Sergey Mironov  
President of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum

**THE 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM  
DIALOGUE OF CIVILIZATIONS AND INTERFAITH DIALOGUE**

**Resolution # 1**

***(Sponsored by the Russian Federation, New Zealand and Indonesia)***

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

*Taking into consideration* the significance of inter-civilization and interfaith dialogue for the future of the mankind in the modern world;

*Declaring* adherence to such a dialogue in a most constructive manner among all nations;

*Realizing* the need for its further deepening and promotion;

*Admitting* that this dialogue provides for strengthening ethical principles in the activities of the world community, crucial for its efficient and coordinated work to withstand new threats and challenges to mankind, including the conflicts in which the religion factor plays a significant role;

*Calling on* the parliamentarians of the countries of the Asia Pacific region to contribute to further promotion of inter-civilization and interfaith dialogue, cross-cultural influence, tolerance build-up, strengthening of the principles of interested and benevolent interaction among the world religions based on respect of spiritual and cultural traditions of different religious communities and civil societies;

*Supporting* the efforts aimed at combating poverty and strengthening political, social and economic stability in the Asia Pacific and other regions of the world;

*Expressing* concern about the growth of terrorism in the world, condemning acts of terrorism and extremism in any form, including the ones committed under religious slogans;

*Welcoming* efforts made by the UN and regional international organizations of the Asia Pacific region with the aim of promoting just peace, security and prosperity, and fostering principles of mutual respect, tolerance and global peaceful co-existence;

*Recognizing* that in this modern world, religion and religious activities have been at times deliberately exploited by many radical forces to spread out the divides, prejudice and hatred among civilizations;

*Standing* for inviolability and rigorous observance of the rights of believers of different creeds, including religious-based and ethnic-based groups, – a guarantee of peaceful coexistence of religions;

*Approving* the search for mutually acceptable solutions using multilateral diplomacy as a tool to protect the interests of the countries and nations engaged in various complicated internal and external situations;

*Appealing* to parliaments of the countries of the Asia Pacific Region to support the provisions stipulated in the outcome documents of such international conventions as the World Summit of Religious Leaders (Moscow, 3–5.07.2006), the International Conference "Cross-Cultural Dialogue and Religious Cooperation" (Nizhni Novgorod, 7–9.09.2006), the International Conference "Cross-Civilization Dialogue" (Island of Rhodes, 27.09–01.10.2006) aimed at counteracting terrorism and establishing a more just world order based on religious and cultural tolerance, in the context of the APPF Resolution on Combating Terrorism adopted during the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly;

*Stress* the importance of the participation in the dialogue of all parties involved in religious conflicts, including those who are often categorized as hard liners.

*Calling for* development of civil cultural and educational institutes of the modern society, promotion of humanitarian exchanges

Proposes to:

- *Recommend* that all APPF members should follow the provisions of the present Resolution;
- *Encourage* the parliamentarians of Asia-Pacific countries to take more active part in promotion of education, science, information technologies, in protection of the environment, in development of different areas of culture, to facilitate a stronger effect of the fundamental factors of mankind solidarity and global implementation of the universal Unity in Diversity principle;
- *Stress* the need for APPF member states to ensure that their national curricula at all levels of education provide students with opportunities to acquire knowledge of and respect for all cultures, religions and civilizations, and exclude radicalization of the educational process in religious educational establishments both in APPF member countries and other regions of the world;
- *Promote in every possible way* understanding and perception by the followers and adherents of all religions and people of various countries of the necessity to avoid extremes in rhetoric and conduct as well as to display responsibility and restraint in interrelations, especially when religious feelings are involved;
- *Take into account* Russia's positive experience in this area to be used in other regions of the world, considering Russia as a Eurasian state with long-established conditions for peaceful co-existence of various ethnic groups, traditional religions and other religious organizations;



- *Consider* within APPF a standing workgroup to introduce positive experiences of inter-civilization and interfaith dialogue into international relations, among other things, and disseminate its ideas at the regional and international levels;
- *Encourage* the governments of APPF member countries to organize various activities aimed at promoting inter-civilization and interfaith dialogue;
- *Recommend* that APPF participants should undertake consistent efforts to ensure active involvement of non-government and other organizations into inter-civilization and interfaith dialogue;
- *Expand* the channels of information exchange among the APPF member countries on inter-civilization and interfaith dialogue issues;
- *Conduct* regular meetings of parliamentarians at the national and international level, including the UN framework, in order to reinforce and develop inter-parliamentary contacts;
- *Appeal* to the UN and some other international organizations to pay more attention to issues of concern to the world religions in order to promote inter-civilization and interfaith dialogue;
- *Recommend* to use more widely and popularize positive experience of religious organizations in conducting international fora on counteracting terrorism and religious extremism and to make more extensive use of mass media to promote good understanding between cultures and civilizations on the whole;
- *Forward* the text of the Resolution to the leaders of APPF member-countries.

**THE 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING**  
**OF THE ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**  
**ENERGY SECURITY**

**Resolution # 2**

***(Sponsored by the Russian Federation, Australia, Indonesia and the Philippines)***

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

*Reiterating* that energy security is of critical importance for ensuring sustainable economic development,

*Noting* the existence of challenges associated with the fast-growing energy consumption and of the need to reduce the impact on the environment,

*Calling* upon the countries of the region to continue their efforts in facilitating transborder energy trade and investment in the energy sector, developing new and renewable sources of energy and adequate technologies to provide for more environmentally-friendly usage of fossil fuel, enhancing energy efficiency and energy saving, increasing emergency alertness and reinforcing protection of the key elements of the energy infrastructure,

*Urging* to continue the search for solutions to challenges in this area by developing strategic approaches and advanced technologies, facilitating more environmentally-friendly usage of energy, which will enable economies to meet the growing energy demands with less impact on the climate, especially on vulnerable communities, such as Pacific islands and other remote areas,

*Noting* that energy security is one of the most critical issues of the modern world and that the adequate supply of energy to a large extent predetermines the direction and prospects of socio-economic development, and the nature of interaction among countries,

*Underlining* that energy serves as a base for economic growth and a prerequisite for enhancing the quality of life in developed and developing countries, and possession of energy resources and access to them is one of the most sensitive issues on the world political agenda,

*Stating* that the energy security issue can sometimes become especially critical due to instability of international energy markets because of depletion of some traditional and, until recently, easily available sources of energy; shortage of investment in various

energy sectors, mainly in exploration of new deposits and processing facilities; the growth of demand for energy due to fast-growing needs for new consuming countries; political instability in several major energy producing regions, as well as vulnerability of the energy system to natural disasters, terrorist acts, and to threats thereof,

*Welcoming* intensive negotiations conducted in the course of the G-8 Summit and the Dialogue Meeting between G8 and developing countries in St. Petersburg on 15-17 July 2006 and the Declaration on East Asian Energy Security adopted at the Second East Asia Summit on 15 January 2007 in Cebu, the Philippines, which brought a deeper understanding of the need for the general approach to energy security issues based on keeping the interests of energy consumers and energy producers in balance,

*Concluding* that due to the global nature of issues in the energy area and a growing mutual dependence among the producing countries, transit countries and consuming countries, it is necessary to develop partnerships consistently fulfilling the assumed responsibilities and mutual agreements by all concerned parties in order to strengthen energy security and, correspondingly, ensure sustainable economic development:

Resolves to:

1. *Welcome* the efforts of the governments of the APPF member countries in such areas as enhancement of transparency, predictability and stability in the global energy market; the development of investment environment in the energy sector; the improvement of energy efficiency and energy saving by developing and using advanced technologies; the transfer of technologies and exchange of best practices; the diversification of types of energy; the provision for physical security of vitally important energy infrastructure; the adoption of comprehensive measures aimed at reducing the energy shortage in some countries; addressing problems caused by negative phenomena associated with climate change having regard to the growing global production potential, sustainable forms of growth and concentration of environmentally-unfriendly industries in certain regions, which prevail in the modern world;

2. *Call upon* their governments to take measures both at national and international level that would foster investment in all sectors of the global production and distribution energy chain in order to: introduce advanced energy saving and more environmentally-friendly and efficient technologies and methods, including immobilizing and storing carbonic acid; encourage wider usage of renewable and alternative sources of energy, particularly biomass, wind, solar and hydroelectric; development of joint research in bio-fuel and other renewable sources of energy; raise the volume of newly explored supplies of hydrocarbons faster than depletion of the developed resources and increase the efficiency of oil and gas production as well as development of continental shelf deposits; improve efficiency of oil, gas and petrochemical processing facilities; develop the global market of liquid natural gas (LNG); build and modernize the energy transportation and storage infrastructure; develop efficient power generating facilities; expand and enhance efficiency, safety and reliability of power transmission and power grids as well as combine them in a unified network integrated in the energy systems of other countries if needed;

3. *Call upon* the parliaments to support the efforts of the governments of the APPF member countries, choosing to use nuclear energy, to improve the safety by reducing risks in nuclear energy, by bringing them in line with the demands of the regime of nuclear non-proliferation; to have a reliable system of control and safety of storing nuclear materials and safety of respective facilities; to fully abide by the provisions of international conventions and agreements regulating this area and designed to ensure safety of use of nuclear facilities and nuclear energy exclusively for peaceful purposes;

2. *Emphasize* that all countries using nuclear energy should comply with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) regulations, and be fully consistent with the assumed obligations in the area of nuclear energy and non-proliferation, and noting that any research and development resulting in expansion of membership of the club of nuclear powers would not contribute to the achievement of the declared the goals of security, peace and integration of the countries of the region.

**THE 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING**  
**OF THE ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**  
**SECURING PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC**  
**REGION: THE WAY TOWARDS A MULTIPOLAR WORLD**

**Resolution # 3**

***(Sponsored by the People's Republic of China, Federated States of  
Micronesia, Australia, Indonesia and Russian Federation)***

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

*confirming* that in the context of globalization one of the fundamental principles of the Forum is active promotion of a broad and constructive regional partnership to strengthen peace, mutual understanding, democracy, freedom, prosperity, sustainable growth of the well-being of peoples and turning the Asia-Pacific into one big family,

*consistently coming* out for equal relations among states based on multipolarity and expressing concern in connection with growing attempts to introduce the practice of unilateral actions in international relations,

*stressing* the importance of further strengthening, on that basis, of stability and security in the world and in the Asia-Pacific region,

*welcoming* the positive dynamics and concrete results of growing cooperation among the member states of the APPF in the spheres of politics, economics, trade, energy, transport, culture and other areas of contacts between countries, peoples and individuals,

*proceeding* from the understanding that the world today is facing new global challenges and threats, i.e. international terrorism, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, transnational crime, separatism and ethnic and religious extremism, contradictions between civilizations,

*expressing* confidence that it is only possible to counter modern threats and challenges through purposeful interaction among all the states in the Asia-Pacific region based on the preference for multilateral approaches and mutual consideration of interests,

*noting* the concern over the persisting conflict potential in some subregions of the Asia-Pacific region that impedes progressive development of partnership relations and threatens peace and security,

*underlining* the responsibility of sovereign states for protecting their citizens from regional and global security threats, through effective national measures and international cooperation, on the basis of international law and the Charter of the United Nations,

*reaffirming* commitment to the common goal of creating an effective and universal collective security system in the Asia-Pacific region,

Resolves to:

- *welcome* the commitment of the states of the Asia-Pacific region to eliminate the causes of still existing hotbeds of tensions in the region and contribute towards a just resolution of the arising problems through negotiations;

- *encourage* parliaments within their sphere of competence to contribute to achieving a lasting and just peace in the region and worldwide on the basis of purposes and principles of the UN Charter and International Law, principles of non-interference, non-use of force or the threat to use force;

- *to maintain* relations of partnership and friendship among the states of the Asia-Pacific region;

- *build up* collective efforts to bring closer together the peoples inhabiting the Asia-Pacific;

- *resolutely* condemn terrorism in all its forms and manifestations as criminal activities;

- *support* efforts by member states and multilateral organizations to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and illegal transfer of small arms and light weapons, including Man Portable Air Defense Systems (MANPADS);

- *note* the importance of bilateral and multilateral negotiating processes which contribute to greater mutual confidence in the Asia-Pacific region as well as jointly working out measures at the national, regional and subregional levels that are adequate to the tasks of effectively confronting modern challenges and threats;

- *call* on member countries to deepen interaction in the fields of politics and security to strengthen peaceful climate and stability in the region through promotion of multilateral dialogue;

- *expand* interaction in the interests of creating necessary conditions for phased advance towards creating an integrated collective security system in the Asia-Pacific region with due regard for the specific characteristics of its individual subsystems using for these purposes the authoritative multilateral interstate and informal structures that

have taken shape in the region, including the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the ASEAN Dialogue Partnership System, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum (APEC), the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD), the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building in Asia (CICA), the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific (CSCAP), the North-East Asia Cooperation Dialogue (NEACD), the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) with a view for a peaceful and prosperous Asia-Pacific Region;

- *call* on parliaments to seek new opportunities for cooperation and dialogue with their regional partners for the purpose of strengthening mutual understanding and exchange of opinions on issues of mutual concern.

**THE 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**

**JOINT EFFORTS IN COMBATING PANDEMIC DISEASES**

**Resolution # 4**

***(Sponsored by the Russian Federation, New Zealand, Indonesia)***

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

*Reaffirming* the APPF member countries' commitment on the need to prevent and overcome the spread of avian flu influenza and the risk of the virus made during the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of APPF, i.e. through the promotion of cooperation between member countries and increase capacity building to prevent and contain an emerging epidemic and initiate early intervention in response to potential outbreaks;

*Noting* the growing interdependence and deepening of globalization in the International community,

*Noting* that the danger of pandemic diseases has become more and more alarming, infectious diseases being one of the critical factors of human ill health and death,

*Expressing* concern about the fact that this situation is aggravated by emerging of new and regeneration of traditional diseases such as Lass and Ebol viral hemorrhagic fevers, Avian influenza and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS),

*Stating* that the Avian influenza virus is currently pandemic in several areas of Indonesia where, according to the World Health Organization (WHO), 75 cases of this disease have already been confirmed, and of Vietnam, and also in some places in Cambodia, China and Thailand,

*Proceeding from the fact* that the growing damage caused by infectious diseases severely impacts upon socioeconomic situation as a whole,

*Acknowledging* the importance of efficient measures taken at the local, regional and international levels in order to reduce general risks of Avian influenza disease,

*Welcoming* the practice by the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) member countries to detect the cases of infection with Avian influenza and notify each other about them, along with close cooperation and coordination of actions to withstand the disease,



*Reaffirming* the important role of the World Health Organization (WHO) as the global specialized organization to promote health and security from disease.

*Welcoming* the operation of the Global Net for Notification and Urgent Response to infective episodes with the coordinating role of the World Health Organization (WHO) as well as the establishment of the International Partnership for Avian and pandemic influenza in September 2005.

*Considering* that under the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreements on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement), the parties to the Agreement formalized in August 2003, can allow the production of patented medicines in cases of public health emergency;

*Noting* that HIV/AIDS eradication is one of the Millennium Development Goals defined by the United Nations;

*Welcoming* that a significant amount of resources have already been committed to respond to avian influenza and that regional cooperation initiatives are underway to strengthen capacity, develop partnerships, share information and improve coordination on avian influenza prevention and control, and pandemic preparedness and response;

*Recognizing* that the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Animal Health Organization (OIE), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and, in the Pacific, the Secretariat for the Pacific Community (SPC) are working jointly to contain the threat of highly pathogenic avian influenza viruses and that international collaboration will be critical in preventing the spread of avian influenza;

Resolves to:

1. *Call* the APPF member countries to carry on the arrangements for urgent response to epidemics and create a strategic stock of antiviral medications,
2. *Encourage* the efforts of governments of the APPF member countries in such areas as evaluation of the state of national preparedness for pandemics, measures for early detection and diagnosis of infectious diseases,
3. *Welcome* working out measures at the local, regional and international levels for prevention of pandemics and other infectious diseases, establishment of epidemiological centers,
4. *Call* the APPF member countries for strengthening cooperation in monitoring the infectious diseases, extending access to their prevention and treatment as well as minimization of epidemic consequences of natural disasters and man-caused (technogenic) catastrophes,

5. *Approve support* by the APPF member countries of the efforts of the World Health Organization (WHO), the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and other international institutions to stop spreading of infectious diseases on a global scale,

6. *Call* the APPF member countries to be strictly consistent with the new standards of the World Health Organization (WHO) aimed at enhancing the safety of international trade of poultry and poultry products,

7. *Urge* APPF member countries to work in close collaboration with WHO and the international scientific community including WHO Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network and the APEC Emerging Infectious Network to effectively contain and cure infectious diseases on the basis of scientific research;

8. *Stress* the importance of enhancing cooperation between the veterinary and healthcare sectors of the countries in the region,

9. *Call* the APPF member countries to encourage wide dissemination among the rural population of the information on the links between the animal diseases, people conduct and the risk of getting infected,

10. *Call* the international community to increase supplies of beneficial medication and medical equipment to the countries in need, sending specialists there, implementation of modern medical technologies taking into account the decisions made in 2006 at the G-8 Summit in St. Petersburg,

11. *Welcome* the efforts of mass media to inform timely the general public of the countries in the region regarding the danger of emergence of epidemic situation and about the measures to eliminate infection threats.

12. *Urge* APPF member countries to align all policies, programs and initiatives on the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS within the framework of the United Nations Millennium of the year 2000, which set the time frame "...to halve, halt and begin to reverse..." the spread of HIV/AIDS;

13. *Urge* APPF member countries to support the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria with the goal of eradicating HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria;

14. *Encourage* developed countries to assist developing countries to improve their capacity to utilize AIDS funds efficiently and effectively and to monitor performance and impact;

15. *Prioritize* the management and eradication of avian influenza in domestic poultry through the provision of adequate funding and resources to ensure that all avian influenza outbreaks are contained at the national level.

**THE 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
OF ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**

**COMBATING TERRORISM, ILLEGAL DRUG TRAFFIC AND  
TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME**

**Resolution # 5**

***(Sponsored by the Russian Federation, Australia, China, Indonesia, Mexico)***

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

*Referring to* the APPF resolutions aimed at combating terrorism unanimously adopted at the previous annual meetings as well as the respective resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and the United Nations General Assembly,

*Underlining that* terrorism poses one of the most serious threats to peace and security,

*Taking into account that* terrorist activities directly threaten the fundamental human right - the right to life as well as social stability and economic development of the countries,

*Noting that* a broader dialogue and better mutual understanding among different civilizations, cultures and religions are indispensable in combating terrorism,

*Confirming* the central coordinating role of the United Nations in the international efforts to counteract terrorism,

***Welcoming* further development of regional counterterrorism cooperation, namely in the framework of APEC, ASEAN, the ASEAN Regional Forum, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and the Collective Security Treaty Organization,**

***Stressing that* combating and preventing of terrorism must be conducted in compliance with the purposes and principals of the UN Charter and other established rules of international law,**

***Reaffirming that* the efficient steps to combat terrorism and the observance of human rights are the two goals which do not contradict, but complement and reinforce each other,**

***Noting that* the threats arising as the result of regional conflicts are dangerous not only for the member countries and their neighbors but may spread into a wider geographic area,**

***Understanding* the impact that organized crime and drug trafficking has on the welfare of the people,**

Resolves to:

1. *Unanimously and strongly condemn* acts of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations irrespective of their motivation, place of execution and nature of perpetrators;
2. *Emphasize the necessity of* continuing collective efforts in order to strengthen and enhance the legal basis of international cooperation to combat terrorism, drug trafficking and transnational organized crime;
3. *Note* the importance of the work carried out by the APPF members on improving national legislations on combating terrorism, drug trafficking and transnational organized crime and bringing them into accord with each other, and calls them to accelerate this work;
4. *Call upon* the APPF members to expand cooperation in combating terrorism, drug trafficking and transnational organized crime so that each person involved in financing, planning, preparing or executing acts of terrorism, drug trafficking and transnational organized crime or rendering assistance to terrorist acts, drug trafficking and transnational organized crime, should be brought to justice basing on the principle “either extradite or prosecute”;
5. *Underline* the necessity of extending the intergovernmental exchange of information on terrorists and terrorist organizations, drug trafficking and transnational organized crime, their activities, plans, movements and financing;
6. *Note* the utmost importance of totally preventing access of terrorists to weapons of mass destruction;
7. *Emphasize* vital importance of uncompromising fight with transnational organized crime, illicit turnover of narcotic drugs, legalization of criminal incomes, illicit arms trade, which are the nutrient medium for terrorist activities;
8. *Reaffirm* the need for increased cooperation between member states to combat transnational crime, such as money laundering, trade in illicit drugs, people smuggling and human trafficking, which will reinforce and complement counter-terrorism efforts
9. *Call upon* APPF members to consolidate efforts to avoid double standards and prevent any discrimination on racial, cultural or religious basis in the framework or under pretext of combating terrorism;
10. *Support* escalation of antiterrorist efforts by regional organizations as the important component of global strategy of counteraction to threats and challenges to the security of XXI century being formed under the aegis of the United Nations;
11. *Emphasize the necessity of* entering into force of the International Convention on Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism as soon as possible and *urge* for instant coordination and adoption by the UN of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism which could significantly reinforce the legal basis of counter-terrorism cooperation;

12. *Call on* all states to ensure that any measures taken to combat terrorism comply with their obligations under international law, in particular human rights law, refugee law and international humanitarian law and *calls for* the establishment of national parliamentary monitoring systems to follow up the implementation of these instruments;

13. *Call on* Governments, Parliaments, and international community to identify and address the root causes of terrorism, including but not limited to, prolong unresolved conflict, lack of rules of law, and violation of human rights, ethic, national and religious discrimination, political exclusion, socio-economic marginalization and lack of good governance, while recognizing that this can not justify acts of terrorism;

14. *Promote* dialogue, tolerance and understanding among civilizations, cultures, peoples and religions, and promote mutual respect for and prevent the defamation of religions, religious values, beliefs and cultures.

**THE 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**

**THE JOINT EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN PEACE AND TO  
PROMOTE COOPERATION IN NORTH EAST ASIA IN VIEW  
OF THE NUCLEAR TEST CONDUCTED BY THE  
DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

**Resolution # 6**

*(Sponsored by the Russian Federation, China, Japan and Republic of Korea)*

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

*Proceeding* from the fact that proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and of means of their delivery poses serious threat for peace and stability in North East Asia,

*Expressing* firm commitment to the necessity of maintaining international regime of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons,

*Disapproving* the nuclear test conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on October 9, 2006 as the action that represents threat to international peace and stability and undermines the nuclear non-proliferation regime,

*Referring* to the resolution on the Announcement by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of its Nuclear Weapons Test and the Strengthening of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Regime adopted at the 115<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union on October 18, 2006.

*Emphasizing* the significance of progress of the Six-Party Talks,

*Supporting* the positive attitudes to political and diplomatic settlement of the nuclear problem, displayed by all parties of the Six-Party Talks,

*Supporting* the recent development of all-round diplomatic efforts, especially within the framework of the Six-Party Talks aimed on improvement of the whole security situation on the Korean Peninsula and in North East Asia,

*Referring* to the respective UN Security Council resolutions, including Resolution 1718,

*Underlining* the importance that DPRK responds to other security and humanitarian concerns of the international community,

*Noting* the significance of the strengthening of regional and international cooperation for maintenance of peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula;

Resolves to:

*Call upon* North Korea to return to the NPT, to promptly abandon all the nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programs in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner, including the acceptance of the IAEA inspections;

*Support* United Nations Security Council Resolution 1718 and urge United Nations member States to fully implement the Resolution;

*Express* strong support for the Six Party Talks process as the most realistic means, and call upon the six parties concerned to take all indispensable efforts to realize the Joint Statement dated September 19, 2005;

*Call upon* the APPF member countries to expand the efforts aimed at strengthening peace and stability in Asia Pacific Region;

*Confirm* adherence of the APPF member countries to peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and to back up to its denuclearized status;

*Decide* to maintain constant operative exchange of views and to carefully watch the situation with regard to the DPRK nuclear programs.

# THE 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM

## ECONOMY AND TRADE

### Resolution # 7

*(Sponsored by Australia, Japan and Mexico)*

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

*Noting* the development of interdependence and the deepening of globalization in the international community;

*Recognizing* the current trends toward economic integration in various regions of the world, including the Asia-Pacific;

*Reaffirming* the important role that the World Trade Organization (WTO) plays in promoting and strengthening the multilateral trading system;

*Noting* Hanoi Declaration and Statement on the Doha Development Agenda of the WTO issued at the Fourteenth APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting in November 2006 and the Resolution on Economy and Trade adopted at the Fourteenth Annual Meeting of the APPF in January 2006; and

*Noting* that regional effort and cooperation are steadily growing as a complement to the existing international regime for the purpose of achieving stability in the currency and money market as economic interdependence deepens in the Asia-Pacific region;

Resolves to:

1. *Render* utmost support for an open, equitable, and rules-based multilateral trading system, which is essential to sustain global economic growth. In this sense, call upon APPF countries to uphold the effort to resume the WTO Doha Round negotiations suspended in July 2006 and to conclude the negotiations as soon as possible;
2. *Call upon* all countries and regions to develop existing and emerging regional trade agreements as means to complement and strengthen the multilateral trading system centered on the WTO, in such a way that will be transparent and profitable to the entire world;



3. *Welcome* the moves toward economic integration, such as EPA(Economic Partnership Agreement)/FTA(Free Trade Agreement) negotiations among countries in the region, as a positive contribution to the prosperity of the entire region; wish for economic integration in the Asia-Pacific region to be deepened on the basis of these movements and in a way consistent with the WTO; and call upon APPF nations to endeavor to advance substantial EPA/FTA negotiations;

*Wish* for the Asia-Pacific region to develop into a region that is advanced in terms of trade and investment through the facilitation of such activities by improving trade rules related to intellectual property rights and investment in regional trade agreements.

# THE 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM

## ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL COMMUNITY

### Resolution # 8

*(Sponsored by Japan and the Philippines)*

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

*Recognizing* that the building of an “Asia Pacific Regional Community” will contribute to peace in the region, as well as to further economic and cultural prosperity;

*Recalling* the APPF’s 1997 Declaration of Vancouver and “seven principles” and the 2001 Declaration of Valparaiso and the “Pacific Basin Charter,” as well as APEC’s 1994 Bogor Declaration and the 1995 Action Agenda adopted in the Osaka Meeting;

*Convinced* that the strengthening of economic ties through multi-layered regional cooperation, which includes APEC, the East Asia Summit, ASEAN+3, a system of ASEAN relations with dialogue partners, and through a network of bilateral and multilateral free trade agreements will contribute to the emergence of common regional goals, to the future establishment of a regional community, and to the unification of the region;

*Noting* the global importance of the Asia-Pacific Region, recognizing the developmental potential of the “region of possibilities,” including greater tolerance and respect for foreign guest workers and foreign companies, calling to mind the importance of regional values, such as religious and cultural diversity, tolerance and moderation, and simultaneously confirming that the community to be built in this region must not be exclusive or closed, but rather must be an “open community” in which universal values, global norms and the principles of transparency and openness are duly respected;

RESOLVES TO:

1. *Welcome* the East Asia Summit, which was inaugurated in 2005 and held its second annual meeting in January 2007, as having a constructive role to play in building a community in this region, and to encourage the promotion of regional cooperation through a multi-layered framework of regional cooperation that includes APEC, ASEAN+3 and a system of ASEAN relations with dialogue partners;
2. *Call upon* governments and parliaments of APPF member States to encourage efforts to promote initiatives for the conclusion of free trade agreements and economic partnership agreements in progress in the region and joint research projects, with full respect for the economic and cultural identity of each country;

3. *Urge* all APPF member States to duly respect the political systems and economic development stages of the countries of the region, as well as the region's cultural, religious and linguistic diversity, and at the same time to nurture an awareness of common destiny in the region and to act to maintain a sense of unity.
4. *Call on* APPF Members to recognize that the globalization and the economic integration process of the Asia-Pacific Region is occurring and that its effects, such as migrant workers, will be a continuing phenomena;

*Call upon* all APPF member States, acting on a foundation of shared universal values, to promote the development of mutual understanding, mutual trust and amity in the region's politics, security, economic and culture, to appreciate and to respect different cultures through the encouragement of exchange programs, to promote "open regional cooperation," and to make the greatest possible effort to build the "Asia Pacific Regional Community" as a "common house" for the region.

**THE 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**

**COOPERATION IN DISASTER  
MANAGEMENT AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

**Resolution # 9**

***(Sponsored by Indonesia and Russian Federation)***

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

*Expressing* condolences and sympathy to those who suffer significant human, social and economic losses and damages from the unprecedented tsunami disaster and earthquake as well as typhoons, cyclones/hurricanes, floods and landslides in various Asia Pacific countries;

*Deeply concerned* about the additional socio-economic burden they have to bear, due to the number, scale and impact of natural disasters and other disaster situations;

*Bearing in mind* that critical need may come up for mutual assistance in the mitigation of the effects of natural disasters and for quick action to rescue and help victims of natural disasters invoking the spirit of mutual help and cooperation;

*Welcoming* the timely and extraordinary contribution made by the international community to help areas affected by natural disasters with humanitarian assistance and the solidarity, brotherhood, sense of humanity, kind support and constructive cooperation shown by it;

*Reaffirming* that humanitarian assistance must be provided in accordance with the principles of humanity, neutrality and impartiality;

*Aware of* the importance and the constructive nature of the activity of institutes and mechanisms created by the countries of the region to enhance preparedness and support the efforts of affected countries to mitigate and respond to natural disasters in all their phases and to reduce loss of life and other social, economic and global environmental assets;

*Recognizing* the need for appropriate and people-centered early warning and the spreading of information and disaster management plans at all levels, including at the

concrete community level, which has so far obtained only few attention from the international community and national governments;

*Noting* the importance of the availability of funds in the region for immediate disbursement, and the appropriateness of contributions to support timely and effective responses to humanitarian emergencies and international efforts to increase the pool of resources available;

Bearing in mind that major natural disasters affecting one of economies can also affect other countries;

*Recalling* that the national sovereignty, territorial integrity of states must be fully respected in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations; and in this context, the consent of the affected country and in principle on the basis of an appeal by the affected country must be taken into account in providing humanitarian assistance;

Resolves to:

1. *Reaffirm* that it is the primary responsibility of states to protect the people and property on their territories from natural disasters;
2. Stress the significance of developing and strengthening institutions, mechanisms and capacities at the sub-national, national, regional as well as the international levels to support community capacities to reduce disaster risk;
3. *Call on* all regional and international institutions such as the UN bodies, ARF, SCO, APEC bodies to conduct close coordination and co-operation on disaster management and emergency response;
4. *Encourage* member countries to support and complement existing regional and international institutions on disaster management and emergency response in risk identification and monitoring, disaster prevention and preparedness, emergency response and disaster relief, and capacity building.
5. *Note* the significance and necessity of enhancing the planning and organization methods, evaluation of efficiency of the work done, consistent analysis carried out by the governments of the countries hit by natural disasters, UN, international and regional financial institutions, other organizations of the outcomes of the efforts taken for minimization of their impacts, identification of flaws and defining specific for each case systems of priorities in organizing restoration works, consistent updating of respective national data bases;
6. *Appeal* to the governments of the countries in Asia-Pacific region and to call upon them to extend cooperation in such areas as counteracting natural disasters, development of a risks reduction strategy, in particular in regard to warning, preparedness for responding to disasters, building multi-level national warning systems to be integrated in the national development programs to

enhance the ability of the population to reduce the risks of natural disasters for their personal security, safety of housing, the socioeconomic infrastructure and natural resources;

7. *Emphasize* the necessity for the countries in the region to develop cooperation in training national staff and responding to natural disasters in general;
8. *Find* the initiative of the Russian Federation to set up an International Agency for Emergencies under the auspices of the UN timely and relevant;
9. *Call* the countries of the Asia-Pacific region to extend their support for the Asian Disaster Prevention Center;
10. *Welcome* the recent initiative in the framework of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization for Cooperation to set up an Asian regional center for counteracting natural disasters and mitigation of consequences of emergencies;
11. *Affirm* that the parliaments of all APPF member countries are ready to continue their efforts in rendering necessary assistance to the countries hit by natural disasters.

# THE 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM

## CLIMATE CHANGE

### Resolution # 10

*(Sponsored by Mexico and New Zealand, China and Micronesia)*

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

*Recognizing* that climate change and its adverse effects are serious and urgent issues for the world community to address,

*Recognizing* that human activities have increased, and continue to increase, concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, , causing an increase in the average temperature on Earth, a decrease in ice masses and rising sea level and average sea temperature,

*Concerned* about the enormous economic, social and environmental cost the world will have to face if progress is not made towards agreeing and effectively implementing policies to minimize the effects of climate change,

*Concerned* that all countries, in particular developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States in the Asia Pacific region, face the adverse impacts of climate change,

*Recognizing* that the global nature of climate change requires the widest possible cooperation and participation by all countries, including all member states of APPF, in an effective and appropriate international response, based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities,

*Acknowledging* that the actions available to each country will be influenced by their own national circumstances, including their capacities and their respective economic and social conditions.

*Recognizing* the efforts that have already been undertaken internationally to address climate change scientifically, technically, economically and socially, including under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol, and other initiatives, within the framework of the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol,

*Reaffirming* the important role that the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol play in fostering international cooperation and action on climate change,

*Acknowledging* actions that are being implemented and planned by Kyoto protocol Annex 1 APPF member states in order to meet their commitments, and appreciating the important policies, programmes and measures implemented voluntarily by non-Annex 1 APPF member states to achieve sustainable development, which contributes to mitigate the negative effect of climate change,

*Welcoming* the progress represented by decisions made at the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Conference of Parties serving as a meeting of the parties to the Kyoto Protocol, which took place in Nairobi, Kenya in November 2006, in which a second review of the Kyoto Protocol was agreed upon for 2008 in addition to the definition of rules for the Adaptation Fund to help developing countries adapt to climate change,

### **IT IS RESOLVED TO:**

1. *Call on* Governments of APPF member countries, and other Governments in the Asia- Pacific region, to strengthen their national efforts and international cooperation to address the challenge of climate change, including (where they have not to date undertaken such action) the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol, which establishes quantified emissions reductions commitments for Annex 1 countries,
2. Specifically, *urge* the Governments of APPF member countries to participate actively and engage constructively in the negotiations of the Ad-hoc Working Group on further commitments for Annex 1 parties under the Kyoto protocol, as further development of an effective, long-term UNFCCC framework to meet the objective of stabilizing greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system; and *encourage* those Governments to share information and experiences on adapting to climate change.
3. *Encourage* APPF member countries to act with resolve and urgency to meet the interrelated and multiple goals of addressing climate change, reducing air pollution and improving the global environment, while contributing to sustainable development,
4. *Encourage* APPF member countries to assist developing countries, in particular small island developing states, least developed states and other states which are particularly vulnerable to climate change, in addressing their adaptation needs relating to the adverse effects of climate change,
5. *Encourage* all APPF member countries to participate in efforts to develop internationally acceptable greenhouse gas emission accounting standards and systems; to prepare a national inventory in accordance with the relevant guidelines of the Kyoto protocol which can be used as a basis for regional climate change policy (respecting the sovereignty and independence of the



States at all times); to generate and disseminate information on successful policy initiatives including forest and fuel mitigation (e.g. the creation of carbon sinks),

6. *Encourage* all APPF member countries to develop, deploy and transfer environmentally sound technologies including support for scientific, technological and technical research to develop fuels that would be an alternative to fossils and less damaging to ecosystems and the environment; to promote and disseminate the transfer of technologies, practices and processes that control, reduce or prevent greenhouse gas emissions in all relevant sectors; to promote and support the full, open and opportune exchange of pertinent scientific, technological, technical, and socio-economic and legal information on climate change, as well as the economic and social consequences of different response strategies,

Encourage all APPF member countries to maximize public awareness of climate change, for example through training and education, stimulating the greatest possible amount of participation in that process, including, where relevant, the involvement of non-governmental organizations.

**THE 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**

**POVERTY ALLEVIATION: PROTECTING HUMAN LIFE FROM  
POVERTY AND GUARANTEEING THE RIGHT TO LIFE**

**Resolution # 11**

***(Sponsored by Japan and Indonesia)***

THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM (APPF):

*Reaffirming* the strong commitment of the APPF member countries on poverty alleviation made during the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of APPF in which the APPF parliamentarians pay attention to poverty alleviation in various fields and to all resolutions that have been adopted to date by regional and international institutions, especially by the United Nations;

*Aspiring* to the building of a society that guarantees the right to life and the enjoyment of happiness of all people on this earth,

*Deeply concerned* about the fact that there are—mostly in the developing countries—roughly 1.1 billion people living on less than one dollar a day, 300 million children suffering starvation, more than 30,000 children dying of malnutrition or other causes each day, and approximately 100 million children unable to go to school,

Recognizing economic globalization has produced capitals in some regions of the world, but has regrettably been of little benefit to the poorest nations,

*Noting*, on the other hand, that even in the developed countries, there is concern about a widening economic divide in their peoples,

*Reaffirming* that there is a need for further efforts by parliamentarians to protect human life from poverty and to guarantee people's right to life,

RESOLVES TO:

1. *Encourage* the parliaments and the governments of the APPF member countries to urge their governments to intensify their measures to eradicate poverty, and to

create a framework in which to share the experiences and information on the policies and efforts of each country;

2. *Encourage* the parliaments and the governments of the APPF member countries to strengthen the efforts of each country to achieve the UN Millennium Development Goals, and to call on the developed countries to provide, with the understanding of their people, proactive assistance to those countries that need it;
3. *Urge* the developed countries to provide efficient official development assistance tailored to the conditions of developing countries and to honor the commitment they have made several times to devote 0.7 per cent of their GNP to official development assistance.
4. *Call* for all APPF member countries to involve all parties and institutions such as NGOs and community-based and grassroots organizations to take policy of participatory development as a foundation of the poverty alleviation strategy;
5. *Request* the parliaments and the governments of the APPF member countries to promote international and regional cooperation for the achievement of the goal on health and medical care within the framework of the UN Millennium Development Goals, i.e. reducing infant and maternal mortality, overcoming epidemics, in terms of protecting human life and guaranteeing the right to life;
6. *Urge* the parliaments and the governments of the APPF member countries to develop their social systems so that all children have access to education regardless of their gender, income and other economic status, and to share experiences and best practices in the region, in consideration of the importance of education;

Call on both developed and developing countries to alleviate poverty through economic development measures such as credit facilities for micro, small and medium-enterprises and debt relief, and through projects in field such as the improvement of education, capacity building of economic community and health systems and services.

**THE 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**

**STRENGTHENING POLITICAL AND SECURITY  
COOPERATION**

**Resolution # 12**

***(Sponsored by Australia)***

The 15th Annual Meeting of the Asia- Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

*Reaffirming* the importance of global peace and security and stability in the Asia Pacific region under generally recognized principles and rules of international law, particularly those concerning friendly relations and cooperation among states;

*Recognizing* that in an increasingly globalized world, countries share a greater stake in regional and international peace and stability;

*Aware* that dialogue and cooperation within the Asia Pacific region on political and security issues enhances mutual understanding among nations, avoids misunderstanding and conflicts, and contributes to peace and stability in the region;

*Committed* to states working together to promote bilateral, regional, and multilateral dialogue and cooperation within the Asia Pacific on security issues;

*Welcoming* constructive engagement by all states in regional for a in the Asia Pacific region with the aim of bringing about peace, stability and prosperity;

*Supportive* of efforts by fora such as APEC, the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the East Asia Summit (EAS), the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) and the ASEAN Security Community (ASC) in promoting regional stability and creating a regional political, economic and security architecture;

*Noting* the stated aims of the conference to “turn the Asia Pacific nations into a big family”;

Resolves to:

*Call upon* all member states to strengthen their cooperation in the field of political and security matters for the purpose of promoting a peaceful climate and stability in the region;

*Promote* the importance of open and inclusive regional dialogue for Asia Pacific security;

*Uphold efforts* that promote peace at a regional and a global level, through dialogue and cooperation;

*Recognize* ARF as the pre-eminent regional forum for security dialogue in the Asia Pacific region;

*Encourage* member states to utilize fully the potential of other regional fora, such as APEC, EAS, PIF, and ASC, which are contributing to regional welfare and security in accordance with their specific mandates;

*Encourage* parliaments to develop parliamentary diplomacy activities and to strengthen bilateral and multilateral cooperation;

*Urge* parliamentarians to use all the mechanisms of parliamentary and inter parliamentary diplomacy to promote peace and security in the region and worldwide.

**THE 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**

**APPLICATION OF THE DOHA  
DEVELOPMENT AGENDA**

**Resolution # 13**

***(Sponsored by New Zealand)***

The 15th Annual Meeting of the Asia- Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

*Reaffirming* the important role that the WTO plays in the promotion and strengthening of the multilateral trade system and observing with interest the results of the ministerial discussions of Doha about global trade liberalisation;

*Recognising* that the benefits of negotiations tending to consolidate a world trade system must be available for all members of the WTO;

*Congratulating* Viet Nam on its recent accession to the WTO;

*Recalling* the work program adopted by the WTO Ministerial Conference in Hong Kong in December 2006 that has helped to further advanced the breakthroughs contained in the *July Package* – as adopted by the WTO General Council on 31 July 2004;

*Noting* with concern the temporary suspension of the Doha Round negotiations in July 2006;

*Welcoming* the recent consensus by WTO member governments to resume discussions with a view to a successful and timely conclusion to the Doha Round in 2007;

*Commending* APEC leaders on their 18 November 2006 statement at the 14<sup>th</sup> APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting, which reaffirms leaders' collective and individual commitments to concluding an ambitious and balanced WTO Doha Agreement, and commits leaders to moving beyond their current positions in key areas of the Round;

*Commending also* APEC leaders' direction to undertake further studies on ways and means to promote regional economic integration, including a Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific as a long-term prospect, while at the same time affirming their commitments to the Bogor Goals and the successful conclusion of the WTO Doha Round of negotiations;

*Recalling* the goal the WTO to integrate both developed and developing countries into a freer and more equitable global trade system;

*Recognizing* that Parliaments, as representatives of their people, can positively contribute to advancing trade liberalization negotiations by expressing the support of their people for international agreements that seek to ensure strong and stable economies, which in turn bring about the security, prosperity and social benefits their people desire;

*Resolves to:*

1. *Urge* the governments of the member nations of APPF which are also part of the World Trade Organization to make substantive progress in negotiations in all areas of the Doha Round (particularly on the three pillars of the negotiation defined in the Framework Agreement of July of 2004: elimination of subsidies to agricultural exports; substantial reduction of measures of internal support, sources of distortion of competition, and market access) and preserving an adequate balance between gains made by developed and developing countries;
2. *Reiterate* the commitment of the APPF parliaments towards the promotion of an open, fair and balanced multilateral trading system based on accountable, inclusive and transparent rules, that will benefit both developing and developed countries, and that will encourage sustainable development and contribute significantly to reducing world poverty;
3. *Urge* the parliamentarians of Asia Pacific countries through cooperation in regional and international inter-parliamentary mechanisms to be more active in promoting Doha Development Agenda and maintaining the momentum of the resumed discussions in order to create conditions conducive to a timely and successful conclusion of the Doha Round;
4. *Encourage* Asia Pacific countries to enhance cooperation and consultation in trade liberalization negotiations in order to reduce trade barriers to facilitate economic reforms in developing countries and gradually narrow the gap between developed and developing countries;
5. *Encourage* all countries, particularly developed countries, to open up their agricultural markets; reduce, with the aim of ultimately eliminating, tariffs and non – tariff barriers and increase technical assistance to developing and least developed countries, so as to assist them in actively and effectively participating in Doha negotiations, implementing WTO rules and furthering the process of economic adjustment.

**THE 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**

**MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS**

**Resolution # 14**

**(Sponsored by Japan, the Russian Federation, Micronesia,  
Indonesia and Canada)**

Participants of 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

*Expressing* deep concerns in connection with the crisis situation in the Middle East and numerous victims among the peaceful population, caused by its permanent degradation;

*Believing* that the reason for the chronic instability in the region is connected with the unsettled Arab-Israeli conflict, as well as the crisis in Iraq, and a complicated internal political situation in Lebanon, and tension around Syria; being concerned with new challenges to the Middle East, including the threat of proliferation of nuclear weapons;

*Being convinced* that the final peace settlement of the regional conflicts in the Middle East, where everything is so closely connected, is possible only when applying a complex and comprehensive approach;

*Reaffirming* that a just and lasting solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict must be based on the Madrid "Land for Peace" principle, the UN Security Council resolutions 242, 338, 1397, and 1515, previously reached agreements, including the ones reached in Oslo, and the Middle East Road Map;

*Referring* to the resolutions on the Middle East peace process, adopted during 10<sup>th</sup> (2002), 11<sup>th</sup> (2003) and 14<sup>th</sup> (2006) APPF annual sessions;

*Welcoming* conflicting parties efforts aimed at avoiding further bloodshed and restoring trust in Arab-Israeli relations, and pointing out in this context importance of Israeli-Palestinian Cease Fire Agreement reached in November 2006, and also the UN Security Council resolution 1701, which was adopted in August 2006 and became a significant step on a way to settling the Israel-Lebanon conflict;

*Expressing* support for international efforts to establish a peace dialogue along all tracks of the Middle East peace process and, in particular, efforts of "the Quartet" of



international mediators (Russia, the US, the EC and the UN), as well as regional parties with the end of finding ways to establish comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East upon the universally recognized international legal basis;

#### RESOLVE:

1. *To call upon* the Israelis and the Palestinians to undertake active practical and responsible actions in support of their commitment to full-scale peace settlement on the Road Map basis, their desire to strengthen regular contacts to this end, including those on the high level, decisively reject violence, suppress all manifestations of terrorism, go back to the logic of looking for political solutions;
2. *To confirm* that the core of the Middle East peace process is the settlement of the Palestinian problem, which should be solved on the basis of the idea of coexistence of the two independent and sovereign states, Palestine and Israel, living side by side in peace and security. This aim can be achieved through direct and immediate negotiations between two parties;
3. *To declare* that the inter-Palestinian consent is an important factor of the progress towards peace and security in the area of the Middle East conflict, the resolution of problems on the Palestinian territories, the key to implementation of just expectations of the Palestinian people and, above all, creation of an independent viable state through negotiations with Israel;
4. *To support* efforts to immediately overcome the consequences of the crisis situation in the Lebanese affairs, to ensure national consent, to continue the internal dialogue in Lebanon and search for mutually acceptable compromises;
5. *To stress* that the way to sustainable and total normalization in Iraq can be achieved through a broad and real internal dialogue involving representatives of all leading ethnic-faith groups and political forces, aimed at reaching the true national conciliation and agreement;
6. *To support* active cooperation including a dialogue between parliamentarians from different countries within the efforts being taken by the international community, including “the Quartet”, and the regional participants, the Gulf states among them, on unblocking the Arab-Israeli conflict along both Israeli-Palestinian and other tracks.

**THE 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING**  
**OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**  
**INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

**Resolution # 15**

***(Sponsored by Mexico, Indonesia, Chile, China)***

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

*Underlining* the importance of addressing the promotion and protection of rights of migrant workers as a global issue.

*Recalling* the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

*Recalling as well* the Resolution on Protection of Migrants, adopted by acclamation by the Sixtieth Session of the UN General Assembly, proclaiming that all immigration policies and initiatives, should promote integral proposals considering causes and consequences of this phenomenon, as well as the total respect for migrants' human rights.

*Recognizing* that as a result of globalization, States, societies, economies, and cultures in different regions of the world are increasingly more integrated and interdependent.

*Knowing* that there are approximately 200 million international migrants; more than twice the number registered 25 years ago, according to the calculations of the Global Commission on International Migration.

*Observing* that these international human movements respond essentially to motivations associated to a search for better living conditions and expectations for economic benefits though there are other factors involved as well, such as violence and armed conflicts.

*Underlining* that as long as the international migration increases in magnitude, so do its repercussions in the economic, social, and political areas of most countries.

*Considering* that while circulation barriers on free capital and goods are being increasingly eliminated, in countries receiving emigrants there is strong border

protection and erection of obstacles to prevent the arrival of workers attracted by the employment demand.

*Reaffirming* the sovereign right of States to take measures they deem appropriate to ensure the safety of their borders in the context of their international law obligations, including human rights law.

*Recognizing* that, by its nature, international migration leads inevitably to greater ethnic and cultural diversity within countries, which provide benefits and also challenges for receiving States.

*Condemning* vehemently all manifestations of racism, discrimination, and xenophobia against all migrants and their families.

*Convinced* that our objective should be to reconsider trade liberalization processes toward transforming globalization into a positive force for all world inhabitants, as expressed by the UN Millennium Declaration

*Underlining* that contemporary international migration can no longer be approached as an isolated “issue”. It must be considered as a process to be channeled globally. Properly channeled migration can be a positive factor for individuals, businesses and societies.

*Recognizing* that the global implications this phenomenon represents for our countries require actions and commitments with the outside world – particularly with neighboring regions and countries – which, in the framework of international cooperation might be guided by the principle of *shared responsibility*.

IT IS RESOLVED TO:

*Call on* all parliamentarians and governments of the Asia-Pacific region to:

1. *Recommends* governments, which have not yet done so, consider signing and ratifying the International Convention on Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers and Their Families.
2. Effectively *protect* human rights and basic freedoms of all immigrants regardless of their nationality and migratory status.
3. *Implement* their migration laws and policies with consideration of the human rights of migrants and their families, regardless of nationality and migratory status in accordance with International Conventions.
4. *Comply* effectively with labor legislation, particularly the section on migrant working conditions, remuneration, and hygiene and safety conditions, in conformity with domestic laws.

5. *Encourage* the establishment of financial transfer mechanisms that lessen the corresponding rates for sending remittances and neutralize any measure that restricts these invaluable resources for millions of people.

**THE 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**

**TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS**

**Resolution # 16**

*(Sponsored by Mexico and Indonesia)*

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

*Noting* that the trafficking in persons has expanded in an alarming pace during the last decades, in response to the economic asymmetry of countries, as well as the growing logistic and organizational sophistication of transnational criminal networks.

*Realizing* that inequality, corruption and impunity are factors that increase people's vulnerability, especially women and children, and turn them into victims of traffickers that form part of organized crime groups that operate at both domestic and International organized crime.

*Recognizing* that the persistence of trafficking in persons also responds to its economic revenue, which ascends to \$10 billion dollars annually, according to the United Nations reports.

*Recalling* the commitment of governments to improve the capacity to identify, investigate, judge and prosecute those responsible for trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and provide its victims with due assistance and protection in the framework of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punishing Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

*Recognizing* all parameters of trafficking as defined by the Palermo Protocol on Human Trafficking as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.

*Noting* that exploitation includes, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.

*Recognizing* that all types of sexual or labor exploitation that imply forced labor or servitude for debts is unacceptable and constitutes a clear transgression of the international human rights regime, as well as the international labor norms.

*Distinguishing* that the victims, 80% of whom are women and 50% under 18 years of age, ascends to a total of 12 million people according to the International Labor Organization (ILO), who are trafficked and exploited in every region of the planet.

*Observing* that trafficking in persons contributes to the deepening of the criminalization of the world economy.

*Stating* that there is a serious risk that the trafficking in persons persists and increases unless the governments, parliaments and civil society of main countries of destination take a firmer political stance to face these problems.

*Pointing out* that, given the complexity of the trafficking in persons phenomenon, all the governmental efforts to prevent and combat this crime should confront every type of exploitation.

IT IS RESOLVED TO:

*Call on the* parliamentarians and governments of the Asia-Pacific region to:

1. *Consider* the signature, ratification or accession of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, and make use of its dispositions.
2. *Implement* legal reforms needed to give consistency to respective national juridical ordinances involving conduct related to human trafficking in order to fulfill our international obligations, acquired with the signing and ratification of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punishing Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.
3. *Prepare* police and intelligence forces to act more effectively against criminal networks, specialized in trafficking in persons.
4. *Foment* the exchange of databases and/or intelligence reports on the criminal records of persons that have committed this type of crime according to what is established in bilateral and multilateral agreements on this issue.
5. *Adopt* protective measures for victims of trafficking in persons and prevent foreigners who fall victims of illicit trafficking from being subject to immediate deportation to their country of origin.
6. *Promote* mass campaigns in communication media, as well as regional conferences to create public consciousness of the trafficking in persons problem

**THE 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**

**UNITED NATIONS REFORM**

**Resolution # 17**

***(Sponsored by Mexico, Russian Federation and China)***

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

*Considering* that the international social and political environment has changed radically since the creation of the United Nations more than 60 years ago.

*Promoting* that the Organization still responds effectively to the ideals and objectives for which it was created.

*Pointing out* that no State, on its own, has the capacity to face challenges proposed by the development of mankind, its prosperity and international peace and security.

*Reaffirming* that Member States continue to be the protagonists in decision-making within the Organization, whose roles, responsibilities and rights are fully recognized in the United Nations Charter.

*Realizing* that a collective security system that favors prevention should be based on the development and prosperity of the States.

*Reaffirming* the need to improve coordination between different United Nations agencies.

*Welcoming* the creation of the new Human Rights Council and its operational principles, including universality, objectivity, non-selection, cooperation and dialogs, which world leaders resolved to create in the Summit Meeting of September 2005.

*Sustaining* that open negotiation and international consensus is the only way of effectively pushing reforms needed by the Organization.

IT IS RESOLVED TO:

Call on the governments of Member States to:

1. *Redouble* efforts so the General Assembly can perform fully as the main deliberative forum of the United Nations.
2. *Assure* that proposed reforms have an integral focus that guarantees balance between development and security agendas in the system's different organizations, that protection of human rights is promoted and there is strict adherence to international law.
3. *Strengthen* the Social Economic Council and its subsidiaries on promoting development and combating poverty as well as strengthening its coordination capacities with specialized agencies from the system.
4. *Strengthen* the Security Council to make it a more democratic, representative and transparent organization.
5. *To doubt* efforts to achieve full-scale fulfillment of the Security Council decisions and solving the problem of this main UN institution reforming in the interests of increasing its efficiency and representativeness on the basis of the broadest agreement the member states.
6. *Consolidate* the Human Rights Council and continue strengthening effective promotion of the international human rights through cooperation and genuine dialogue.
7. *Assure* evaluation of measures and accountability so that international human rights laws and international humanitarian laws are respected in the fight against terrorism at all times.
8. *Analyze* proposals for financial outlines that assure the Organization's economic solvency.
9. *Evaluate* and modify the Organization's measures and efficiency to reduce unnecessary administrative expenditures.



**THE 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING**  
**OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**

**STRENGTHENING COOPERATION IN THE ASIA PACIFIC**  
**REGION TO COMBAT CORRUPTION**

**Resolution # 18**

***(Sponsored by the Philippines, Russian Federation and China)***

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

*Recalling* 4<sup>th</sup> APPF Annual Meeting Resolution on Drug Abuse, Trafficking and Money Laundering (APPF 4) and the 6<sup>th</sup> APPF Annual Meeting Resolution on Corruption (APPF 6/RES 8);

*Further recalling* the 7<sup>th</sup> APPF Annual Meeting Resolution on the Exchange of Information and Expertise Between and among Members of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum in Dealing with Corruption, with the End in View of Strengthening their Individual and Joint Capabilities in Dealing with the Same (APPF 7/RES 11);

*Aware* that terrorism, drug-trafficking and organized crime thrive better in an environment of corruption;

*Aware* that corruption is prevalent in all nations – rich or poor, developed or developing – albeit in varying degrees, scale and magnitude;

*Greatly alarmed* by the recent significant growth of corruption and the extent of its impact on the lives of the people in countries in the Asia Pacific Region and other parts of the world;

*Concerned* of the massive cost of corruption and the extent of damage it has wrought in the economic and political life of nations, particularly among developing countries;

*Welcoming* the recent efforts of the United Nations in curbing corruption through the UN General Assembly's adoption of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) which entered into force on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2004;

*Noting* the considerable attention attributed by global institutions such as the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank to combat corruption;

*Realizing* that because of the the mass media efforts much is now known about corruption than in the past, however, there is a continuing need to constantly bring to public attention and scrutiny how governments run affairs of the State;

*Cognizant* that parliaments play the major role in restraining this global threat;

Resolves to:

1. *Call on* parliaments to enact effective anti-corruption legislation and oversee its enforcement;
2. *Encourage* conduct of intense dialogues and discussions on anti-corruption initiatives within the international community as well as exchange the best international practices and technical expertise among APPF-member countries to enhance effective resistance to corruption and other forms of organized crimes associated with corruption such as terrorism, drug trafficking and money laundering;
3. *Encourage* agents of mass media to take a more pro-active stance in exposing corrupt practices, and new information about corruption that will help governments and citizens to become more aware in playing their vigilant role against corruption;
4. *Promote*, in accordance with fundamental principles of relevant domestic laws, active participation of civil society, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations in the prevention of and the fight against corruption;
5. *Emphasize* importance of a dynamic partnership between government and business associations in order to create an environment marked by greater transparency where private entrepreneurship can thrive;
6. *Recommends* to all governments, particularly of APPF member-countries to participate in and adopt international anti-corruption instruments, particularly the United Nations Convention Against Corruption.

**THE 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING**  
**OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**

**STRENGTHENING TRANSPORT AND**  
**LOGISTICS COOPERATION IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION**

**Resolution # 19**

***(Sponsored by the Philippines)***

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

*Recalling* the Vancouver Declaration of 1997 specifically Item 2: Economy, the Resolution on Economy and Trade in the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the APPF (APPF-14/Res/10) and the Resolution on Strengthening Regional and Global Economic Cooperation (APPF-14/Res/09);

*Recognizing* that the Asia Pacific Region is experiencing increases in trade volume brought about by reduced trade barriers and developing economies;

*Recognizing* the efforts being undertaken by Asia Pacific countries to modernize and expand their transport and logistics facilities and capacities;

*Acknowledging* that the transport and logistics capabilities of the developing countries of the Asia Pacific will still need to further improve at a much faster rate to meet the expected surge of trade volume brought about by the proliferation of free trade areas (FTAs) and regional free trade areas (RTAs);

*Noting* that transport and logistics requirements are constantly adapting to the needs of the ever-changing global market;

*Convinced* of the importance of transport and logistics networks as key catalysts in economic development and international competitiveness;

*Aware* of the necessity of having a speedy and time definite delivery of raw materials and goods in the today's just-in-time manufacturing process;

*Underlining* the importance of current efforts in coordinating the ever-growing transport and logistics networks of the Asia Pacific Region;

Resolves to:

1. *Render* strong support in efforts that would strengthen transport and logistics cooperation among APPF countries as well as the entire Asia Pacific Region;
2. *Call upon* all APPF countries to enhance current agreements on transport and logistics cooperation complementing the steps taken towards economic integration in the Asia Pacific;
3. *Welcome* the assistance of partner countries in developing the transport and logistics infrastructure and networks in less-developed areas of the region;
4. *Call on* parliaments to support the regional efforts in enhancing multi-modal transport linkages and interconnectivity, while promoting the safe and speedy transport of people and goods;
5. *Call on* governments to work towards achieving faster customs clearances and simplified customs procedures;
6. *Encourage* APPF countries to prioritize efforts in strengthening and enhancing transport and logistics cooperation with a view of achieving a speedy and smooth flow of goods and people in the Asia Pacific Region

**THE 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING**  
**OF THE ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**  
**BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE**

**Resolution # 20**

**(Sponsored by the Republic of Korea and Russian Federation)**

The 15th Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

*Noting* increasing interdependence and deepening globalization and informatization in the international community,

*Recognizing* that the advent of the information society and the subsequent digital divide that has widened due to factors such as income, education, age, and region, are aggravating social and economic inequality,

*Stressing* that information technologies and means of telecommunication create broad opportunities for further development of human civilization and cooperation for the common good of all States,

*Recalling* at the same time concern expressed by the UN General Assembly in its resolutions 53/70, 54/49, 55/28, 56/19, 57/53, 58/32, 59/61, 60/45 and 61/54 that these technologies and means can potentially be used for purposes that are inconsistent with the objectives of maintaining international stability and security and may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure of States to the detriment of their security in both civil and military fields and *recognizing* the necessity to take into consideration this potential in the process of making efforts to build the information society and bridge the digital divide,

*Further noting* that in the process of rapid transition into an information society, the digital divide has emerged as a new cause for the widening gap between advanced countries that are leading the trend and developing countries that are lagging behind,

*Concerned* that in this information and communications revolution, if the imbalance between advanced and developing countries is left unattended, the gap between these countries, in terms of quality of life and economic strength, will grow even wider,

*Highlighting* the discussions undertaken at UNESCO, UNDP and the 2000 World Economic Forum held in Davos under the theme 'Sustainable Growth and Bridging the Divides: A Framework for Our Global Future',

*Welcoming* the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) held to address the global digital divide,

*Acknowledging* the leading facilitating role of ITU, UNESCO and UNDP in implementing the WSIS outcomes,

*Referring* to the fact that the WSIS defined the Internet as a key element of the information society infrastructure and stressed that the international management of the Internet should be multilateral, transparent and democratic with full involvement of governments, the private sector, the civil society and international organizations. It should ensure an equitable distribution of resources, facilitate access for all and ensure a stable and secure functioning of the Internet.

*Reaffirming* that the digital divide, an issue of paramount importance that needs to be resolved to ensure the transition to an information society, has become the center of global attention,

Resolves to:

1. *Invite* member States to develop regional and subregional cooperation in implementing the WSIS outcomes in particular to contribute to bridging the digital divide.
2. *Urge* all member states to scale up efforts to close the digital divide that is ascribable to factors such as income gap, education, age, and region;
3. *Encourage* member parliaments to support their governments through regional and international workshops and seminars to share information, experience, and best practices concerned with bridging the digital divide;
4. *Encourage* member states to build global information networks and to implement substantive policies on information utilization education in close cooperation with international organizations including ITU, UNESCO, UNDP, and IPAIT (International Parliamentarians' Association for Information Technology);
5. *Suggest* that member states consider a possibility to set up a special fund directed at addressing the digital divide in East Asia;
6. *Encourage* advanced countries to render support to ensure that developing countries utilize the special fund effectively and efficiently and to monitor the effects and achievements of the fund;
7. Put priority on resolving the digital divide at home by providing sufficient funds and resources.