

**RESOLUTION ON ECONOMY AND TRADE**

(Sponsored by Japan)

The 13th 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 the decisions of the WTO General Council in July 2004, including among others the framework agreements regarding agriculture and non-agricultural market access and the agreement to set up the trade facilitation negotiations, the various statements in the Santiago Declaration issued by the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting in November 2004 to advance the Doha Development Agenda (DDA), the Bogor Goals of free and open trade and investment as well as their supporting conditions and the Resolution on Economy and Trade adopted at the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the APPF in January 2004; 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 strongest 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 decision of the WTO General Council toward formulation of modalities by December 2005 and, to make progress in substantive negotiations on all areas of the DDA toward the Single Undertaking;
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 FTA 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 concrete FTA negotiations; and
4. 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, taking into consideration of economic situation of each party concerned.