

**RESOLUTION ON SUPPORT TO THE GENDER AGENDA  
10 YEARS AFTER THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN, HELD  
IN BEIJING IN 1995.**  
(Sponsored by Mexico)

The 13th Annual Meeting of the Asia - Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

Knowing that in 1995, 20 years after the first International Year on Women held in 1975, the United Nations Organization organized the Fourth World Conference on Women, in Beijing, People's Republic of China;

Knowing as well that the Conference approved the Beijing Declaration and the Action Platform that identified topics on which the domestic governments should define strategic objectives, which are: Poverty, Education and Training of Women, Health, Violence against women, Armed conflicts, Economy, Exercise of power and decision making, Institutional Mechanisms for woman's progress, Human rights of women, Dissemination means, Environment, and situation of girls;

Considering that in the year 2000, 5 years after the Beijing Summit was held, the United Nations, the International Labour Organization (ILO), and the United Nations Fund for Women (UNIFEM), developed an intense agenda of activities to assess the commitments acquired;

Acknowledging that the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) developed and presented a new operative technology - Gender Awareness Information and Networking System System (GAINS) - based on the new information and communication technologies for the generation, management and dissemination of knowledge and information on gender issues.

Observing, however, that ten years after the Beijing Conference, women still do not hold sufficient political representation positions, executive positions in public administration, in the judicial and economic systems, and that an egalitarian participation of both genders in the government structures of the nations is essential in terms of justice, equity, democratic legitimacy, and efficacy of the social action of the State;

Assessing the fundamental role of parliaments in the promotion of gender equity through their legislative, budgetary, and control functions of the public function;

Noting that the Inter-parliamentary Union, issued a resolution on this topic during its 111 Assembly held in Geneva, Switzerland on October 1, 2004, called *Beijing +10, an evaluation from the parliamentary perspective*;

Acknowledging that before the tenth anniversary of the Beijing Conference celebrated in the year 2005, the United Nations will hold a meeting of the 49<sup>th</sup> Commission on the Status of Women, to be held in New York between February 28 and March 11, 2005;

Resolves to:

1. Urge the parliamentarians of the region to commit themselves to a permanent legislative action to attain equality between sexes, both at a national and international levels, and monitor the advances in the commitments assumed in the Fourth International Conference on Women held in Beijing in 1995;
2. Urge the APPF parliamentarians to promote a debate about the progress in their countries concerning the implementation process of the Beijing Action Program before the 49<sup>th</sup> United Nations Session of the Commission on the Status of Women that will be held in 2005;
3. Urge the APPF parliaments to endeavor to have an adequate representation for the meeting of the 49<sup>th</sup> Commission on the Status of Women to be held in New York between February 28 and March 11, 2005, which will examine the implementation of the Beijing Action Program and the final document of the special General Meeting of the United Nations, held in the year 2000;
4. Urge the parliaments to be more actively involved in the issue of gender equality, promoting the creation of parliamentary Commissions about this topic and also implementing budgetary gender approaches to have sufficient resources for a national agenda of public policies focused on gender;
5. Urge the parliamentarians, based on the capacity they have to supervise their governments, to ensure that the international commitments for the promotion of gender equality are supported and implemented, particularly, those related to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).
6. Urge the APPF parliaments to encourage the conduction of political activity and strengthen the strategic association for gender equality at a local / national, regional and international levels and in the legislative instances.