THE 15TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM

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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)

THE 15TH 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.