



**18TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM
17 – 22 January 2010, Singapore**

18APPF/RES/1

**RESOLUTION
ON
REGIONAL COLLABORATION ON SOCIAL MEASURES IN
THE CURRENT ECONOMIC DOWNTURN**
(Sponsored by Australia)

THE EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM:

Noting that the global financial and economic crisis has resulted in the most severe global recession and the largest fall in world trade flows since the Second World War;

Having regard to the resulting increased unemployment, under-employment, loss of income and intergenerational poverty traps;

Recognizing that women and children are increasingly vulnerable to exploitation, violence, and inadequate access to education and healthcare (such as H1N1 vaccination) in these circumstances;

Reaffirming the need to adhere to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the face of the current challenges;

Noting the importance of regional frameworks and forums which strengthen the Asia-Pacific community and advance common interests;

Welcoming the outcomes of the APEC meetings in November 2009;

Resolves to:

1. **Call upon** Asia-Pacific parliaments to strengthen national measures and regional cooperation to reduce the enormous human cost of the current financial and economic downturn and to ensure a sustained and cohesive regional recovery;
2. **Reaffirm** the importance of open and inclusive regional economic architecture directed towards sustainable economic growth and development;
3. **Support** efforts by member states, multilateral organizations, and non-governmental organizations to promote regional collaboration and partnerships on measures designed to build human capital and social resilience;
4. **Reaffirm** the need for regional cooperation to continue humanitarian and development assistance measures;

5. **Encourage** a renewed regional cohesion in addressing the issues of poverty, hunger and gender inequality and improving access to education, vocational training and retraining, healthcare, and a sustainable environment.