

**Final statement of the participants of the
“Asia Pacific – Europe: New Horizons of Co-operation” Round Table Discussion**

We, the members of parliaments representing the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum member countries, the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the CIS member nations, the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of EurAsEC, the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation:

Welcoming the high level of cooperation achieved among the regions and states that we represent;

Recognising the development of intercultural dialogue as an indisputable achievement of modern civilisation;

Being clearly aware that the process of world globalisation has a clear tendency to expand and accelerate;

Seeking to provide favourable conditions for economic, social and cultural development of the states and regions we represent;

Convinced that the exchange of experience among the members of parliaments from different countries in law-making can yield a tangible effect for improving national legislation;

Respecting the national and cultural identities and sovereignty of APR and European countries;

The participants in the Round table:

Fully support the efforts of governments to promote co-operation among states both within the APR and between the APR countries and Europe, and remove unnecessary and often obsolete barriers that impede it;

Call for a broader APR – Europe dialogue on various levels: between states, regions and individuals;

Note the special role of the Russian Federation in the dialogue of civilisations as a country with a unique geographical position that possesses exceptional opportunities to act as an economic and transport bridge between Europe and the APR, and with experience of inter-faith and inter-ethnic cooperation;

Call for greater and more intensive exchange of law-making practices between the parliaments of the APR and Europe;

Are putting forward the initiative to make it standard practice of the APPF to hold round tables for representatives of international parliamentary organisations as part of annual sessions of the Forum;

Believe that the time has come to consider calling a world forum of parliamentary organisations.