

**22<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**

**RESOLUTION APPF22/RES 08/REV**

**TRADE AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION  
IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION - THE PARLIAMENTARY DIMENSION**  
*(Sponsored by Australia, Chile, Japan, New Zealand and the Russian  
Federation)*

**The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum,**

**Noting** the "Resolution on Economy and Trade" which was adopted at the 21st Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum in January 2013, the "G20 St. Petersburg Leaders Declaration" in September 2013, and the "Bali Declaration" of the 21st APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting in October 2013;

**Referring** to the outcomes of the APEC leaders' meeting on Bali, Indonesia, **and stating** that the governments and the parliaments of most of the Asia Pacific share a similar understanding of the need to look for additional sources of investments that grow the economy, increase of employment opportunities, and strengthen social security protections;

**Recognizing** that the Asia-Pacific region has been known for sustaining its continued growth in recent years as a result of the different cooperation mechanisms adopted;

**Accepting** that the multilateral commerce system, with its corresponding rules and regulations, has spurred economic growth and promoted development;

**Knowing** that the commercial and bilateral trade agreements have increased the growth of our economies, thus increasing opportunities for our citizens;

**Considering** that the success of multilateral trade and regional and bilateral agreements has lifted hundreds of millions of people out of poverty across the Asia-Pacific region;

**Recognizing** the fact that although the Asia Pacific region continues to be at the forefront of global growth, significant challenges remain to be addressed and further development is likely to be slower;

## **RESOLVES TO:**

1. **Call upon** the parliaments and the governments of the APPF member countries to continue to implement and coordinate prudent and responsible macroeconomic policies to ensure comprehensive, sustainable growth and to maintain economic and financial stability in the region;
2. **Encourage** APPF member countries to share information and exchange ideas at the annual meeting of the APPF, and continue to support authorities of each government in order to enhance the effectiveness of policies to promote the stability of economy and financial markets;
3. **Request** APPF member countries to commit themselves to fight against protectionism and to progress to a successful conclusion of the Doha Round in order to facilitate economic growth through free trade and investment;
4. **Confirm** the importance of attracting private investments and facilitation of public-private partnerships (PPP) for the development of regional infrastructure, including through the APEC Experts Panel on PPPs, the development of pilot PPP centers in APEC economies, commencing with Indonesia and by strengthening domestic regulatory environments to reduce risks for private sector investors;
5. **Encourage** legislation to achieve broader participation of the private sector in services and trades to create better quality and more productive jobs and increase the productivity of business in the Asia Pacific region;

6. **Support the proposals** by the G 20 and the APEC Leaders' Summit regarding the cooperation initiatives among the Asia-Pacific countries in order to develop a competitive, innovative and sustainable economy able to consolidate a recovery with job creation while strengthening regional quality transportation networks, reducing transaction costs, and making the Asia Pacific region more competitive and cohesive;
7. **Emphasize** that efforts toward the realization of trade liberalization and economic integration ought to be made taking into account the facilitation of such activities as improvement of trade rules related to intellectual property rights and investment, implementation of good practices of regulation, food security and environmental protection, sustainable development which lead to improving opportunities and without increasing gaps within society;
8. **Encourage** APPF member countries to work in different international forums to coordinate efforts to establish various safety mechanisms and early warning systems both on regional and global levels to help build an open, integrated and resilient global financial system;
9. **Encourage** the governments of all APPF member countries to continue combining sensible economic management with growth driven measures, especially through investment in infrastructure and formation of human capital;
10. **Call upon** the APPF member countries concerned, to continue exploring different approaches to create a Free Trade Area of the Asia Pacific (FTAAP), as a means not only to further promote regional economic integration in the Asia-Pacific region, but also to complement and support the multilateral trading system, with the WTO playing a central role;
11. **Affirm** that the recent announcement by EAS leaders of the launch of negotiations towards a Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership is an important step in this direction along with other regional economic integration processes including the Trans-Pacific Partnership;
12. **Encourage** APPF member countries to participate actively in trade negotiations on tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade, improvement of the investment climate, economic integration, as well as establish cooperation with the Parliamentary Conference on the

- WTO to facilitate the parliamentary dimension of the multilateral trading system;
13. **Encourage** APPF member countries to support the promotion of information and communications technologies including through progressing regulatory convergence and coherence as well as by cooperation in e-commerce;
  14. **Promote** sustainable growth, to increase investments in energy sectors with holding beliefs that economic growth coexists with environment conservation, to seek energy efficiency and introduce renewable energy through technology innovation, and to ensure that such technology innovation will foster new business, and economic growth to the Asia-Pacific region;
  15. **Encourage** businesses to utilize bilateral and regional trade agreements.

**Puerto Vallarta, México**

**15 January, 2014**