

23rd Annual Meeting

Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum

Sponsor by: Australia, México, Canada, Ecuador and Malaysia

ALTERNATIVE POLICIES AND NEW APPROACHES TO COMBATING TERRORISM AND OTHER TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME

Reaffirming the previous resolutions concerning the fight against terrorism, drug trafficking and organized crime adopted by the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum;

Reiterating strong and unequivocal condemnation of terrorism which constitutes a persistent threat to regional and international peace and security, and one that is becoming increasingly dispersed and complex;

Highlighting the resolution adopted by consensus in the 122nd Assembly of the Inter-parliamentary Union held in April 2010 about the shared cooperation and responsibility in the worldwide fight against organized crime, specifically drug traffic, illegal sale of weapons, human trafficking which urges the national parliaments to adopt a legislation that considers more severe punishments for corruption and organized crime;

Reaffirming the United Nations Global Counter - Terrorism Strategy adopted on September 8, 2006 and striving for its comprehensive implementation in an integrated manner including in the Asia-Pacific region;

Reaffirming the need to enhance the role of international, regional and sub-regional organizations in implementation of coordinated and multidimensional counter-terrorism measures;

Reaffirming grave concern that more than 15,000 foreign terrorist fighters from over 80 countries have travelled to join or fight for terrorist entities and **recognizing** that the threat of terrorism is expanding in new ways including the abuse of the Internet for recruitment purposes and radicalization, consequently new responses and approaches are required;

Recognizing that terrorism is facilitated by other transnational crimes, including drug and arms trafficking, corruption, money laundering, cybercrime, wildlife trafficking and piracy, which can be used in direct support of this scourge, in particular as a funding source, resulting in death, displaced people and refugees;

Welcoming the valuable work and substantial contribution being made by all the counter-terrorism organizations to strengthen the coordination and effectiveness of international counter-terrorism efforts;

Recognizing the interdependent nature of challenges posed by illicit drug production and trafficking, noting that production levels are rising in some countries;

Noting the significance of assistance rendered by the international community, international and regional organizations as well as non-governmental organizations, within the scope of their competencies, and civil societies to the countries of the region in reducing illicit drug production and trade;

Convinced that parliaments are uniquely placed to enable and add momentum to improving national legislation on preventing and combating terrorism and other transnational crimes;

Mindful of the need to strengthen regional counter-terrorism cooperation as well as cooperation to combat transnational organized crime;

Recognizing that international cooperation, protection of the rule of law and respect for international law are mechanisms for achieving peace, security and peaceful coexistence among peoples.

RESOLVES TO:

1. **Condemn** terrorism, international organized crime and violence in all its forms and to renew the commitment to combat them through joint actions **and urge** all States to accelerate their accession to and effective implementation of the United Nations counter-terrorism conventions and protocols;

2. **Call on** all States to implement effectively United Nations Security Council counter-terrorism-related resolutions, including 2178 on foreign terrorist fighters; taking into account specific national situation and legislation;

3. **Call on** all APPF Parliaments to strengthen inter-parliamentary regional and international cooperation to improve the national and international legal basis for preventing and combating terrorism;

4. **Call on** all States to implement fully Security Council Resolution 2178 which recognizes that a comprehensive approach to defeat terrorism is required involving national, regional, subregional and multilateral action; taking into account specific national situation and legislation;

5. **Call on** States to help build capacity of other States where necessary and upon request, to address the threat posed by terrorism;

6. **Encourage** the APPF Member States to use education as an effective means of promoting respect for life and the values of moderation, nonviolence and mutual understanding, including programs to empower youth, families, women, cultural and education leaders, and all other concerned groups of civil society and adopt tailored approaches to promote social inclusion and cohesion;

7. **Urge** the APPF Parliaments to enhance information exchange on national legislation related to preventing and combating terrorism and other transnational crimes as well as monitoring implementation;

8. **Call on** States that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the relevant international conventions, such as the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances, the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, and the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

9. **Recognize** the need to deny criminals and criminal organizations the proceeds of their crimes and call upon all States within their national legal systems to adopt effective mechanisms for the seizure, restraint and confiscation of proceeds of crime and to strengthen international cooperation to ensure effective and prompt asset recovery;

10. **Promote** the protection of persons against the risk of becoming victims of all forms of violence, discrimination and exploitation especially of displaced individuals and asylum seekers;

11. **Call on** all States to further strengthen regional and international cooperation to combat wildlife trafficking and wildlife-related crimes;

12. **Stress** the need for increased regional and international cooperation in countering the global threat posed by illicit drug production, drug consumption and drug trafficking, comprehensive and integrated manner;

13. **Call on** all States to adopt measures to prevent money laundering and the financing of terrorism, including enhancing the effectiveness of States' domestic anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing regimes;

14. **Urge** all APPF Member States to advocate the principle of Moderation as an important value and a common approach to counter all forms of extremism and to promote dialogue, mutual respect, tolerance and understanding;

15. **Promote** respect of international law and cooperation between the states as mechanisms needed to build trust, to maintain peace, security and harmonious coexistence between nations.

Quito, January 14th, 2015