

23rd Annual Meeting

Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum

Sponsored by: Canada, Chile, Malaysia and Ecuador

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Committed to the United Nations (UN) Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);

Recognizing the substantial progress that has been made towards the eight MDGs;

Encouraged that the MDG target on halving the number of people in the world living in absolute poverty has been achieved ahead of schedule;

Committed to improving the health and quality of life of women, children and newborns;

Underscoring that further action is needed to end preventable maternal, newborn and child mortality;

Convinced that investing in healthy populations is the foundation for sustainable development;

Further convinced that investing in women and children is vital for economic growth, including the eradication of poverty;

Reiterating the goals and commitments of the G8 Muskoka Initiative, the UN Secretary-General's Every Woman Every Child movement and Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health, and the recommendations of the Commission on Information and Accountability for Women's and Children's Health;

Recalling the "Healthy Asia-Pacific 2020" initiative, endorsed by the 22nd Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Declaration;

Recalling the previous resolutions of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) on poverty eradication, youth participation in development, women's empowerment, and parliamentary cooperation in relation to the MDGs and post-2015 development agenda;

Noting innovative partnerships and development financing mechanisms that have been established to address international health challenges, including the GAVI Alliance, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the new Global Financing Facility in Support of Every Woman, Every Child, managed by the World Bank;

Cognizant that the mobilization of national and international public and private sources of financing will be required to meet the international community's sustainable development objectives, including those related to global health;

Noting that the international community is in the process of determining the framework that will succeed the MDGs when they reach their end point in 2015;

Further noting that the UN General Assembly has agreed that the post-2015 development agenda will address poverty eradication and sustainable development under a single framework and set of goals;

Convinced that the health and well-being of women, children and newborns must remain a primary concern in the post-2015 development agenda;

Recognizing the important role of parliamentarians in building the political will necessary to realize international development objectives;

RESOLVES TO:

1. **Urge** APPF Member States to accelerate their efforts to realize the MDG's, and to build on that progress in the creation of the post-2015 development agenda and sustainable development goals.
2. **Call on** APPF Member States to continue to provide political and financial support to the Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health and related initiatives.
3. **Urge** APPF Member States to support innovative development finance mechanisms that target the improvement of global health.
4. **Call on** APPF Members States to strengthen cooperation to end the epidemics of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria and neglected tropical diseases.
5. **Call on** APPF Member States to ensure reliable access to quality and affordable health services for all women, children and newborns.
6. **Prioritize** nutrition and food security as key components of child well-being, health and survival.
7. **Emphasize** that gender equality should be integrated in public policies and implemented in legislation.
8. **Prioritize** access for all girls and boys to quality education, on an equal basis.
9. **Emphasize** that strengthening health systems is a key means of addressing the multifaceted challenges to the health and well-being of women, children and newborns.

10. **Eliminate** all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls, and all harmful practices, such as female genital mutilation and child, early and forced marriage.
11. **Call Upon** Member States to promote timely and quality prenatal and post natal care and interventions for newborns and mothers.
12. **Call on** APPF Member States to prioritize the most vulnerable women, children and newborns in their health interventions.
13. **Stress** the need for humanitarian assistance to address the specific health and medical needs of women, children and newborns in humanitarian emergencies and situations of armed conflict.
14. **Encourage** APPF Member States to strengthen national civil registration and vital statistics systems.
15. **Call upon** APPF Members States to work collaboratively with international and regional organizations and development banks, civil society, community organizations, health professionals, academics, and the private sector to advance the health and well-being of all women and children.
16. **Encourage** APPF Members States to strengthen inter-parliamentary cooperation related to sustainable and inclusive development objectives, and the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda.
17. **Urge** all APPF Members States to set the objective of ending preventable maternal, newborn and child mortality within a generation.

Quito, January 14th, 2015