

23rd Annual Meeting

Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum

Sponsored by: Japan, Republic of Korea, Australia, Russia, Canada and Chile

STRENGTHENING PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE ASIA PACIFIC

REGION

Recalling the Resolution APPF22/RES-1 on Political and Security Matters in the Asia Pacific adopted at the 22nd Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum on 11 -16 January 2014 in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico;

Considering the shift in economic and strategic weight to the Asia-Pacific region and the significant increase in Asia's collective military expenditure over the last 20 years;

Reaffirming that the increasing role of the Asia Pacific region in world affairs constitutes one of the key vectors of the development of international relations;

Cognizant of the need to preserve the peace and security of the region, including through the adherence to the principles of international law and democracy, for the long term prosperity of the region as a whole;

Recognizing the differentiated impacts of conflict on women and girls, including the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war, and the role that women can play in peace-building;

Aware that the effective management of regional security issues must be supported by strong and transparent regional institutions;

Welcoming East Asia Summit (EAS) leaders' discussions of regional security issues at the 9th EAS in November 2014 at Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar;

Recognizing that the threats of nuclear weapon and missile proliferation and transnational crime, including terrorism, illicit drug trafficking, people smuggling and piracy, have a destabilizing effect on international, regional and national security;

Convinced that regional security is enhanced by improved development outcomes, gender equality, environmental management, crisis response and further regional economic integration.

RESOLVES TO:

1. **Encourage** APPF Member States to work together to strengthen the momentum towards strong, sustainable and balanced global economic growth, to contribute to the ongoing prosperity and security of the region;
2. **Renew** our efforts to support strong democratic institutions, accountable governance

and robust civil society in our region;

3. **Reaffirm** our mutual respect for independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity in accordance with the UN Charter and international law;

4. **Reaffirm** our commitment to, and strengthening of, the regional multilateral architecture, including the EAS, ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM+) and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC);

5. **Declare** the need to step up practical efforts to build a multipolar world order system, to create a secure and adequate configuration of interstate relations in the Asia Pacific region to better reflect the latest developments in the region, and accommodate the interests of all states;

6. **Commit** to the goals of a nuclear-weapon-free world, strengthened counter-terrorism cooperation, and effective regional diplomacy to address common transnational issues;

7. **Promote** deeper cultural understanding, people-to-people contact and enhanced cooperation in uplifting the lives and wellbeing of the Asia-Pacific community to foster mutual trust and solidarity;

8. **Encourage** women's full and effective participation in all levels of decision-making in conflict prevention, resolution and peace building; and the protection of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations including through ensuring perpetrators of sexual violence are held to account;

9. **Call on** all Asia-Pacific nations to work together to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

Quito, January 14th, 2015