

ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM (APPF)

24TH ANNUAL MEETING

RESOLUTION APPF24/RES.02

EMPOWERING OLDER PERSONS IN THE SOCIETY

(Sponsored by Malaysia)

The 24th Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum;

Recalling the World Assemblies on Ageing in 1982 and 2002, World Health Assemblies 58.16 on Strengthening Active and Healthy Ageing (2005), the regional meetings reaffirming the adoption of the Vienna International Plan of Action on Ageing (1982), the United Nations Principles for Older Persons (1991), the Macao Plan of Action on Aging for Asia and the Pacific (1999), the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and the Political Declaration (2002), and the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW);

Realizing the significant growing proportion of the ageing population will require adaptation of comprehensive and effective social protection systems to meet emerging challenges and uphold the wellbeing of the older persons;

Aware of the differences on the policies pertaining to the promotion of the human rights and well-being of the older persons in each country in the region;

Acknowledging that members of Parliament can play important roles in defining and supervising the implementation of policy initiatives through legislative and political means at the national and regional level;

RESOLVES TO:

1. **Nurture** intergenerational solidarity towards a society of all ages by raising public awareness on the human rights issues, challenges and the needs to protect the interest of older persons;

2. **Promote** and adapt inclusive development, needs-based and life-cycle approaches; and eliminate any forms of maltreatment on the basis of old-age and gender through ensuring universal access of older persons to infrastructure and public service; including the health care services, legal protection as well as income security and generating opportunities;
3. **Forge** stronger partnerships and commitments among the civil society, corporate organizations, and other stakeholders in supporting and providing opportunities for healthy, active and prosperous elderly lives;
4. **Strengthen** the networking among APPF Member States and enhance collaboration among the APPF Parliamentarians for knowledge sharing and exchange of information on national experience and good management practices especially in the area of policy formulation, monitoring of programmes and initiatives as well as the harmonization of laws and legislation as a mean to empower the elderly;
5. **Encourage** the development of reliable information and databases on older persons, including improved capacity in bridging the gaps in policy, research and practice;
6. **Urge** APPF Member States to address the need for special protection of older persons, through, for example, the introduction and implementation of laws and policies prohibiting age-related discrimination, the restructuring of national pension plans to provide broad coverage, and the inclusion of the principle of equality and non-discrimination in national constitutions.