

**ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM (APPF)  
25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING**

**RESOLUTION APPF25/RES.11**

**REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL STRATEGIES ON COMBATTING  
NON-COMMUNICABLE AND COMMUNICABLE DISEASES**

*(Sponsored by Australia)*

**The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum:**

**Recognising** the declaration by Pacific Islands Forum Leaders in 2011 that the region is in a 'non-communicable disease (NCD) crisis' with some of the highest rates of NCDs in the world, accounting for approximately 70 per cent of all deaths in the Pacific;

**Recalling** that Pacific Island Forum Economic Ministers and Pacific Health Ministers unanimously endorsed the Pacific NCD Roadmap in 2014;

**Noting** the Pacific NCD Partnership launched at the 2014 Small Island Developing States (SIDS) conference in Samoa;

**Welcoming** the country pledges at the 2016 Pacific NCD Summit in Tonga to translate global and regional commitments into local action;

**Underscoring** the importance of strengthening efforts to prevent and control NCDs which have devastating consequences for the health and economies of Pacific Island countries;

**Noting** that tuberculosis remains a major public health concern for many countries in the Pacific region and that many of these countries are at the top of the World Health Organisation's (WHO) TB high-burden country list;

**Recalling** that the WHO Tuberculosis report of 2016 suggests that tuberculosis is once again the world's leading infectious-disease killer, with 10.7 million people falling ill with tuberculosis, resulting in approximately 1.8 million deaths per year; and

**Noting** that air-travel is a major form of transport between the many small-island states in the Asia-Pacific region which makes the easy transmission of tuberculosis a significant risk to the collective health of the region;

**RESOLVES TO:**

1. **Advocate** for urgent and stronger action at the highest political levels to address NCDs;
2. **Encourage** strengthened cooperation on multi-sectoral responses which prioritise prevention and cost-effective primary care for NCDs;

3. **Support** opportunities for APPF Member States' collaboration in implementing good practice to address NCDs;
4. **Call on** parliaments of the APPF Member States to provide strong national leadership and robust monitoring and evaluation systems to measure progress towards NCD objectives, in line with global and regional commitments;
5. **Promote** accelerated progress on key strategies of the Asia-Pacific NCD Roadmap;
6. **Advocate** for the management of tuberculosis to be on the agenda of the Pacific Ministers of Health meeting in the Cook Islands in 2018; and
7. **Call on** parliaments of the APPF Member States to confirm their commitment to fight tuberculosis and to support any new initiatives for the development of diagnosis, treatment and vaccines.