

APPF 26/RES/01

**26<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**

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**RESOLUTION ON PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY FOR  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND SHARED PROSPERITY  
IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION**

(Sponsored by Australia, Canada, Indonesia, Mexico, Mongolia,  
New Zealand, Russia and Viet Nam)

**The 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum:**

**Recalling** the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> APPF resolutions on Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women and Girls;

**Reaffirming** the Convention on the Eliminations of All Forms of Discrimination against Woman (CEDAW), International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation, ILO Equal Remuneration Convention and other relevant international instruments covering women's rights;

**Mindful of the fact** that although women constitute almost half of the world's population, they are continued to be marginalized in all sectors of development;

**Referring** to the result of the 2017 World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap Index which pointed out that the average global gender gap is now 32% a slight increase compared to average gap last year which stood by 31.7%;

**Recognizing** the significant role of information and technology that are being vastly developed in this millennial era can play to increase gender parity of 50:50 by 2030;

**Acknowledging** that greater economic participation by women spurs economic growth and that greater utilization of millennia's technology for development of business opportunity can promote greater economic opportunities for women;

**Aware** that women are often disproportionately affected by climate change and natural disasters owing to gender inequalities and the dependence of many women on natural resources for their livelihoods;

**Recognizing** the importance of involving men in the promotion of women's economic empowerment, the elimination of gender-based violence and the advancement of women's political participation;

**Resolves to:**

- 1. Call upon** the parliaments of the APPF Member States to continue focusing on legislative support of expansion of women's legal, economic and social opportunities, enhancement of the system of family, maternity and childhood protection, and provision of high-quality medical and social aid.
- 2. Update** national laws that promote women's access to financial and capital market, economic and digital education that allow their inclusion in economic activities.
- 3. Empower** women to maximise their access to technology, especially for those who live in remote and rural areas in order to enhance their economic opportunities.
- 4. Raise** the awareness of the "internet of things" to enhance digital literacy of women and girls in Asia and the Pacific.
- 5. Call on** Asia Pacific countries who have not done so, to set up regulatory framework that can promote equal remuneration at work, women's leadership, entrepreneurship, skills and competencies.
- 6. Develop** a national financial infrastructure and multinational regional financial institute for women employment, Micro Small Medium Enterprises and entrepreneurship.

7. **Endorse** the 2017 APEC Women and the Economy Forum Statement on Enhancing Women's Economic Inclusion and Empowerment in the Changing World.
8. **Welcome** the new initiative of APEC Women and the Economy Sub-Fund which is scheduled to be operational in 2018.
9. **Urge** APPF members to develop measures that reduce unpaid and domestic work done by women to achieve inclusive growth.
10. **Call** on APPF Member States to better understand the gender differentiated effects of climate change and natural disasters.
11. **Encourage** more women leaders to take an active role in promoting, defending and protecting women's rights at all aspects.
12. **Encourage** APPF Member States to consider how young people can be better engaged with Parliament and for girls to see politics and leadership as viable career choices.
13. **Urge** APPF Member States to devote particular attention to abolishing harmful practices and legislation that discriminate against women and girls, or perpetuate and condone violence and discrimination against them including child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation.
14. **Encourage** women parliamentarians from the parliaments of the APPF Member States to take part in the Eurasian Women's Forum to be held on September 20 – 21, 2018 in Saint Petersburg (Russia).