



RESOLUTION
ON
COMBATING TERRORISM AND TRANSNATIONAL CRIME IN THE REGION

(Sponsored by Australia, Cambodia, Mexico and Russian Federation)

We, the parliamentarians of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF), gathering in the historic city of Siem Reap, Kingdom of Cambodia, for the 27th Annual Meeting of APPF under the theme “Strengthening Parliamentary Partnership for Peace, Security and Sustainable Development”:

Recalling all the previous APPF resolutions on terrorism, organized crime and transnational crime which involves, *inter alia*, human trafficking, drug trafficking, money laundering, kidnapping, and other related criminal activities;

Taking note of the relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1624 (2005) encouraging the adoption of necessary and appropriate measures to prohibit by law incitement to commit terrorist acts, 2320 (2016) encouraging cooperation with regional and sub-regional organizations in the maintenance of peace and security, 2341 (2017) focusing on the need to protect critical infrastructure against terrorist attack, and 2354 (2017) supporting a comprehensive international framework on countering of terrorist narratives;

Recognizing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime; the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children; the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air; the United Nations Convention against Corruption; the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora; the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs; the Convention on Psychotropic Substances; and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances;

Reaffirming the commitment of the Asia-Pacific region to the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy adopted on September 8, 2006, through intensified national, regional, and international efforts for its full, all-round and balanced implementation;

Reiterating that the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum, in the 2016 Lima Declaration, strongly condemned terrorism in all its forms and manifestations; and later adopted the 2018-2022 Strategic Plan of the Working Group against Terrorism, which aims to secure an Asia-Pacific region free from terrorist activities, supporting free trade and investment to ensure regional growth and prosperity;

Noting with concern the continued growth in transnational crimes, including human and drug trafficking, illegal wildlife trade, corruption, cybercrime, maritime crime and piracy, which trend undermines public institutions, destabilizes states, threatens social fabric, and jeopardizes markets through the sale of counterfeit products and the trafficking of drugs, persons and wildlife;

Cognizant of how the increased complexity of decentralized transnational criminal and terror networks has decreased the ability of any one state to effectively detect, monitor or counter criminal activities;

Reiterating that terrorism should not be associated with any religion, nationality, ethnic group or civilization, and acts of terrorism are unjustifiable regardless of their motivations, whenever, wherever and by whomsoever committed;

Deeply disturbed by the practices of terrorist groups and those who sponsor them, by the expansion of the terrorism territory, by the returning of foreign terrorist fighters, by the misinterpretation and misrepresentation of religion, and by the increasing use of information and communication technologies to foment, recruit, plan and conduct violent acts;

Emphasizing that international initiatives in combating terrorism and violent extremism leading to terrorism and broad international coalition to combat global terrorism shall rely on the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and United Nations Security Council Resolutions and the fundamental standards of international law, as well as recognition of the central role of states and their competent authorities in combating terrorism;

Recalling the commitments and cooperation made by APPF Member States to condemn and combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including, *inter alia*, cooperation on implementing the existing legal frameworks and law enforcement mechanisms;

Expressing deep sympathy for the victims of terrorism and organized crime and deep concern for the growing evidence of links between international terrorism and transnational crime; and

Emphasizing the urgent need to develop effective means to counter terrorist activities globally, including ways to counter the spread of violent extremist ideology and propaganda, forestall recruitment, and curtail financing;

RESOLVE TO:

1. **Reaffirm** our commitment to counter violent extremist ideology and transnational crimes, particularly those which lead to terrorism in all forms and manifestations, through means such as the prevention of violent radicalization, financing, recruitment and mobilization of individuals into terrorist groups and activities;
2. **Underscore** the necessity of the effective implementation of relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions on counter-terrorism and the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, support for the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism and for APPF Member States to implement their obligations, and take note of the United Nations Secretary-General Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism;
3. **Request** Member States to accede to and/or ratify and implement relevant international instruments on counter-terrorism and combatting of transnational crime, and develop and implement appropriate and effective legal, regulatory and administrative counter-terrorism regimes;
4. **Call upon** Member States to strengthen law enforcement cooperation including the exchange of information and intelligence, best practices, capacity building and technical assistance programs so as to counter violent radicalization, prevention, investigation, and prosecution of transnational crime and acts of terrorism;

5. **Promote** inter-parliamentary cooperation among the APPF Member States to pass better and more sophisticated laws, to actively promote the international counter-terrorism agenda and political discussion and to effectively combat terrorist activities and transnational crimes through information sharing and the development of national counter-terrorism capacities;
6. **Call upon** Member States to strengthen cooperation and mechanism, including cyber security strategies, in suppressing the flow of foreign terrorist fighters and prevent the recruitment operation of terrorist groups including money laundering and financial transactions that fund the acts of terrorism;
7. **Call upon** Member States to continue and enhance cooperative bilateral and multilateral efforts to combat human and drug trafficking, as well as implement national and international measures, including the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime;
8. **Urge** Member States to enhance effective collaboration mechanisms and the existing counter-terrorism coordination to prevent the cross-border movement of terrorists or terrorist groups and disrupt the linkages between terrorism and transnational organized crime by effective border and customs control and management, security of travel documents and transport security arrangements;
9. **Call upon** Member States to share best practices and support education and skill training programs for inmates related to radicalized violent extremist ideology in order to rehabilitate them before reintegrating into society;
10. **Encourage** Member States to promote public awareness and participation including private sector, communities, civil society organizations, in efforts to counter violent extremism and terrorism, as well as develop a culture of peace, enhance interfaith dialogues, promote positive messages and values of moderation including non- violence, mutual respect and understanding; and
11. **Recommend** Member States to consider the alternative of reintegrating former violent actors as a vehicle for peaceful reconciliation, aiming towards building a more tolerant, peaceful and prosperous society, thereby strengthening state institutions.