

APPF28/RES/08

## RESOLUTION ON ENHANCING PARLIAMENTARY ROLES IN RESPONSE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

(Resolution sponsored by Australia, Chile, Federated States of Micronesia, Indonesia and Japan)

We the parliamentarians of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF), gathering in Canberra, Australia, for the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the APPF under the theme *Parliamentary Partnerships for 2020 and Beyond*:

**Referring** to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; sustainable development goal number 13; the Human Rights Council Resolution on Climate Change (HRC41/21); the Kainaki II Declaration for Urgent Climate Action Now 2019; the Boe Declaration on Regional Security; and the Resolution on Strengthening Joint Action in Response to Climate Change adopted by the 26<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum in 2018 in Hanoi, Viet Nam within the framework of the global and universal program called Transforming our World;

**Reaffirming** the Paris Agreement adopted in 2015 under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change by the world leaders at the Conference of the Parties (COP21) which entered into force on November 2016, and the outcomes of the COP22, COP23, COP24, and COP25 working to enable global action on climate change;

**Taking note**, with due concern over the *Reports of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Climate Change* (IPCC) released in October 2018, which state that the effects of climate change would be worse than foreseen, if the 1.5 degrees Celsius threshold is exceeded; the IPCC *Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate* (SROCC) released in September 2019, which highlights that unless significant and coordinated changes are made to limit global warming, the world's oceans and frozen areas will undergo unprecedented changes that will be devastating to human life, and the IPCC *Climate Change and Land* report (CCL) released in August 2019 which noted unsustainable uses of land is worsening the impacts of climate change;

**Reaffirming** the urgent need to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions to limit any temperature increase to well below 2° Celsius from pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5° Celsius above pre-industrial levels;

**Reinforcing** the need for transformational change at scale, and for courageous and committed leaders prepared to urgently deliver on real, tangible actions addressing climate change;

**Deeply concerned** that climate change disproportionately impacts women, indigenous peoples and people with disabilities, including challenges compounded by climate change such as food security, water shortage, health, and disaster-induced migration as outlined in the *Assessment Reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* (IPCC);



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**Recalling** the Paris Agreement appeal to respect, promote and consider State obligations on human rights, including the rights of women, indigenous peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations when taking action to address climate change;

**Expressing** concerns that while climate change affects everyone, the adverse effects are felt most acutely by those segments of the population that are already in vulnerable situations owing to factors such as geography, poverty, gender, age, indigenous or minority status, national or social origin, birth and other status, and disability;

**Welcoming** and taking seriously the voices of young people and their concerns that climate change will have on their future, including through implementing the “Kwon Gesh” Youth Climate Pledge;

**Recognising** the global efforts at the UN Secretary General Climate Summit in 2019, New York, to advance ambitious practical climate solutions;

**Noting** that all parts of the Asia Pacific region are affected negatively by climate change, and that some countries—including small island nations and landlocked developing countries—face an especially grave threat from long-term changes to the environment;

**Recognising** the need from developed countries to jointly mobilise USD 100 billion by 2020 to address the needs of developing countries in the context of meaningful mitigation action and transparency in implementation;

**Acknowledging** the crucial role of parliamentarians, in particular the regional commitment among APPF members to adopt the legislation and national budgets to ensure effective implementation to realise the objectives of the United Nations Framework on Climate Change and the Sustainable Development Goals;

**Recognising** that disasters, many of which are exacerbated by climate change and which are increasing in frequency and intensity, significantly impede progress towards sustainable development;

**Noting** that addressing climate change as one of the drivers of disaster risk represents an opportunity to reduce disaster risk in a meaningful and coherent manner throughout the interrelated intergovernmental processes; and

**Acknowledging** the significance of climate action to also support the right to development, guided by the principle of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities that include protection of human rights, in the light of different national circumstances when addressing climate change challenges.

#### **RESOLVE TO:**

1. **Foster** inclusive finance for sustainable development, including public and private financing mobilisation and alignment between them, as well as innovation in a wide range of areas for low emissions and climate resilience development. **Emphasise** the importance of providing financial resources to assist developing countries with respect to both mitigation and adaptation in accordance with the Paris Agreement;
2. **Strengthen** efforts on gender-sensitive and socially-inclusive responses to climate change, in which women, indigenous peoples and people with disability are provided with considered support during climate-related events, and enabled as leaders and resources for climate solutions;
3. **Support** a wide range of clean technologies and approaches, including smart cities, ecosystems and community based approaches, nature based solutions and traditional and indigenous knowledge;

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4. **Request** the international community to increase support for country-led science-based adaptation initiatives intended to improve understanding of, and respond to, risks and build climate capability;
  5. **Commit** to action in the Asia Pacific region, and internationally, to support clean, healthy, and productive oceans, the sustainable management, use and conservation of marine resources, growth in the blue economy, and address the impacts of climate change on ocean health;
  6. **Request** APPF Member Countries to work collectively on solving environmental problems in the Asia Pacific Region by ensuring the implementation of national policies and mechanisms to address, mitigate, and adapt to climate change;
  7. **Commit** to building resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation to cope with climate change to ensure people's wellbeing, food security, access to water resources, and preservation of natural resources;
  8. **Call** on APPF Member Countries to continue working effectively and in good faith on developing mechanisms, modalities, procedures and guidelines towards the implementation of the Paris Agreement, taking into account the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CBDR-RC) in light of national circumstances as provided for under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement;
  9. **Encourage** APPF Member Countries to increase capacity to solve environmental problems, share information and technology, and provide aid and assistance needed to combat environmental challenges to member countries with less capacity;
  10. **Encourage** APPF Member Countries to take forward implementation of the energy efficiency laws program in APPF Member Countries so that they manage to modify the habits of consumers and companies, and that in the long run, reduce electricity costs for both the public and private sector, looking to build energy networks with low emissions contributing to more sustainable development; to fully endorse, and implement Reducing Emission from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+) policies and programs;
  11. **Enhance** transparency, accountability and reporting of climate change actions in our National Assemblies including the participation of women, indigenous peoples, people with disabilities, and youth;
  12. **Call upon** Asia Pacific Parliamentarians to speed up legislative efforts to initiate climate legislation and regulatory reform in accordance with the UNFCCC, the Kyoto Protocol, and the Paris Agreement;
  13. **Encourage** transparency and monitoring in the implementation of new regional public policies which face climate change as a whole, for which APPF Member Countries must adapt their local systems looking to provide greater reliability for their citizens and the international community as a whole;
  14. **Endorse** the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 that aims to substantially reduce disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the

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economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries;

15. **Call** parties to promote efforts for disaster risk reduction such as pre-disaster investment, in order to achieve the seven global targets under the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;
16. **Strengthen** public and private partnership in establishing alternative funds to accelerate the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals that includes climate action;
17. **Call** for APPF member states and parliamentarians to jointly scale up efforts in promoting human rights, gender sensitive approaches, and poverty alleviation in climate action;
18. **Urge** APPF member states and parliamentarians to promote and develop the circular economy as the key enabler in fighting climate change and achieving sustainable growth; and
19. **Encourage** the role of parliament in fostering and monitoring transparent and accountability and reporting of climate change through National Determined Contributions (NDCs).