

APPF28/RES/13

RESOLUTION
ON
BUILDING TRUST FOR PEACE, SECURITY AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGION

(Sponsored by Australia, Russia and Korea)

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

Recalling the previous APPF resolutions on political and security matters in the Asia Pacific region, dealing with peace, security, stability and sustainable development; the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of the United Nations; and IPU Resolution on “Sustaining peace as a vehicle for achieving sustainable development” (138th Assembly, Geneva, 2018);

Reaffirming the 1997 Vancouver Declaration, which articulates the commitment of all APPF Member States to transform the Asia Pacific region into a cohesive, peaceful, secure, stable, and prosperous community; and the 2012 New Tokyo Declaration, which promotes the APPF vision of open and non-exclusive cooperation based on frank and constructive dialogue for peace, stability and prosperity;

Reaffirming the fundamental principles of mutual respect for independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, peaceful settlement of disputes, and restraint from threat and use of force, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia;

Acknowledging the significance of an open and transparent security architecture for the Asia Pacific region, as espoused in ASEAN through the Confidence-Building Measures of the ASEAN Political–Security Community Blueprint, including publication of defence white papers, disclosure of political and security developments, sharing of information on submissions to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms, exchanges of observers of military exercises, and promotion of military exchanges and cooperation;

Convinced that collective dialogue and cooperation within regional multilateral platforms offer more effective, diplomatic, and peaceful means than unilateral actions for resolving differences and disputes and for building mutual trust amongst APPF Member States;

Recognising that conflicts in the Asia Pacific region, including those in seas, may threaten peace, stability, development, and prosperity in the region;

Reaffirming the importance of maintaining and promoting peace, security, stability, safety and freedom of navigation in and overflight above seas throughout the Asia Pacific region in accordance with international law, including UNCLOS, and recognising the benefits of having peace, stability and prosperity in seas throughout the region;

Recognising the impact of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of the United Nations, which seeks to bring physical and material security to people, and achieve sustainable peace, justice and equality; and

Acknowledging the significance of parliaments in adopting and monitoring the implementation of laws that foster peace and dialogue, and are inclusive of all peoples, regardless of gender, age, ethnicity and religion, allowing them to participate in open, tolerant and democratic society.

RESOLVE TO:

1. **Encourage** APPF Member States to share commitment and responsibility in enhancing regional peace, security and prosperity, by avoiding acts of aggression and threat and use of force, with respect to the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other Member States;
2. **Reaffirm** the conviction that the security and cooperation framework in the Asia Pacific region should be based on international law, the indivisibility of security and commit to maintaining and promoting peace, security and stability in the region, as well as to the peaceful resolution of disputes and respect of international law, without resorting to the threat or use of force, in accordance with international law, including the UN Charter and other relevant UN conventions and protocols (for example, the 1982 United Nations Conventions on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS));
3. **Promote** greater transparency and understanding of national defence and security policies among APPF Member States in line with the Confidence-Building Measures of the ASEAN Political–Security Community Blueprint;
4. **Strengthen** dialogue, partnership and cooperation based on the principles of mutual interests; mutual understanding; and respect for independence, sovereignty, equality, and territorial integrity, with a view to building durable peace, stability, security, confidence and prosperity in the region;
5. **Call on** APPF Member States to address differences and settle all disputes through peaceful means, exercising self-restraint and adopting consultation and dialogue;
6. **Invite** parliaments from the Asia Pacific Region to become conduits for mitigating and resolving conflict through inclusive and democratic dialogue with all segments of society, building peace, security, stability, and confidence for the people across the region;
7. **Enhance** joint efforts to narrow development gaps and alleviate poverty among APPF Member States with a view to realising regional and sub-regional integration, and promote economic cooperation as a precondition for shared growth, sustainable development and prosperity for all; and
8. **Enhance** cooperation in tackling non-traditional security matters, such as terrorism and radicalisation to terrorism, transnational crimes, trafficking in persons, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, the incompetent disposal of radioactive waste, cyber-security threats, climate change, environmental degradation, disaster management and food security;
9. **Invite** the APPF member countries to join the broad celebration of the International Day of Parliamentarism on 30 June, established by Resolution 72/278 adopted by the UN

General Assembly at the 72nd meeting on 22 May 2018 “Interaction between the United Nations, national parliaments and the Inter-Parliamentary Union”;

10. **Support** the initiative of the Inter-Parliamentary Union to organise a world conference on interfaith and inter-ethnic dialogue with the participation of Heads of States, parliaments and representatives of world religions, approved by Resolution 72/278 adopted by the UN General Assembly on 22 May 2018 “Interaction between the United Nations, national parliaments and the Inter-Parliamentary Union”; and **ensure** active and meaningful participation of representatives of the APPF member states in it; and
11. **Take** advantage of the APPF Member States parliamentarians’ potential in combating the glorification of nazism, neo-nazism and other practices contributing to the escalation of modern forms of racial discrimination, xenophobia and, related to them, intolerance, proceeding from the fact that the defeat of Nazism in World War II is the world heritage of humanity and monuments to fighters against Nazism in all the states belong in the World Memorial of Humanity. This resolution is consistent with United Nations Resolution 72/156 dated 19 December 2017.