

APPF28/RES/15

## RESOLUTION ON COUNTERING TERRORISM IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION

(Sponsored by the Russian Federation)

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*:

**Pointing out** that terrorism in all its forms and aspects is one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, and any act of terrorism is a crime and unjustifiable wrongdoing irrespective of its motives, and of where, when and by whom it is committed;

**Again calling** on UN Member States, international and regional organisations, as well as all the forces of the world community to unite within the framework of a broad international coalition in countering the global threat of terrorism, primarily coming from ISIS, Al-Qaeda and individuals and organisations related with them, based on the principles of the UN Charter, relevant resolutions of the UN Security Council and international anti-terrorism conventions;

**Confirming** the commitment to the 2006 UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and striving for its full implementation, also in the Asia Pacific Region (APR);

**Stressing** that international cooperation in the field of combating terrorism should be based on international law, including the universally recognised principles of the sovereign equality of states and non-interference in their internal affairs, as well as on the recognition of the decisive role of states and their competent bodies in countering terrorism;

**Condemning** the practice of using terrorist and extremist groups by states, as well as the problems of countering international terrorism as means of achieving political goals;

**Taking into consideration** the risk of emergence of new hotbeds of armed conflicts and further extension of the geography of terrorism, and threats from foreign terrorists returning from armed conflict zones to countries of origin or moving to third countries;

**Noting with concern** that terrorists, by creating false perceptions of religious values, use the Internet and social networks for recruitment and to incite to committing acts of terrorism;

**Condemning** public calls and incitement to terrorism, and in this context, welcoming the UN Security Council resolution 2354 “Threats to international peace and security posed by terrorist acts” in support of a “comprehensive international framework” with a set of recommendations and best practices to counter the terrorist propaganda;

**Highlighting** as priority tasks for the APPF member parliaments the building up of interaction in the fight against the use of information and communication technologies for terrorist and other criminal purposes and for the widespread counter-propaganda of terrorist ideas;



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## RESOLVE TO:

1. **Confirm** that nation states play the leading role and bear primary responsibility in the combating and prevention of terrorism both at the national level and within the framework of international anti-terrorism cooperation;
2. **Call upon** the states of the APPF member countries to consider the impact of unilateral restrictive measures which may have an effect on anti-terrorism cooperation;
3. **Strengthen** inter-parliamentary cooperation within the APPF to improve legal and regulatory frameworks regarding prevention of terrorism;
4. **Create** conditions for effective fighting against this phenomena at the national and international levels including counteraction to the financing of terrorism;
5. **Use** the potential of parliamentary diplomacy for active promotion of meaningful international anti-terrorist agenda and political discussion of anti-terrorist cooperation within the scope of international measures;
6. **Promote** the improvement of cooperation between special services and law enforcement agencies in the field of preventing the use of information and communication technologies in terrorist activities and for cybersecurity;
7. **Contribute** to ratification and implementation of international treaties aimed at combating terrorism;
8. While respecting international human rights law and freedom of speech, **take measures** to harmonise national law in the field of security and combating new challenges and threats, combating terrorism; **focus efforts** on the development of laws countering the use of internet for instigation to extremism and radicalisation, which lead to terrorism and recruitment;
9. **Contribute** to ensuring the rule of law at the international and national level as a fundamental principle governing measures to combat terrorism and provide for strict adherence to the international human rights law.