

THE 21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM

**COOPERATION ON DISASTER PREVENTION, DISASTER MANAGEMENT  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

*Resolution*

*(Sponsored by Australia and the Republic of the Philippines)*

THE 21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM (APPF),

**Acknowledging** that the APPF seeks to provide opportunities for parliamentarians of member states of the Asia Pacific region to promote regional cooperation at all levels on matters of common concern;

**Mindful** of the responsibility of States to protect their citizens and natural resources by reducing the risk of losses from disasters;

**Mindful** of the potential consequences of delays in the entry of relief supplies and skilled personnel necessary for effective disaster relief;

**Considering** the extreme and increasing vulnerability of the Asia-Pacific region to many types of disasters, and that on average, more than 200 million people are affected and more than 70,000 people are killed by natural disasters annually;

**Considering also** that the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015 adopted in 2005 in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan serves as a systematic and strategic blueprint to guide national and international efforts to reduce vulnerabilities and risks induced by naturally occurring hazards and human-made processes;

**Considering further** the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery in 2006 commits itself to help developing countries reduce their vulnerability to natural hazards and adapt to climate change, and to mainstream disaster risk reduction and

climate change adaptation in country development strategies within the purview of the Hyogo Framework for Action;

**Recalling** that a program involving the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction launched in 2010 to enroll leaders of local government units as integral and active part of building resilience in their urban communities, to promote awareness among citizens of the benefits of public investment in disaster risk reduction;

**Noting** the Philippines' implementation of Disaster Risk Management Master Plan in Metro Manila involving the strengthening of Metro Manila Disaster Coordinating Council and institutionalizing disaster risk management within local government framework;

**Reaffirming** the Incheon Declaration on Disaster Reduction in Asia and the Pacific 2010 which considers recent global and regional developments in the field of disaster risk reduction in the region, such as the ratification and entry into force of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response; the cooperation in the area of disaster risk management by the Annual Trilateral Meeting of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea, among others;

**Acknowledging** however that scarce resources and changes in institutional leadership pose as challenges to the implementation process of disaster risk reduction and management plans;

**Acknowledging** also that disaster risk has become an acute and increasing urban problem due to poorly planned urban environment, weak governance, aging and fragile physical infrastructures and gaps in basic services aggravated by rapid urban growth,

**Resolves :**

1. **Call upon** all the APPF Member States to participate fully in the consultation process to develop a post-2015 global framework for disaster risk reduction and to contribute to a new framework that will be people-centered, accountable and effective in building resilience to disasters in our region;

2. **Call upon** all the APPF Member States to reduce human vulnerability by increasing their legal preparedness for disasters including by facilitating timely and

effective disaster relief measures, and supporting community based disaster risk reduction activities;

3. **Urge** APPF member nations to consider environmental factors that contribute to disasters such as illegal logging and pass laws that will promote risk-sensitive comprehensive land use and encourage greater cooperation between the public and private sectors in the area of disaster risk reduction;

4. **Encourage** the APPF Member States to further undertake accelerated risk reduction activities in line with HFA through raising awareness and building capacity for sharing information, technology, sound practices and lessons learned in the areas of climate change and disaster risk reduction and management;

5. **Urges** all Governments in the region to integrate sustainable development into policymaking, to bring sustainable development to the forefront of their agendas and budgets, and to consider innovative models of international cooperation to achieve sustainable development.