

**RESOLUTION ON COOPERATION TO OVERCOME
THE EARTHQUAKE AND TSUNAMI DISASTER**

(Sponsored by Indonesia, Japan and Viet Nam)

The 13th Annual Meeting of the Asia - Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

Expressing its deep concern at the massive loss of human lives and heavy material damage in some countries in the Asian and African continents caused by the recent earthquake and tsunami hit,

Noting with high appreciation the close cooperation and coordination among Governments, international agencies, non-governmental organizations and individuals all over the world, in the prompt response to provide emergency relief assistance to the victims of the earthquake and tsunami,

Welcoming the request for assistance of more than \$970 million through the Flash Appeal issued by the United Nations in January 2005 and the assistance of more than \$4 billion already announced by various countries,

Welcoming also with enthusiasm all efforts by the international community to prevent future disasters, including the convening of the World Conference on Disaster Reductions to be held in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan, from 18 to 22 January 2005 and express hope that the outcome of the Conference would strengthen the Jakarta Declaration on Action to Strengthen Emergency Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction on the Aftermath of Earthquake and Tsunami Disaster;

Welcoming also the initiative of China to host a Symposium on Tsunami Early Warning in Beijing from 25 to 26 January 2005, inviting ASEAN, India, Sri Lanka, Maldives and other countries, and experts from international organizations;

Stressing the significance of the assistance provided by the international community in strengthening national capacity of the countries affected by the earthquake and tsunami, in delivering relief assistance to the victims, and in implementing rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes which are important for the future of the international community as a whole and in particular of the Asia Pacific region,

Deeply concerned about the fact that natural disasters in every corner of the globe continue to claim high numbers of casualties and cause immense material damage,

Convinced that tragic losses of disasters may be reduced if warning systems were in place and coastal population was equipped with knowledge on appropriate responses to such disasters,

Resolves to:

1. Urge all countries to continue making maximum efforts possible in search, emergency relief, rehabilitation, and reconstruction activities relating to this disaster and in supporting these activities within the framework of close coordination and solidarity centered on the United Nations;

2. Encourage APPF member countries to continue their response to the calls for disaster relief from tsunami-hit countries and international organizations, including the Flash Appeal by the United Nations, and fulfill their assistance commitments for national rehabilitation and reconstruction in countries hit by the earthquake and tsunami;
3. Call on Governments in the Asia-Pacific region to promote cooperation in addressing natural disasters, including the development and implementation of risk-reduction strategies, particularly, on prevention, disaster preparedness, mitigation and early warning system at all levels, and to integrate them where appropriate, into national development plans so as to enhance the resilience of populations to address and reduce the risk to them, their livelihoods, the social economic infrastructure and environmental resources; and in this regard, the outcome of the Second International Conference on Early Warning, held in Bonn, Germany, from 16 to 18 October 2003;
4. Support the Declaration on Action to Strengthen Emergency Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction on the Aftermath of Earthquake and Tsunami Disaster of 26 December 2004 adopted at the Special ASEAN Leaders' Meeting on Aftermath of Earthquake and Tsunami in Jakarta, on 6 January 2005;
5. Urge related countries and international organizations to extend technical and financial cooperation so that the state-of-the-art technology that is already developed in national tsunami warning networks in the Pacific region can be positively utilized and developed in the Indian Ocean region and the Asia-Pacific region;
6. Call on the United Nations and its relevant agencies to continue their role and contribution in the development of disaster reduction strategies as well as in providing concrete assistance to emergency and rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in countries affected by the disasters;
7. Affirm the intention of the APPF members to continue mobilizing their governments and peoples to contribute to emergency relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction activities relating to the disaster caused by recent attacks of earthquake and tsunami and to the prevention of other calamities, including intra-regional development of an early warning system.