



**EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING
ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**

**CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA
10-13 JANUARY 2000**

**Joint Communique
Annex III**

Resolutions adopted at the 8th Annual Meeting

Resolution on Global Trade Liberalisation

(APPF8/RES/13)

Submitted by the American and Japanese Delegations The 8th Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

Concerned by the lack of progress achieved at the third Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization in Seattle, including:

The failure to launch a new round of multilateral trade negotiations that would extend the benefits of further trade liberalization to all WTO members;

The lack of agreement on tariff liberalization in certain sectors including those identified by APEC member economies as part of the voluntary sectoral liberalization initiative; The lack of progress on the issue of non tariff barriers; and

The resulting loss of momentum toward further trade liberalization;

Resolves to:

1.Call upon WTO members to achieve an early launch of a new round of

negotiations including agriculture, services and WTO rules on trade facilitation, enhanced tariff liberalization including in sectors previously identified by participating APEC economies; and the reduction of nontariff barriers;

2.Call upon WTO members to create a negotiating process that will effectively address the concerns of all WTO members;

3.Call upon the WTO to enhance its transparency in order to address legitimate concerns over its activities, to encourage more active participation in orderly negotiations by members and to promote the benefits of international trade; and

4. Call upon APEC, under the leadership this year of Brunei, to take the lead in launching a new trade round by reinvigorating its regional trade liberalization initiatives, including facilitating customs procedures.