



Resolution on Globalization and the New Round of Negotiations of the WTO (Indonesia, Mexico)

The 12th Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

Convinced that the WTO contribute significantly to world economic growth and development.

Aware that the World Trade Organization Fifth Ministerial Conference, held last September in Cancun, Mexico, concluded without achieving any substantial agreement in terms of global trade, particularly in the field of agricultural subsidies;

Considering that as of the conclusion of the Ministerial Meeting in Doha, in the year 2001, none of the deadlines in each of the negotiations was complied with, resulting in an overburdened agenda that made it much more difficult to reach agreements in the Cancun Ministerial Meeting;

Knowing that Mexico, as President of the Conference, promoted a transparent negotiation process in which the interests of all the WTO members were well represented;

Recognizing that the lack of capacity to reach commitments and consensuses in key points of the Doha Development Agenda, was mainly due to the differences surrounding the inclusion in the negotiation agenda the so-called Singapore Issues, which have been considered as “non-priority” by the G-90, made up by developing countries, the African group, and the ACP countries (Africa, Caribbean, and Pacific);

Knowing also that the impossibility to reach agreements surrounding this topic severely hindered the negotiations in agricultural matter, which will affect all the WTO members, particularly the developing countries and the poorest sectors in more developed countries;

Considering also that for a multilateral trade system to benefit the WTO members, both the developed and the developing members, it is necessary to promote the reinitiating of negotiations and to obtain results, particularly in agricultural subsidies;

Recognizing also that the negotiations within the World Trade Organization imply the search of consensuses surrounding balanced proposals that incorporate the different interests of all the members and, therefore, are acceptable for all;

Accepting that the encouragement to the multilateral trade system and the support of the Doha Round requires multilateral negotiations, recognizing that the internal political

decisions of each of the members are equally important – particularly of their parliaments – to advance in the integration of a world trade system with clear rules;

RESOLVES TO:

1. Encourage members of the WTO to enhance the multilateral trading system as stipulated in the Doha Development Agenda;
2. Insist that developed countries should avoid the creation of market distortions by imposing subsidies as well as tariff peaks and tariff escalations and promote the fair economic competition.
3. Urge the parliamentarians of the region to offer clear alternatives to deal with the claims of the most vulnerable groups of our societies, affected by the world economic and trade liberalization processes and to promote a responsible and efficient management of the economic and trade issues that affect the global security and stability, with clear social criteria;
4. Urge also the APPF member countries to recognize the importance of achieving progress in the negotiations of agricultural subsidies in the development of bilateral or multilateral trade negotiations to avoid the generation of unfair growth that expands the gaps between the developed and developing nations and the creation of distortions in the markets that could affect the food security of our nations and to make the commitment to make all the necessary efforts to achieve progress in this matter;
5. Recognize that the negotiations developed in the framework of the Doha Development Agenda must reconcile the various positions among the developed and developing countries, accepting that the postures of the latter must be mainly understood in terms of the large economic and social lags experienced, which can only be reduced if the benefits of the economic growth and development are equal for all.