

THE 21ST ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM

POLITICAL AND SECURITY MATTERS IN ASIA PACIFIC

Resolution

(Sponsored by Australia, Philippines, Malaysia, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation)

THE 21ST ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIA PACIFIC
PARLIAMENTARY FORUM,

Recalling the Resolution APPF20/RES/5 “Political and security matters in the Asia Pacific region” adopted at the 20th Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum in Tokyo in January 2012;

Taking into consideration the shifting of global economic and strategic weight to the Asia Pacific region;

Stressing the importance of all participants to the APPF, given that peace and stability of the Asia Pacific region is a critical issue that may significantly affect not only this region, but also the entire world, to come up with measures of cooperation by actively engaging in discussions;

Acknowledging the importance of parliamentary diplomacy in order to contribute to international peace and stability, as discussed in the Joint Communiqué adopted at the Seoul G20 Speakers’ Consultation and the New Tokyo Declaration adopted during the 20th APPF Annual Meeting;

Cognizant of the need to preserve peace and security of the region through the adherence to the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter and the norms and principles of international law and democracy for the long term prosperity of the region as a whole;

Standing up for establishing an open, transparent, equal, inclusive and indivisible security system in the region based on collective efforts, the supremacy of international law, and bound to take into the account the legitimate interests of all countries of the region with no exception;

Urging all the APPF Member States nations in their bilateral and multilateral cooperation to respect independence, sovereignty, equality, territorial integrity and national identity of all States, avoiding interference into internal affairs, as required by the UN Charter;

Stressing that regional security is to be maintained also by positive results in economic and social development, by addressing the environmental challenges and effective emergency response;

Resolves to:

1. **Call upon** the Parliaments and the Governments of the Asia Pacific states to give priority to reinforcing the legal framework of security to strengthen peace and security in the Asia Pacific region;

2. **Encourage** the APPF Member States to work together to strengthen the momentum towards strong, sustainable and balanced economic growth, to contribute to the ongoing prosperity and stability of the region;

3. **Renew** our efforts to support strong democracy, democratic institutions, accountable governance and robust civil society in the region;

4. **Underline** that at a current stage it is urgent to form a new indivisible, inclusive and comprehensive architecture of security and sustainable development that would meet the interests of all the nations in the region and become a safeguard of secure and stable environment in Asia Pacific. Such system of intergovernmental relations should be based on the principles of supremacy of international law, equality, openness and transparency;

5. **Renew** the commitment to refrain from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the UN Charter against the political independence or territorial integrity of any State, and not to take or support any actions aimed at overthrowing legitimate governments or undermining the stability of other states;

6. **Strive** to settle differences, should they occur by peaceful political and diplomatic means based on international law;

7. **Urge** the Asia Pacific states to develop bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the military sphere not directed against third countries as well as develop cross-border cooperation and people-to-people contacts;

8. **Reaffirm** that the effective management of regional security issues must be supported by strong and transparent regional institutions such as the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the South Asian Association For Regional Cooperation (SAARC), the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the East Asia Summit (EAS), the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia (CICA), the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD), the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM);

9. **Support the efforts** to strengthen the multilateral network diplomacy, including the parliamentary diplomacy, by fostering and promoting interaction among regional organizations and institutions as well as among the parliamentary structures within and outside the region;

10. **Commit** to the goals of a nuclear weapon-free world, strengthened cooperation against the threats of nuclear and missile proliferation based on internationally agreed basic principles and system of the United Nations;

11. **Call upon** the Parliaments and the Governments of the Asia Pacific states to further consolidate regional efforts to combat terrorism, illicit drugs and precursors production and trafficking, and transnational organized crime, along with other new challenges and threats.