

RESOLUTION ON TERRORISM

(Sponsored by Australia, Japan, Russia and Viet Nam)

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

Noting with concern the continuation of terrorist acts in the region and worldwide;

Expressing deep concern about the increase of number of victims, including children, in various regions of the world as a result of international terrorist activity;

Expressing deep sympathy with the victims of terrorism and their families;

Considering that the actions of terrorists put in immediate threat the fundamental right- the right to life, as well as the social and economic development of states;

Referring to the APPF resolutions on terrorism, adopted unanimously at the previous annual meetings, and to all resolutions on terrorism that have been adopted to date by the United Nations;

Convinced that all terrorism is a crime that can not be justified under any circumstances, regardless of motive, location, timing, or identity of the perpetrator;

Reaffirming the need to use every possible means in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations to combat the threat to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts;

Reaffirming our shared determination to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms through close and effective cooperation;

Reaffirming the effectiveness and the importance of the international counter-terrorism conventions and protocols which strictly bring to justice those responsible for terrorist acts as well as the need to prevent terrorists and their supporters from gaining access to the international financial system and to suppress the flow of funds to terrorist networks;

Recognizing that it is important for all countries to seek to enhance their counter-terrorism capabilities with a view to depriving terrorists of any safe haven;

Convinced that it is important to continuously explore measures for eradicating terrorism and mindful of recent development and efforts at the regional and global level for preventing and suppressing terrorism;

Recognizing that the transnational nature of terrorism calls for a comprehensive national, regional and global response that embraces actions on many fronts, including by addressing the economic, social and political factors that create conditions in which extremism can take root and flourish;

Declaring that terrorism contravenes the laws, religious beliefs and fundamental values of all countries concerned and noting that terrorism should not be associated with any race, culture or religion, and that counter-terrorism measures must consistently be implemented in accordance with universally-recognized principles of international law;

Confirming the central coordinating role of the United Nations in the international efforts to counteracts terrorism;

Welcoming the progress achieved in regional counter-terrorist cooperation, in particular, within the framework of APEC, ASEAN, ARF, Asia-Europe Meeting, CIS, Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and the Collective Security Treaty Organization;

Welcoming progress in international counter-terrorism cooperation as evidenced especially in the paragraphs relating to counter-terrorism of the Secure and Facilitated International Travel Initiative (SAFTI) G8 Action Plan issued at the G8 Sea Islands Summit Meeting in July 2004 and the Santiago Declaration ("One Community, our Future") adopted at the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting in November 2004;

Emphasizing the importance of enhancing dialogue and strengthening mutual understanding among civilizations, cultures and religions in order to settle the unresolved regional conflicts and the entire scope of global problems, which would make for effective struggle against terrorism;

Resolves to:

1. Request all UN member countries to fully implement the UN Security Council resolutions relating to counter-terrorism measures, including Resolution 1373;
2. Request APPF member countries to accede to, ratify and implement in good faith all 12 international counter-terrorism conventions and protocols,

including the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism; to establish relevant domestic legislation to prevent terrorism; and to cooperate in realizing an early adoption of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism and Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism which are currently under negotiation;

3. Encourage all states to pursue national and international cooperation and coordination among police, defence, justice, customs, immigration, intelligence and other relevant agencies to ensure more effective law enforcement, border control and intelligence information sharing efforts;

4. Request APPF member countries to note that capacity building in various areas, including suppressing the financing of terrorism and preventing the acquisition and/or use of weapons of mass destruction by terrorist groups, is essential in order to combat terrorism more effectively and to promote the necessary cooperation among member countries in order to enhance their capabilities through such multilateral frameworks as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum, and the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF);

5. Underline the necessity of efficient collective efforts aimed at strengthening and perfection of the legal basis of the international antiterrorist cooperation;

6. Note the importance of APPF members efforts aimed at harmonizing their antiterrorist legislation, rendering each other necessary legal assistance and technical support on these issues as well as to call them to intensify these efforts;

7. Call upon APPF members to cooperate in combating terrorism, especially with those states in which or against which citizens the acts of terrorism have been committed, with the purpose to find those who participate or attempt to participate in financing, planning, preparing or committing acts of terrorism, support or assist either harbor them; to deny those persons any refuge and to institute criminal proceedings against them on the principle "either extradite, or prosecute";

8. Emphasize the necessity for the states to enhance information exchange on terrorists and terrorist organizations, their activity, plans, movements and financing;

9. Point to special importance of reliable prevention of access of terrorists to the weapon of mass destruction;

10. Note the importance of combating the transnational organized crime, often being the nutrient medium for terrorists activity, including such kinds of

crimes as illegal trafficking of narcotics, psychotropic substances and their precursors, money laundering, illicit arms sales;

11. Support escalation of antiterrorist efforts by regional organizations as the important component of global strategy of counteraction to threats and challenges to the security of XXI century being formed under the aegis of the United Nations;

12. Urge the prompt coordination in the United Nations of the Universal convention on the international terrorism and the International convention on combating nuclear terrorism, which could strengthen the legal base of antiterrorist cooperation essentially;

13. Note the importance of establishment of special APPF body to combat terrorism as the permanent mechanism for exchange of expertise of parliament members of in the area of perfection and harmonization of antiterrorist legislation;

14. Encourage all states to uphold universal human rights standards in the prosecution of the global war against terrorism;

15. Remain seized of this matter.