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**EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING  
ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**

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

**Joint Communiqué  
Annex III**

**Resolutions adopted at the 8th Annual Meeting**

**Resolution on the Protection of Cultural Goods**

**(APPF8/RES/3)**

Submitted by the Peruvian Delegation

The 8th Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

Bearing in mind the 1970 Convention of the United Nations Education, Science and Culture Organisation on the "Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership Of Cultural Property",

Recalling the 1972 Convention of the United Nations Education, Science and Culture Organisation on the "Protection of the world cultural and natural heritage", Recalling the terms of the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects,

Resolves to:

1. Declare that the spoliation of the cultural heritage at the national levels, in some cases, deeply related to the life conditions. Therefore, spoliation is not only an inadequate medicine for poverty but, in the mid and long term, it is a cause of the cultural and economic impoverishment.

2. Emphasise that the preservation, in its places of origin, of the vestiges from the past it is not only a right of the peoples but it is also a contribution to the hope of a better future. This enables impoverished regions to become conscious of the value of the heritage they have, through the contact with cultural and scientific missions, allowing the establishment of museums and other institutions dedicated to the study and preservation of their heritage. It is also important to underline the significant impact preservation has on the economy of those peoples due to the increase of cultural tourism and other related activities such as handicrafts and cultural industries. The defence of their cultural heritage is, in fact, an important variable for the future development and improvement of life conditions of those peoples and, at the same time, is the exercise of a responsible behaviour towards the past and its memory.

3. Encourage all member countries to promote the adoption of a regional consciousness about the need to preserve the cultural diversity of the peoples from the Asia Pacific Region through the implementation of different mechanisms and strategies that should be enabled by member States.