



APPF29/RES/02

**RESOLUTION ON STRENGTHENING REGIONAL
MULTILATERALISM AND ADDRESSING ISSUES BASED ON NORMS
AND RULES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW**

Draft Resolution Sponsored by: Republic of Korea, Australia and Russian Federation

We, the parliamentarians of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF), participating in the 29th Annual Meeting of the APPF held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, under the theme *The Role of Parliaments in Strengthening Resilience in the Post-Covid-19 Era*:

Reaffirming the Vancouver Declaration of 1997, which proclaimed the pledge of all APPF Member Countries to transform the Asia-Pacific region into a community of unity, peace, safety, security, and prosperity, the New Tokyo Declaration adopted in 2012 to promote the APPF vision for open and non-exclusive cooperation based on frank, constructive dialogue to achieve peace, stability, and prosperity, the Hanoi Declaration adopted in 2018 on APPF's vision for Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Partnership, which stresses its commitment to the promotion of multilateral efforts to cope with new challenges, and previous APPF resolutions on the importance of multilateral cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region,

Recalling the High Level Declaration on parliamentary leadership for more effective multilateralism that delivers peace and sustainable development, adopted at the 5th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament; the Declaration on the Commemoration of the 75th

Anniversary of the United Nations, which reiterated the emphasis on the revival of multilateralism and the role of the UN; and the Resolution adopted by the 74th UN General Assembly on 4 September 2020 (A/RES/74/304) on interaction between the UN and the IPU for the promotion and strengthening of multilateralism,

Reaffirming the Belgrade Declaration adopted at the 141st IPU Assembly which underlined the role of parliament and contribution of regional cooperation for the strengthening of international law,

Noting with concern that the uprising of unilateralism and trade protectionism are prevalent and multilateralism has faced numerous challenges in fulfilling its significant role to resolve issues at a time when international solidarity and cooperation are needed more than ever amid the global health emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic,

Convinced that strengthening of economic ties through regional cooperation will contribute to greater prosperity; and multilateral cooperation and solidarity among the countries in the Asia-Pacific region is essential, acknowledging that emergency caused by the pandemic and climate change present challenges that no country can address alone,

Acknowledging that regional institutions in the Asia-Pacific play a critical role in the multilateral system,

Stressing that the APPF should connect parliaments and parliamentarians of the Asia-Pacific region, home to 3 billion people, to provide a strong collective voice for multilateralism and resolution of issues based on norms and rules of international law,

Recognizing that overcoming the pandemic, resolving the region's transnational issues, and achieving co-prosperity can be realized when peaceful coexistence and cooperative competition among all member countries are ensured, and *underlining* that parliaments need to actively engage in and give impetus to those endeavors,

RESOLVE TO:

1. **Recommend** APPF Member Countries to strengthen cooperation and solidarity to respond to regional challenges such as global pandemics, including COVID-19, climate change, biodiversity degradation, and geopolitical tension;
2. **Urge** APPF Member Countries to unite our strengths and engage in multilateral cooperation in response to challenges that no country can overcome alone and take the path towards solidarity and cooperation rather than lockdowns;
3. **Note** the Declaration on the Commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations and the High-Level Declaration of the 5th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament, and **call upon** APPF Member Countries to take part in their practical implementation and strengthen solidarity and cooperation with countries outside the region and international organizations;
4. **Request** APPF Member Countries to continue to build the practice of dialogue and cooperation and develop universally agreeable rules and norms within the framework of regional consultative bodies with a view to promoting the institutionalization of

cooperation and resolution of issues based on norms and rules of international law, which represent the essence of multilateralism;

5. **Recommend** APPF Member Countries to promote genuine multilateral cooperation that does not exclude or leave any country behind and to uphold the values of openness and inclusiveness in implementing multilateralism;
6. **Call upon** APPF Member Countries to acknowledge that a fair, open, comprehensive, transparent, and non-discriminatory multilateral trading system serves as a key foundation for the global economy;
7. **Emphasize** that overcoming the coronavirus emergency, including through the development and distribution of vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics and economic recovery, as well as the mutual recognition of vaccines and vaccine certificates, should be an inclusive global process based on the common understanding reached at the 5th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament (5WCSP) that “No one will be safe from COVID-19 until everyone is safe” and helping countries not properly responding to the crisis requires multilateral cooperation;
8. **Recommend** that APPF Member Countries support international collective efforts such as the East Asia Summit Initiative on Emerging Infectious Diseases Prevention and Control, the Northeast Asia Cooperation Initiative for Infectious Disease Control based on the spirit of cooperation and multilateralism and that APPF Member Parliaments continue their efforts to strengthen vaccine multilateralism through government oversight with a view to guaranteeing all countries fair access to vaccines; and

9. **Request** APPF Member Countries, a closely-intertwined community sharing a common future, to work together and build institutions for the reinforcement of multilateralism within the frameworks of regional international organizations and consultative bodies, while also working for the proliferation of multilateralism throughout the world by supporting the central roles and functions of international organizations, most prominently the UN, and actively participating in their activities.