

# ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM (APPF)

## 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

### RESOLUTION APPF12/RES.23

#### The Role of Women in Sustainable Development

*(Sponsored by Thailand)*

The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum;

**Noting** that women constitute approximately half of the population in all societies but their potential to contribute fully to, and to benefit from, economic progress in many instances have been hampered by political, social and cultural impediments;

**Recognizing** that sustainable development requires the active participation of all sectors and members of society, including women;

**Reaffirming** that gender equality is an internationally accepted principle;

**Realizing** that empowerment of women and the promotion of the equal participation of women as agents of change in economic, social and political processes, are central to achieving gender equality, and that this requires a combination of political will and conducive socio-cultural environment;

#### **RESOLVE TO:**

1. **Encourage** APPF national delegations to include an appropriate number of women when attending APPF sessions;
2. **Urge** appropriate national legislation be enacted to create an enabling environment for the full participation of women in the political, economic and social activities of the nation;
3. **Call on** all States to sign and ratify relevant international agreements that promote and safeguard the status of women.