

ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM (APPF)

22ND ANNUAL MEETING

RESOLUTION APPF22/RES.10

Asia Pacific Food Security

(Sponsored by Mexico and Thailand)

The 22nd Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum;

Concerned about the number of people afflicted by hunger and poverty throughout the world, amounting to more than one billion people in 2009, and before the 70% increase demand required in agricultural production to deal with the food needs of the world population estimated to exceed 9 billion inhabitants in 2050;

Aware that a substantive part of the global food demand for 2050 will occur in the regions of Asia Pacific, Latin America, and Africa, implying a substantial enhancement in the response capacity of our nations to the challenges posed by food security;

Taking note that Food Security in the Asia Pacific region imposes on us, as legislators of the nations it is composed of, the search for new legislative options and instruments that make it possible to establish a legal framework able to promote promoting food production, encourage the establishment of a better organized productive social structure, stimulate the inclusion of new techniques to agricultural regions, deal with the family agricultural demands to ensure its effective incorporation to the productive process, support food trade and, particularly, expand cooperation among the different countries of the Asia Pacific region;

Committed with furthering technical and scientific knowledge as a condition to lay solid and sustainable foundations for effective access to Food Security in our nations;

Convinced of the need to establish financial incentives so that the stakeholders of the private and public sectors research, develop, and offer products and services that improve the small agricultural exploitations;

Convinced as well of the need to encourage the elimination of export restrictions and extraordinary tariffs on food acquired for non-profit humanitarian purposes by the World Food Program;

Committed fully with embarking on a special effort in the Asia Pacific region to attain the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) of eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, giving special consideration to reducing by half for 2015 the percentage of people afflicted by chronic hunger;

Deeply worried about the impact that Climate Change may have on Agriculture, Fishing and forest preservation and, consequently, on securing sustainable food production that promotes soil erosion prevention at the same time, that allows water filtration to the water table, and that reduces the extreme climate impacts; and

Committed with the Hyogo Framework for Action and with the Framework Program of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations to reduce the risk of disasters for food and nutritional security.

RESOLVES TO:

1. **Urge** the legislators of the APPF member countries to support the efforts of the governments and societies to ensure food security in its four basic dimensions: availability, stability, quality, and accessibility and thus achieve substantial poverty reduction in the Asia Pacific region;
2. **Promote** the establishment of national, regional and international measures focused on achieving close collaboration between the public and private sectors of the Asia Pacific countries to strengthen food security;
3. **Encourage** the initiatives of technological cooperation and scientific research for the development of the primary sector and sustainable production of food;
4. **Urge** the APPF member countries' governments to get engaged in the effective reduction of tariff and non-tariff barriers to food products to promote trade exchange and to encourage the production of quality foods, at affordable prices for consumers. The commitment to reduce these barriers must cover both import and export of food to keep the balance of food supply;
5. **Promote** legislation to reaffirm equal opportunity access for stable jobs or social support to those entitled to it, which are the major means for equal food access;
6. **Promote** in the parliamentary fora to be held in parallel to the meetings of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and especially, in the next governmental summits COP 20 (to be held in Lima, Peru in 2014) and COP 21 (in Paris, France in 2015) an agreed outcome with legal force that ensure the necessary actions to prevent and mitigate impact of Climate Change on production, transportation, and marketing of food products.