



Resolution on Poverty Eradication

APA/ Res/2017/11
23 November 2017

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA Resolution on Alleviating Poverty in Asia (APA/Res/2015/08) adopted at the 8th APA Plenary in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, December 2015 and other relevant APA resolutions;

Underlining the significance of the role of Parliaments both in advocating and oversight of achievements of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially on Poverty Eradication;

Welcoming the High-level Plenary meeting of the U.N. General-Assembly on the Sustainable Development Goals in September 2015 and its outcome; entitled as “Transforming our world: the 2030 agenda for sustainable development”, in particular referring to goal 2 of sustainable development to eradicate hunger, enhance food insecurity and improve nutrition by promoting sustainable agriculture

Reaffirming that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and strategies cannot be overemphasized in the poverty eradication;

Pointing out that poverty eradication should be included in a public policy, which adopts specific programs and enterprises in each country, in addition to adoption of executable international policies as the poverty eradication represents the social security of any country;

Stressing the need for enhanced international cooperation on poverty eradication, and the obligation of developed countries to provide financial, technical and capacity building assistance to developing countries;

Noting that poverty alleviation is important to combat international terrorism, abuse of women & children and drug trafficking, arms smuggling, human trafficking, sea piracy and transnational crimes;

Mindful of the fact that the sustainable development recognizes that poverty eradication, fighting inequality, preserving the planet and creating inclusive economic growth are linked to each other and interdependent and that the SDGs balance all the three crucial sustainable development dimensions: the economic, the social and the environmental;

Reaffirming that poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development;

Supporting also a publicity campaign to raise awareness in the society about SDG utilizing

the potentials of mass media;

Emphasizing that achieving food security requires efforts and coordination at both national and international level;

Recognizing the important role of agriculture in meeting needs of increasing world population, underlining that sustainable agriculture practices and rural development are key approaches to increase food security;

We therefore,

1. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to work closely with their governments in the formulation and implementation of the measures which are outlined in the 2030 Agenda for the Sustainable Development;
2. **Determine** to be more ambitious in our efforts to eradicate poverty, reduce inequality, ensure food security, access to healthcare and education;
3. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to redouble their efforts in supporting activities of poverty eradication and encourage their respective governments to facilitate the implementation of effective policies to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all;
4. **Urge** Member Parliaments to create awareness among general public about the importance of food and take possible steps to prevent its wastage.
5. **Invite** Member Parliaments to adopt necessary legislation to a) improve labor market regulations, b) support the informal sector and offering increased security to it, c) establish legal savings and loan associations that can help to reduce the reliance on moneylenders, d) promote modern agriculture which contributes essentially to reduction of poverty in urban and rural areas, e) empower the poor to improve their living conditions and participate in decision-making which affects their lives, f) help to upgrade the infrastructure and services in areas where the poor live and work and to provide better education for poor particularly for girls and g) improve disaster preparedness, disaster relief as well as post-disaster economic recovery;
6. **Encourage** Member Parliaments to support investment in climate resilient agriculture and to adopt a unified approach to combat hunger by promoting public and private investments, increased access to inputs, lands and technologies;
7. **Invite** APA Member Parliaments to take appropriate legislative measures for poverty alleviation including providing financial assistance to domestic producers through,
 - a) Government grants to support sustainable farming activities
 - b) Microfinance loans for small scale farmers

- 8 Recommend** Member Parliaments to support and strengthen the capacities of government and communities to prepare for and respond to acute hunger arising from disasters through community based on social protection or safety nets;
- 9 Encourage** Member Parliaments to take joint action to organize aid campaigns, on a voluntary basis upon the request of a Member Parliament, for assistance in the context of alleviating poverty including to enhance domestic production of food by participating in agricultural technologies and training programs;
- 10 Urge** APA Member States to give significance to development of sustainable agriculture practices while making national policies, to achieve Sustainable Development Goals;
- 11 Call** for increased cooperation between developed and developing member countries for improving food security by means of multilateral information sharing, especially in an area of sustainable agricultural technology;
- 12 Stressing** the significance of women participation and contribution in agriculture sector for improving productivity food security and eliminating poverty;
- 13 Request** the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member Parliaments on their efforts to implement this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the next meeting of the Standing-Committee in 2017.