

**ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM (APPF)
25TH ANNUAL MEETING**

RESOLUTION APPF25/RES.19

ENSURING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

(Sponsored by Canada, Russia and Chile)

The 25th Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum;

Recognising the threat posed by climate change, global pollution levels and habitat destruction to the health of the planet's ecosystem and the well-being of all people;

Mindful that addressing this threat requires urgent and effective action by legislatures, governments and private sector businesses and industries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and develop sustainable and adaptable economies;

Reaffirming the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which includes specific goals for ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all, promoting sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all, building resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and fostering innovation, and ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns, among others;

Welcoming the rapid entry into force of the Paris Agreement of December 2015 under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the Marrakech Action Proclamation for Our Climate and Sustainable Development of November 2016 which calls for the highest political commitment to combat climate change, as a matter of urgent priority;

Commending the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum for promoting trade and investment in goods and services that can help protect the environment as well as the development and dissemination of relevant environmental technologies;

Recognising also the progress being made through APEC in reducing tariffs on environmental goods, such as technologies used for renewable and clean energy and pollution control, hazardous waste treatment, and environmental monitoring and assessment;

Underscoring that science, technology and innovation are crucial for developing sustainable solutions and that there are many opportunities for APPF Member States to cooperate in developing, promoting and trading clean technologies that will provide mutual benefit for all APPF member states;

Cognizant of the fact that many countries need to develop sustainable industrial practices and

convinced that development policies should focus on ensuring access to affordable clean technologies;

Understanding that regulations are needed to achieve environmental policy goals, and that such regulations should be based on scientific principles and open and transparent processes; and

Recalling resolutions adopted by APPF Member States at the 24th Annual Meeting held in Vancouver, Canada, concerning: Sustainable Energy; Conserving and Sustainably Managing our Shared Ocean; The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; Enhancing Cooperative Action on Climate Change; Fostering and Strengthening Connectivity towards Economic Integration and Shared Prosperity in the Asia-Pacific Region; Promoting Gateways and Enhancing Infrastructure to Facilitate Economic and Trade Goals; and, Economy, Trade and Regional Value Chains;

RESOLVES TO:

1. **Take** urgent action to combat climate change and urge APPF Member States that have not yet ratified the 2015 Paris Agreement to do so promptly;
2. **Promote** trade, development and environmental protection policies that are mutually reinforcing;
3. **Prioritise** the development of a sustainable global economy that promotes international trade while protecting the earth's ecosystem;
4. **Strengthen** cooperation among APPF Member States to advance the principles endorsed through this resolution and to promote sustainable trade policies;
5. **Promote** robust investment in clean industries, green technologies, renewable energy sources and sustainable transportation infrastructure;
6. **Commit to** the importance of making joint efforts on sustainable development by the legislators of parliaments of APPF Member States, considering climate change is a global problem that, therefore, requires global mitigation and adaptation solutions to strengthen in this way the Asia-Pacific region and protect its most vulnerable population;
7. **Accept** the fact that sustainable development contributes to reaching internationally agreed upon goals, such as poverty eradication and the creation of new employment, by strengthening social inclusion, improving human welfare and creating opportunities to generate more human capital in APPF Member States, making local economies stronger and improving adaptation abilities of the different Member States, and keeping at the same time, the existing ecosystems healthy not only in the region but also worldwide;
8. **Urge** governments and business communities of APPF Member States to regard water as a key driver of agricultural development and a basic element for socio-economic development across the Asia-Pacific region, and, consequently, to encourage best practices sharing in water management to ensure water availability and increase water use efficiency, and to promote the goal of the sustainable use and integrated management

of water resources;

9. **Participate** in the development and implementation of strategies aimed at setting the integrated framework which would open real opportunities for young people to fully, effectively and constructively participate in political, economic, social and cultural activities; and promote for these purposes discussion of young generation problems at parliament and government-sponsored dialogue venues, encouraging young peoples' active involvement in the solution of key issues of the APPF activities;
10. **Urge** APPF Member States to provide incentives for businesses to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to develop new sustainable technologies that are less harmful to the environment and widely available;
11. **Promote** the continued development and application of the United Nations Statistical Commission's Global Indicator Framework for monitoring progress towards achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals;
12. **Advocate** for the inclusion of environmental protection in trade and economic partnership agreements;
13. **Affirm** the necessity of implementing cleaner and renewable energy sources in industry and the transportation of goods;
14. **Urge** APPF Member States to take action to reduce industrial pollution and waste products and debris in oceans and land ecosystems;
15. **Encourage** the development and use of clean technologies in public infrastructure programmes, particularly in relation to green transportation networks;
16. **Establish** clear and transparent methods of evaluation to gauge performance metrics and adherence to regulatory standards so as to assess the environmental impact of industrial practices and new technologies;
17. **Encourage** the integration of the UN Sustainable Development Goals into the laws and regulations of APPF Member States;
18. **Make** certain that laws and regulations promote the development of renewable sources of energy;
19. **Promote** partnerships with local businesses and industries to protect local ecosystems and prevent environmental degradation;
20. **Provide** robust investment and access to finance to assist local economies required to meet the objectives of the Paris Agreement;
21. **Invest** in public-private partnerships and partnerships with academic institutions and civil society organisations that can lead to the adoption of effective sustainable development practices and products;

22. **Educate** citizens about the effects of climate change, deforestation and over-fishing;
23. **Promote** the exchange of scientific research on climate change and publicise research on clean technologies;
24. **Create** effective strategies and infrastructure in order to respond to disasters caused or exacerbated by climate change, provide humanitarian assistance to affected individuals and communities, and assist internally-displaced persons and refugees; and
25. **Take** proactive measures to assist countries most vulnerable to the effects of climate change.