

## 20TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM 8-12 January 2012, Tokyo, Japan

APPF20/RES/11

# RESOLUTION ON

#### **ECONOMY AND TRADE**

(Co-Sponsored by Australia, Canada, Chile, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Micronesia, New Zealand and Russia)

### THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM:

**Noting** the "Resolution on Economy and Trade" which was adopted in the 19th Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum in January 2011, the "G20 Cannes Summit Leaders' Declaration" in November 2011 and the Leaders' Declaration: "The Honolulu Declaration" which was adopted in the 19th APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting in November 2011;

**Affirming** that the world economy as a whole, and the Eurozone in particular, is experiencing a weak recovery and that concern for the financial system could cause downside risks:

**Reconfirming** that our priority task is supporting sustainable and balanced economic growth both in the region and the world as a whole and ensuring the effectiveness of the international financial regulatory and supervisory system;

**Confirming** that at a time of heightened tensions and significant downside risks for the global economy, protectionist measures in trade and investment undermine economic activities;

**Welcoming** each country's commitment towards realizing stability of growth, employment and financial markets in international meetings such as the G20 Summit and the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting;

#### Resolves to:

- Call upon countries to continue to implement effective fiscal and monetary policies and to coordinate the policy of each country relative to its situation in order to respond to downside risks and ensure the stability of the economy and employment;
- Confirm that member countries should exchange views on the occasion of the annual meetings of the APPF aiming at policy coordination in the region and continue to oversee policies in each country in order to correct imbalances in economies and monetary and financial markets and thus ensure their soundness;
- 3. Request governments, with a view to the promotion of green growth, which enhances

energy security and creates new sources of economic growth and employment, to make efforts to implement policies needed to increase investments in environment and energy sectors, improve energy effectiveness and spread renewable energy through technological innovation;

- 4. Welcome the APEC Leaders' Declaration to extend the standstill on protectionism to the end of 2015, and request APPF Member countries to commit themselves to the fight against protectionism and to intensify their efforts to seek ways of overcoming the stalemates of the Doha Round negotiations in order to facilitate economic growth through free trade and investment;
- 5. **Call upon** member countries and concerned regions to continue to make efforts towards realization of a Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP), as a means not only to further promote regional economic integration in the Asia-Pacific region, but also to complement and strengthen the multilateral trading system centered on the WTO in a transparent and globally beneficial way;
- 6. Emphasize that efforts towards the realization of trade liberalization and economic integration ought to be made taking into account the facilitation of such activities as improvement of trade rules related to intellectual property rights and investment, implementation of good practices of regulation, food security, environmental protection, stabilization of the society, and sustainable development;
- 7. Reaffirm the commitment made in the Bogor Declaration, which was adopted by the APEC Leaders in 1994, to achieving the long-term goal of free and open trade and investment in the Asia-Pacific region, recognize significant progress towards achieving the goal, and hope for the full achievement of the goal by all APEC economies by 2020;
- 8. Call for the global economy to move towards a "shared growth for humanity" and for the international community to develop preventive mechanisms against future contingencies and strengthen cooperation and coordination at the regional and global levels, as agreed in the Joint Communiqué adopted at the G20 Seoul Speakers' Consultation;
- Call upon the Parliaments of Asia Pacific countries to advance by legislative means the strategy of promoting effective, non-discriminatory and market-driven policies to set a model for innovation in the region as the best path towards greater productivity and economic growth;
- 10. Encourage APPF Member Governments to work together to maximise growth potential and economic resilience in developing countries, in particular Low Income Countries (LICs), including through activities consistent with the G20 Seoul Development Consensus for Shared Growth;
- 11. **Encourage** businesses to utilise bilateral and regional trade agreements and explain the benefits and opportunities they provide through domestic outreach programmes;
- 12. **Invite** the governments to include parliamentarians in their official delegations to participate in international fora and conferences that are convened to develop coordinated responses to the challenges presented by the current global economic

situation, so as to reach sustainable, balanced and fair development for all regions of the planet;

- 13. Confirm that across-the-board cooperation, relaxation or elimination of economic regulations, streamlining and coordination of tariff-related procedures and removal of bureaucratic inefficiencies may serve as a catalyst for building a global cooperation system;
- 14. **Welcome** the concrete results achieved at APEC 2011 in each field designed to strengthen the economic relationship in the Asia-Pacific region, which is the world's growth center, and affirm that the parliaments of member countries should make efforts to take the measures mentioned in this resolution with a view to the realization of a seamless regional economy.