

THE 15TH ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM

APPF-15/RES/10

CLIMATE CHANGE

(Sponsored by Mexico and New Zealand, China and Micronesia)

THE 15TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC
PARLIAMENTARY FORUM,

Recognizing that climate change and its adverse effects are serious and urgent issues for the world community to address,

Recognizing that human activities have increased, and continue to increase, concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, causing an increase in the average temperature on Earth, a decrease in ice masses and rising sea level and average sea temperature,

Concerned about the enormous economic, social and environmental cost the world will have to face if progress is not made towards agreeing and effectively implementing policies to minimize the effects of climate change,

Concerned that all countries, in particular developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States in the Asia Pacific region, face the adverse impacts of climate change,

Recognizing that the global nature of climate change requires the widest possible cooperation and participation by all countries, including all member states of APPF, in an effective and appropriate international response, based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities,

Acknowledging that the actions available to each country will be influenced by their own national circumstances, including their capacities and their respective economic and social conditions.

Recognizing the efforts that have already been undertaken internationally to address climate change scientifically, technically, economically and socially,

including under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol, and other initiatives, within the framework of the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol,

Reaffirming the important role that the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol play in fostering international cooperation and action on climate change,

Acknowledging actions that are being implemented and planned by Kyoto protocol Annex 1 APPF member states in order to meet their commitments, and appreciating the important policies, programmes and measures implemented voluntarily by non-Annex 1 APPF member states to achieve sustainable development, which contributes to mitigate the negative effect of climate change,

Welcoming the progress represented by decisions made at the 12th Session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the 2nd Session of the Conference of Parties serving as a meeting of the parties to the Kyoto Protocol, which took place in Nairobi, Kenya in November 2006, in which a second review of the Kyoto Protocol was agreed upon for 2008 in addition to the definition of rules for the Adaptation Fund to help developing countries adapt to climate change,

IT IS RESOLVED TO:

1. *Call on* Governments of APPF member countries, and other Governments in the Asia- Pacific region, to strengthen their national efforts and international cooperation to address the challenge of climate change, including (where they have not to date undertaken such action) the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol, which establishes quantified emissions reductions commitments for Annex 1 countries,

2. Specifically, *urge* the Governments of APPF member countries to participate actively and engage constructively in the negotiations of the Ad-hoc Working Group on further commitments for Annex 1 parties under the Kyoto protocol, as further development of an effective, long-term UNFCCC framework to meet the objective of stabilizing greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a

level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system; and *encourage* those Governments to share information and experiences on adapting to climate change.

3. *Encourage* APPF member countries to act with resolve and urgency to meet the interrelated and multiple goals of addressing climate change, reducing air pollution and improving the global environment, while contributing to sustainable development,

4. *Encourage* APPF member countries to assist developing countries, in particular small island developing states, least developed states and other states which are particularly vulnerable to climate change, in addressing their adaptation needs relating to the adverse effects of climate change,

5. *Encourage* all APPF member countries to participate in efforts to develop internationally acceptable greenhouse gas emission accounting standards and systems; to prepare a national inventory in accordance with the relevant guidelines of the Kyoto protocol which can be used as a basis for regional climate change policy (respecting the sovereignty and independence of the States at all times); to generate and disseminate information on successful policy initiatives including forest and fuel mitigation (e.g. the creation of carbon sinks),

6. *Encourage* all APPF member countries to develop, deploy and transfer environmentally sound technologies including support for scientific, technological and technical research to develop fuels that would be an alternative to fossils and less damaging to ecosystems and the environment; to promote and disseminate the transfer of technologies, practices and processes that control, reduce or prevent greenhouse gas emissions in all relevant sectors; to promote and support the full, open and opportune exchange of pertinent scientific, technological, technical, and socio-economic and legal information on climate change, as well as the economic and social consequences of different response strategies,

7. *Encourage* all APPF member countries to maximize public awareness of climate change, for example through training and education, stimulating the greatest possible amount of participation in that process, including, where relevant, the involvement of non-governmental organizations.