

THE 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE ASIA PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM

APPF-15/RES/11

**POVERTY ALLEVIATION: PROTECTING HUMAN LIFE FROM  
POVERTY AND GUARANTEEING THE RIGHT TO LIFE**

*(Sponsored by Japan and Indonesia)*

THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIA PACIFIC  
PARLIAMENTARY FORUM (APPF):

*Reaffirming* the strong commitment of the APPF member countries on poverty alleviation made during the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of APPF in which the APPF parliamentarians pay attention to poverty alleviation in various fields and to all resolutions that have been adopted to date by regional and international institutions, especially by the United Nations;

*Aspiring* to the building of a society that guarantees the right to life and the enjoyment of happiness of all people on this earth,

*Deeply concerned* about the fact that there are—mostly in the developing countries—roughly 1.1 billion people living on less than one dollar a day, 300 million children suffering starvation, more than 30,000 children dying of malnutrition or other causes each day, and approximately 100 million children unable to go to school,

Recognizing economic globalization has produced capitals in some regions of the world, but has regrettably been of little benefit to the poorest nations,

*Noting*, on the other hand, that even in the developed countries, there is concern about a widening economic divide in their peoples,

*Reaffirming* that there is a need for further efforts by parliamentarians to protect human life from poverty and to guarantee people's right to life,

RESOLVES TO:

1. *Encourage* the parliaments and the governments of the APPF member countries to urge their governments to intensify their measures to eradicate poverty,

and to create a framework in which to share the experiences and information on the policies and efforts of each country;

2. *Encourage* the parliaments and the governments of the APPF member countries to strengthen the efforts of each country to achieve the UN Millennium Development Goals, and to call on the developed countries to provide, with the understanding of their people, proactive assistance to those countries that need it;

3. *Urge* the developed countries to provide efficient official development assistance tailored to the conditions of developing countries and to honor the commitment they have made several times to devote 0.7 per cent of their GNP to official development assistance.

4. *Call* for all APPF member countries to involve all parties and institutions such as NGOs and community-based and grassroots organizations to take policy of participatory development as a foundation of the poverty alleviation strategy;

5. *Request* the parliaments and the governments of the APPF member countries to promote international and regional cooperation for the achievement of the goal on health and medical care within the framework of the UN Millennium Development Goals, i.e. reducing infant and maternal mortality, overcoming epidemics, in terms of protecting human life and guaranteeing the right to life;

6. *Urge* the parliaments and the governments of the APPF member countries to develop their social systems so that all children have access to education regardless of their gender, income and other economic status, and to share experiences and best practices in the region, in consideration of the importance of education;

7. *Call* on both developed and developing countries to alleviate poverty through economic development measures such as credit facilities for micro, small and medium-enterprises and debt relief, and through projects in field such as the improvement of education, capacity building of economic community and health systems and services.