

Asian Parliamentary Assembly



APA/ Res/2009/10
10 December 2009

Resolution on Environmental Issues, Global Warming, Climate Change and Planting Billions of Trees throughout Asia

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling the Resolution on Environmental Issues, Global Warming, Climate Change and Planting Billions of Trees throughout Asia, APA/Res/2008/03, dated 29 November 2008;

Welcoming of the Report of the Secretary-General on Environmental Issues, Global Warming, and Planting Billions of Trees throughout Asia, contained in document SG/Rep/2009/07, dated 3 June 2009, to the Sub-Committee meeting on Environmental Issues, Global Warming, and Planting Billions of Trees throughout Asia held in Seoul, the Republic of Korea on 1-2 July 2009;

Recognizing the need to create a balance between the prerogatives for development of the Asian countries and protection of their environment;

Being concerned that people from the Asian developing countries, especially women and children living in poverty, are particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change because of their limited capacity and resources to respond, and that this gives them a particular claim on the solidarity and support of the Asian developed countries;

Noting that the development and deployment of renewable energies hold great promise in reconciling the increasing needs for energy, particularly in the developing world, and the ability of the environment to meet present and future needs;

Being aware that good governance is an indispensable tool for combining economic development and environmental protection;

Taking note of the deliberations of the Sub-Committee on Environmental Issues, Global

Warming, and Planting Billions of Trees throughout Asia;

Expressing concern about the negative impacts of climate change in Asia;

Expressing concern also at negative impacts of increase in the population and rapid urbanization on environment;

Being aware of resource and infrastructure constraints of Asian developing countries in the fight against global warming;

Understanding the need for greater collaboration among member parliaments on water supplies;

Recognizing the responsibility of developed countries and international institutions to special needs of Asian countries, particularly Asian developing countries, in their strive to deal with negative consequences of climate change effectively and *reiterating* the importance of devising a proper mechanism for technology transfer and financing clean technology from developed to developing countries to combat global warming;

Acknowledging the importance of cooperation among Asian countries to share information, experiences and best practices in dealing with the impacts of global warming and climate change in Asia through institutional partnerships, centers of excellence and academic institutions;

Encouraging the private sector most specifically multinationals (business community) to come forward and play its complimentary part in the fight against global warming;

Recognizing the disruption of maritime eco-system in coast areas and the danger of sea-level rise caused by climate change;

Emphasizing the importance of environmental education and public awareness in APA countries;

Recognizing the need to adopt national strategies on climate change in Asia:

Realizing the significance of achieving the targets defined by the Kyoto Protocol;

Encouraging the use of Compact Natural Gas (CNG) vehicles and alternative sources of energy such as solar, wind, biogas, etc;

Stressing the importance of coordination among Asian countries in any climate change negotiations including in the ongoing COP15 negotiations in Copenhagen;

Encouraging participation of Asian parliamentarians in the national delegations participating in the climate change negotiations;

1. *Urge* APA Member Parliaments to take climate change as an important factor in relevant

policy areas for Asian countries; and to call upon their respective governments as appropriate to adopt, in line with their national conditions as well as UNFCCC and UNEP recommendations, a strategy on climate change at the national level with the ultimate goal of achieving and Asian Strategy for Climate Change and its implementation;

2. *Decide* to promote environmental education and public awareness in countries of APA Member Parliaments;
3. *Recommend* APA Member Parliaments to exchange information and technological development for climate change and Planting Billions of Trees throughout Asia and the program to protect the existing plants;
4. *Note* the results of the World Ocean Conference and Coral Triangle Initiative in Manado, Indonesia and *encourage* the parliaments and governments of the Asian countries to develop environmentally sound strategy for long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of marine living resources and coastal habitats based on reliable scientific assessments and internationally agreed goals, particularly for the most vulnerable communities that fully depend on marine resources for their livelihood;
5. *Urge* Member Parliaments to design a specific mechanism to oversee the implementation of a national strategy on climate change including holding hearings and inviting specialists to review the implementation of the strategy and to devote adequate resources in the budget to combat global warming;
6. *Emphasize* the need for the unimpeded access of all Asian countries to advanced technologies to deal with negative consequences of climate change effectively, *reaffirm* the principles of "common but differentiated responsibilities" contained in UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol, *recognize* the responsibility of developed countries and international institutions in this regard and *encourage* them to provide financial and technical assistance to developing countries in their efforts for an environmentally sustainable development;
7. *Invite* Member Parliaments to adopt emission reduction targets which do not negatively impact industrialization process;
8. *Encourage* Member Parliaments to adopt an energy policy including sustainable use of bio-fuels, determining yearly energy savings, promoting energy from renewable sources, implementing model low carbon consumption villages, encouraging alternative renewable fuels for the poor, recharging existing natural resources and improving energy efficiency;
9. *Decide* to establish an open-ended advisory group composed of 7 Member Parliaments, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Republic of Korea, Bahrain, Indonesia, Iran, and Pakistan within the Sub-Committee on Environment, to work on some guidelines towards an Asian Strategy

for Climate Change;

10. *Encourage* APA Member Parliaments to actively address climate change issues and solutions in each Member Parliaments;
11. *Decide* to encourage the role of NGOs and civil society in the strategy to combat global warming including holding hearings with the participation of NGOs and civil society on issues related to climate change and sharing their best practices in the region;
12. *Encourage* the participation of Asian parliamentarians in the national delegations participating in the climate change negotiations under UNFCC and the Kyoto Protocol;
13. *Call upon* Member Parliaments to provide, on a voluntary periodical and consistent basis, the information concerning issues related to climate change and global warming to APA Secretariat to be compiled in a database for the reference and use by all Member Parliaments;
14. *Invite* Member Parliaments, in a position to do so, to provide possible assistance, technical and vocational training, upon request, to other APA members for the implementation of the goals and policies recommended in this resolution especially related to disaster management resulting from global warning environmental calamities;
15. *Invite further* Member Parliaments to present information on a voluntary basis on their activities and progress regarding 'Planting Billions of Trees throughout Asia';
16. *Encourage* active participation of Asian countries in exhibitions such as Expo 2010 Shanghai, China and Expo 2012 Yeosu, Korea to improve the oceanic environment;
17. *Request* the Secretary General to seek the views of Member Parliaments on the implementation of the present resolution and report thereon to the next session of the Sub-Committee in 2010 which will be held in Russia.