



APA/Res/2008/20
29 November 2008

Resolution on

Achieving Health Equity in Asia

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Cognizant of the existing socio-economic inequalities and their impact on the health situation of communities, particularly the poor and vulnerable groups, and also the vast health inequities within and among countries,

Recognizing the fact that reducing health inequities is an ethical imperative,

Emphasizing the need to narrow the health gap worldwide,

Taking note of the final report of WHO Commission on Social Determinants of Health (CSDH) submitted to the Director-General of WHO,

Noting the decision of the Director-General of WHO to submit a resolution on Social Determinants of Health (SDH) to the 62nd Session of the World Health Assembly,

1. *Take note of* the strategic directions outlined by the Commission on Social Determinants of Health for addressing the problem of health and socio-economic inequalities at the global, regional and country levels;
2. *Urge* the APA Member Parliaments to promote policies on health and health equity and to strengthen collaboration among Member Parliaments in this regard as elaborated by WHO Commission on Social Determinants of Health (CSDH);
3. *Decide* to establish a Sub-Committee under the standing Committee on Social and Cultural issues of APA, composed of delegates from at least (7) member Parliaments, to meet at least once a year prior to the APA Executive Council session and review the situation with regard to SDH in Asian countries, and identify the main social determinants of health inequities and provide relevant recommendations to the Asian Parliamentary Assembly;

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4. *Decide* that the meeting of the Sub-Committee shall take place in a volunteer country or the country of the President of the APA;
5. *Request* the Secretary-General to submit a report for consideration of the Sub-Committee and to service its meetings.