



**18TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM
17 – 22 January 2010, Singapore**

18APPF/RES/13

**RESOLUTION
ON
PROMOTING YOUTH DIALOGUE**
(Sponsored by Chile, Indonesia, Mexico and Singapore)

THE EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM:

Recognizing that youth are a country's future and that investment in youth and inclusion of youth should be a key component of a country's developmental plans;

Recognizing that public decisions taken at the national and regional levels influence the long-term prospects of young people and the opportunities offered to them;

Noting that today's youth are the most highly educated and trained generation in history and thus possess great potential for positive social and economic development both within their countries and in the world;

Recognizing that the key issues confronting countries in today's world transcend state boundaries and thus require international solutions;

Recognizing that as the leaders and decision-makers of the future, it is important for the youth to develop greater awareness of regional and world affairs and become global citizens;

Emphasizing the need to promote values of solidarity, justice, tolerance, equality, and peace in the region's youth;

Recalling the importance of various declarations, such as the 64th UN General Assembly which proclaimed 2010 as the International Year of Youth, which urged member states to encourage the active participation of youth in all spheres of society;

Recognizing that today's interconnected world is also one of unprecedented potential for collaboration and mutual benefit;

Recognizing that youth dialogue is an effective way to cultivate and harness the potential of the youth;

Emphasizing that the promotion of youth dialogue will bring about economic benefits such as strengthened business and trade networks, and also help to foster greater cultural and social understanding between countries, and reduce miscommunication and conflict;

Recognizing that collaborations between a country's youth focal point and youth sector organizations with those from other countries are necessary to promote transnational youth dialogue by both public and private sector entities;

Recognizing that Information and Communication Technology (ICT) plays an important role in promoting youth dialogue as it enables youth to overcome the barriers of geographical distance and socio-economic disadvantage;

Recognizing that ICT should be used in tandem with other communication tools in promoting youth dialogue, as some disadvantaged groups of youth may not have access to ICT as yet;

Noting that the World Youth Conference 2010 to be held in Mexico City in August is a good opportunity to coordinate joint action programmes to facilitate youth dialogue and promote youth development;

Resolves to:

1. **Encourage** APPF Member Countries to create and strengthen channels of communication between youth, their governments, and other relevant stakeholders;
2. **Urge** APPF Member Parliaments to engage and take into account the interests of young people as one of the guiding principles of their actions;
3. **Urge** APPF Member Countries to develop the capabilities of their youth focal points and youth sector organizations to effectively facilitate and promote youth dialogue;
4. **Call for** APPF Member Countries to leverage on ICT to promote youth dialogue and strive towards making ICT accessible to youth regardless of their socio-economic status;
5. **Encourage** APPF Member Countries to work collaboratively to create common platforms and cultural exchanges to enable and promote dialogue between their youth citizens and youth from other countries;
6. **Encourage** APPF Member Countries to profile and exchange experiences on youth-related initiatives through APPF platforms and mechanisms.