



APPF28/RES/

**28<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM**

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**DRAFT RESOLUTION ON  
IMPROVING PARTICIPATION IN THE DIGITAL ECONOMY AND ENHANCING  
CONNECTIVITY THROUGHOUT THE REGION**

**(Sponsored by: Malaysia)**

*The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF):*

**Recalling** Resolutions APPF25/RES.08 adopted in Natadola, Fiji 2017, APPF24/RES.09 which was adopted in January 2016 during the 24th Annual Meeting of the APPF in Vancouver, Canada and APPF23/RES.07 adopted in Quito, Ecuador on sustainable and inclusive growth of digital economy, economic integration and Cybersecurity and Right to Privacy respectively;

**Reiterating** the Hanoi Declaration during the APPF in 2018, Vietnam on strengthening cooperation to capitalize on the potential of the digital and internet economy, facilitating e-commerce and digital trade in line with Vancouver Declaration, the Tokyo Declaration, and the Pacific Basin Charter as reflected in the Valparaiso Declaration;

**Reaffirming** the United Nations Economic and Social Council Report ESCAP/75/20 in 2019 at the United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC) in Bangkok on digital connectivity and digital economy in Asia and the Pacific on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Asia-Pacific region particularly on information and communication technology, science, and technology innovation and the outcome of the 24<sup>th</sup> APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting in November 2016 which commits the APEC member economies on substantive work on digital economy and the reference to the G20 Summit, Hamburg in July 2017;

**Aware that** digital divide negates potential opportunities of the digital economy;

**Cognizant** that dialogue partnership on the basis of mutual benefits and common responsibility in improving participation in the digital economy and enhancing connectivity throughout the Asia-Pacific region is significant;

Resolve to:

**Encourage** the APPF Member States to establish a mechanism that fully utilise the benefits offered by e-trade platforms and in e-commerce as well as in digital trade towards fully digitalised economy in the region;

**Strongly encourage** the APPF Member States to develop vital infrastructure in the financial (investment), telecommunications, digital, science and technology in enhancing the knowledge-based economy;

**Recommend** the APPF Member States to formulate and integrate digital policies and laws into their country's national development agenda while ensuring the protection of personal data in line with the international guidelines in exercising fair commercial practices and to strengthen cooperation among members;

**Call Upon** the APPF Member States on the efforts by different regional organisations such as APEC and ASEAN to promote regional connectivity in areas that facilitate e-commerce and to contribute towards finding interactions between different initiatives in benefiting the Asia-Pacific region as a whole;

**Strongly encourage** all the APPF Member States to foster closer economic collaboration, strengthen business competitiveness, boost innovative and digital economic growth that target groups such as the Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) inclusive women and youth-led businesses;

**Remind** the APPF Member States on the conducive environment that enables stakeholders to benefit from digital globalisation and connectivity through affordable quality internet services which narrows down the digital divide hence empowering better and faster access to resources and market information;

**Further encourage** the APPF Member States to support and develop human capital with necessary skills through innovative training programs and sharing of best practices, specifically to address the future workforce to be 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution ready;

**Call upon** the APPF Member States with strong digital economy to share good practices and assist in trade flows in technical, infrastructure, skills and training in developing digital economy and connectivity among members;

**Call upon** the APPF Member States on the collaboration and partnership among the key stakeholders, civil society, private sector and development partners in line with the “Whole-of-Government-Approach” pertaining to digital economy.