

APPF Women Parliamentarians Meeting

**28TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM (APPF)
Canberra–Australia, 13–16 January 2020**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION ON
THE PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
AND SHARED PROSPERITY, REALISING THE 2030 AGENDA
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

(Proposed by Australia, Co-Sponsored by Indonesia)

The 28th Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum:

Recalling the 26th and 27th APPF resolutions on gender equality and women’s empowerment to achieve shared prosperity and sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region;

Affirming that gender equality is a human right, and one that underpins human endeavor for sustainable development, social justice, peace and security, and quality education for all;

Reaffirming the Convention on the Eliminations of All Forms of Discrimination against Woman (CEDAW), the Convention on the Political Rights of the Women, ILO Convention concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation, ILO Equal Remuneration Convention and other relevant international instruments covering women’s rights;

Mindful of the fact that the full potential of women’s contributions to the Asia-Pacific economy remains untapped. As a result, women’s economic empowerment and the greater inclusion of women in the regional economy are high on APEC’s agenda;

Referring to 2019 progress report on the SDGs which released by the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) shows that Asia Pacific region has made “some but still insufficient” progress on SDG 5 (gender equality);

Recognizing that gender equality remains a persistent challenge for countries worldwide and the lack of equality is a major obstacle to sustainable development, as gender and wealth disparities persist and obstruct universal access to a quality higher education;

Underlining that innovative, multi-stakeholder partnerships are essential to achieving the 2030 Agenda, including to mobilize additional sources of capital in support of the SDGs;

Welcoming 2018 APEC Women and the Economy Forum Statement entitled “Seizing Opportunities for Women and Girls to Advance in the Digital Age”;

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RESOLVE TO:

Encourage governments, civil society, businesses, individuals, and parliaments in Asia Pacific countries—to work together to shape a better, more equal and more sustainable future for everyone;

Improve women’s economic empowerment through access to capital, market, Skills and capacity building;

Call upon APPF member countries to support for female entrepreneurship, through access to training, soft infrastructure, information and safety in the work environment, career development opportunities;

Urge APPF member countries to mainstream a gender-responsive perspective in the implementation of the SDGs, consistent with its emphasis on gender equality as a cross-cutting priority. It is urgent to develop guidelines and practical tools to implement gender mainstreaming in term of SDGs;

Encourage APPF member countries to ensure labor standards apply equally to men and women and that terms and conditions of employment address women’s reality;

Call upon APPF member countries to build and maintain partnerships with relevant international organizations including UN Women, UNESCO, ILO and non-governmental organizations, at national and global levels, with emphasis on political and economic empowerment of women, to encourage a holistic approach towards promoting gender inclusion and empowering women in the Asia-Pacific region;

Urge APPF member countries to eliminate all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls and recognize that these forms of violence are significant impediments to the achievement of women’s economic empowerment and economic growth;

Call upon APPF member countries targeting our effort to accelerate progress towards all Goals and to strengthen the region’s commitment to improving the quality of data and statistics essential to measuring progress the implementation of SDGs.