

**DRAFT RESOLUTION ON  
(2B) FOOD SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**(Sponsored by the Philippines)**

THE 28<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM,

**Recalling** the Resolution of the 26<sup>th</sup> APPF Annual Meeting on food security and sustainable agricultural development which underscores the urgency for APPF members and their governments to implement the APEC 2017 priorities on food security such as addressing the food security-climate change relationship and sustainable natural resources management;

**Also recalling** the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that recognizes the importance of agriculture in achieving multiple sustainable development goals such as eradicating hunger and poverty;

**Acknowledging** that the rapidly growing population of the Asia-Pacific Region combined with detrimental effects of climate change pose serious challenges for governments especially in ensuring that their citizens have access to sufficient food and clean water;

**Also acknowledging** that millions of people in the Asia-Pacific Region particularly small-scale farmers and artisanal fishermen (smallholders) make a living from plant-based agriculture and wild catch fishing;

**Cognizant** that the socio-economic transformation in the Asia-Pacific Region has resulted to rapid urbanization and has caused the youth to have a lower appreciation of the agricultural sector as an attractive source of livelihood and instead migrate to the cities this creating congestion;

**Concerned** that unrestricted global trade in agricultural products has contributed to the rapid spread of animal disease across the world;

**Recognizing** that seafood consumption provides nearly 22 percent of the average per capita animal protein intake for the APEC region;

**Convinced** that Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, as well as the destruction of coral reefs particularly in the West Philippine Sea, severely impact commercial fish stocks;

**Concerned** that the depletion of fish stocks has serious implications on food security in the region as the demand for seafood is outpacing the ability of fish stocks to recover and likewise threatens the livelihood of millions of people who work in the fisheries sector;

**Acknowledge** that many small-scale farmers and artisanal fishermen (smallholders) lack access to technology and do not possess the necessary agricultural and financial knowledge to be competitive and sustainable;

**Also aware** that non-tariff barriers contribute to food insecurity by impeding the flow of food trade and limit small and medium-scale farmers and fishermen to access the international market;

## RESOLVES TO:

1. **Call on** APPF Members to develop and integrate the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as the APEC Food Security Roadmap Towards 2020 with domestic laws with the goal of improving agricultural productivity, protection of the environment and biodiversity, and sustainable use of natural resources;
2. **Urge** APPF Members to prioritize food security, sustainable agricultural development, as well as sustainable water management in their respective legislative agenda and share best practices among members;
3. **Encourage** APPF Members to pursue reforms that would address illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and impose heavy penalties on those who destroy coral reefs which serve as vital breeding areas for fish and other marine animals;
4. **Recommends** APPF Member Parliaments to take a more proactive role in the prevention and mitigation of marine pollution, including marine plastic pollution, that poses a serious health risk and endanger marine life;
5. **Support** the education of fishermen and commercial fishing fleets on sustainable and smarter fishing practices to eliminate catching juvenile and spawning fish, and bycatch;
6. **Also supports** encouraging the youth of the Asia-Pacific Region to engage, sustain and develop the agricultural sector;
7. **Call upon** APPF Member States to become parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and urged them to intensify efforts to assess and address, as appropriate, the impacts of global climate change and on the sustainability of fish stocks and the habitats that support them;
8. **Urge** APPF Members States to adopt the International Plan of Action (IPOA) to prevent, deter and eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IUUF);
9. **Call on** governments to strengthen the capacity of government agencies to respond to animal diseases that can threaten livestock production and have the potential to easily spread to neighboring countries;
10. **Call on** governments to review and eliminate trade-inhibiting non-tariff barriers, such as measures inconsistent with international rules and science-based standards, in order to assist agricultural smallholders gain access to international markets;
11. **Invites** APPF Members to commit to an equitable and fair food value chain that is inclusive of traditional agricultural systems, contributes to rural development and uplifts the lives of agricultural smallholders.