

ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM (APPF)

28TH ANNUAL MEETING

Draft Resolution Sponsored by: Canada

ENHANCING THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE PROMOTION OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

Reiterating that women's participation in political and public life is a human right, the fulfillment of which can strengthen peace, prosperity and social cohesion in the Asia-Pacific region;

Recognizing that conflicts, crises and situations of displacement can have a disproportionately negative and unique impact on women and girls;

Aware that women remain underrepresented in formal conflict prevention, management and resolution processes, as well as in national parliaments and in national, regional and international peace and security institutions;

Recognizing that women in the Asia-Pacific region have proven abilities as leaders and agents of change;

Reaffirming United Nations (UN) Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013), 2122 (2013), 2242 (2015), 2467 (2019) and 2493 (2019) on women, peace and security, which have enshrined the essential role that women must play in all efforts towards the maintenance of peace and security;

Also reaffirming resolutions adopted by previous Annual Meetings of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) on women's full and effective participation in political and public life, including most recently at the 27th Annual Meeting in the Kingdom of Cambodia;

Welcoming the *Joint Statement on Promoting Women, Peace and Security in ASEAN*, adopted on the occasion of the 31st ASEAN Summit (2017) in the Philippines;

Noting that 82 UN member states, including a number of states in the Asia-Pacific region, have adopted National Action Plans on women, peace and security;

Aware that the implementation of UN resolutions on women, peace and security partly depends on financial resources that have, to date, fallen short of identified needs;

Acknowledging that peace processes, peace operations and humanitarian actions that benefit from the meaningful participation of women are more likely to succeed, and therefore to contribute to enduring peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond;

Emphasizing that the 20th anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325's adoption compels a review of progress to date – including at the regional level – and a renewed commitment to action;

RESOLVES TO:

1. **Support** the women, peace and security agenda, and promote the implementation of relevant UN Security Council resolutions within the Asia-Pacific region.
2. **Urge** regional organizations in the Asia-Pacific to prioritize action on women, peace and security.
3. **Encourage** APPF Member Countries that have not yet done so to adopt a National Action Plan on women, peace and security.
4. **Call on** APPF Member Countries to facilitate women's active and meaningful participation in all peace and security processes, institutions and operations.
5. **Urge** APPF Member Countries to increase their funding in support of the women, peace and security agenda, including by devoting aid in conflict, crisis and post-conflict and recovery situations to programs that advance gender equality, women's rights and women's empowerment, and by ensuring that their aid is gender-responsive.
6. **Encourage** APPF Member Countries to foster environments in national military and police forces that are inclusive and respectful towards diverse groups and create opportunities for women to attain leadership roles.
7. **Uphold** the rights – and meet the specific needs – of adolescent girls, who face heightened risks of discrimination and gender-based violence in crisis, conflict and displacement situations.
8. **Condemn** all incidents of violence against female politicians, candidates, negotiators, journalists and human rights defenders.
9. **Monitor** the national implementation of National Action Plans and related budgets on women, peace and security, as well as of relevant laws and regulations, to ensure their consistency with state obligations under international law and gender equality instruments.
10. **Promote** gender-mainstreaming in parliamentary work and structures, particularly in relation to security, defence, and humanitarian and foreign policy issues.