

# ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM (APPF)

## 28<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

Draft Resolution Sponsored by: CANADA

### PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT IN DECISION-MAKING ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum:

**Emphasizing** that world leaders have committed to the United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which aims to “leave no one behind,” including in the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, and which envisions a world in which all legal, social and economic barriers to women’s empowerment have been removed;

**Reaffirming** resolutions adopted by previous Annual Meetings of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) on the importance of women’s full and effective participation in political and public life;

**Taking into account** the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women*, and the 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

**Noting** that, in 2020, the UN Commission on the Status of Women will undertake a review and appraisal of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcomes of the 23<sup>rd</sup> special session of the General Assembly and the contribution of both towards the full realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

**Also noting** decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) regarding the importance of gender-responsive climate action, such as 36/CP.7, 1/CP.16, 23/CP.18, 18/CP.20, 1/CP.21, 21/CP.22, 3/CP.23 and 9/CP.24;

**Acknowledging** the objectives of the UNFCCC gender action plan, in seeking to advance women’s full, equal and meaningful participation in climate policy and to promote gender-responsive climate policy and the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of the Convention and the work of the States Parties;

**Affirming** the need to understand the differential impact of programs, policies and laws on different populations, and the need to ensure that all individuals experience the full benefits of initiatives focused on climate change and sustainable development;

**Aware** that women's participation in decision-making processes may result in the integration of different perspectives in national approaches to climate change and sustainable development, which could lead to different and more effective actions;

**Committed** to continuing the APPF's engagement in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls across policy areas, including through the work of the APPF Meeting of Women Parliamentarians.

## **RESOLVES TO:**

1. **Advance** gender mainstreaming in parliamentary work and structures, supported by the effective training of parliamentarians and parliamentary staff in gender-based analysis;
2. **Promote** the collection of data disaggregated by sex and other variables such as age, income, geographical location, disability and Indigenous status in order to better understand the differential impacts of policies and programs on vulnerable groups;
3. **Encourage** parliaments to use gender-responsive budgeting in an effort to create policies that reduce inequalities;
4. **Call on** relevant authorities, including APPF Member Countries, to identify barriers to the full participation of different groups, including women and vulnerable populations, in planning, policy formulation, decision-making and implementation of policies related to climate change and sustainable development;
5. **Encourage** APPF Member Countries to implement the recommendations of the Conference of the Parties for advancing the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in all elements of climate action;
6. **Urge** providers of financing for climate and sustainable development initiatives to improve the tracking of – and reporting on – gender-related aspects of those financial resources and the measurement of their impact;
7. **Encourage** APPF Member Countries to promote women's meaningful participation in negotiations and decision-making related to climate change and sustainable development, including in leadership roles.