

APPF28/RES/05

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

(Sponsored by Australia, Indonesia and the Russian Federation)

We the parliamentarians of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF), gathering in Canberra, Australia, for the 28th Annual Meeting of the APPF under the theme *Parliamentary Partnerships for 2020 and Beyond*:

Recalling the 24th, 25th, 26th and 27th APPF resolutions on gender equality and women's empowerment to achieve shared prosperity and sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region;

Recalling international treaties enhancing the protection and promotion of women's rights, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention on the Political Rights of the Women, the ILO Convention concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation, the ILO Equal Remuneration Convention, the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW 1979), and commemorating the 40th anniversary of CEDAW;

Welcoming the 25th Anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995, which agreed an historic roadmap for the empowerment of women and girls, envisioning a world where each woman and girl can exercise her choices and freedoms and realise all her rights;

Also **welcoming** the 20th Anniversary of UNSCR1325 on women, peace and security, adopted by the United Nations Security Council in 2000, which acknowledged the disproportionate and unique impact of armed conflict on women and girls and the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace building;

Reaffirming that gender equality is a fundamental human right and central to sustainable development and peace;

Also **reaffirming** our commitment to the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including Goal 5, which targets the most significant challenges of achieving gender equality and empowerment for all women and girls;

Underlining that gender equality cross cuts the SDGs, and that a gender responsive implementation of the entire 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development is required to meet SDG targets;



Recognising that the global indicators framework for the SDGs exposes methodological gaps and the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development requires monitoring and reviewing of commitments to disaggregate data and close data gaps;

Expressing concern that the international community is not on track to meet the SDG commitments on gender equality;

Expressing concern over all forms of discrimination faced by women and girls and particularly concerned by the disproportionate impact of humanitarian disasters and conflicts on women and girls;

Highlighting that enabling women and girls access to political and economic decision-making and resources processes contributes to security, peace and sustainable development;

Welcoming the permanent status of APPF Women Parliamentarians Meeting in the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum and commitments to achieving gender equality by 2030; and

Welcoming the creation and operation of international discussion platforms making a valuable contribution to the consolidation of the global women's community to ensure a stable and secure future, and **noting** the Third Eurasian Women's Forum to be held in September 2021 in the Russian Federation, and similar forums in other states of the Asia-Pacific Region.

RESOLVE TO:

1. **Remind** APPF Member Countries that the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development recognises the link between gender equality and sustainable development and that gender equality is a stand-alone goal (SDG5) and also cross cuts the SDGs;
2. **Encourage** Asia-Pacific countries to ratify, implement and monitor treaties, conventions and regulatory frameworks related to gender equality and women's empowerment and to encourage multi-stakeholder partnerships to work together in order to promote a gender responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to meet SDG targets;
3. **Remind** APPF Member Countries that we cannot achieve the SDGs, eradicate poverty or sustain peace without addressing gender inequalities;
4. **Call upon** APPF Member Countries to support the design and collection of better gender and disaggregated data to ensure effective monitoring of the SDGs and more effective targeting of policies and programming;
5. **Remind** APPF Member Countries that women are powerful mediators, peacebuilders and leaders in making significant contributions to lasting peace and sustainable development;
6. **Urge** APPF Member Countries to promote the meaningful inclusion of women in decision-making positions, including in peace processes, humanitarian responses, and climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts in order to enhance security, peace and sustainable development and ensure these efforts meet the needs and rights of women and girls;
7. **Remind** APPF Member Countries of the urgency of eradicating discrimination and violence against women and girls, and to strengthen and implement laws and policies against this human rights violation particularly in humanitarian, disaster, armed conflict and all forms of violent settings, noting that vulnerability to violence increases in these settings;

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8. **Call on** all parties involved in conflict, and in humanitarian and disaster response and recovery, to take special measures to protect women and girls from gender-based violence, particularly rape, sexual abuse, and harassment;
 9. **Call upon** APPF member countries to support female economic empowerment through access to capital markets as well as supporting women entrepreneurship through access to training, infrastructure, information and safety in the work environment as well as career development opportunities;
 10. **Call upon** the APPF member countries to consider the effect of restrictive trade practices on supply of essential medicines and medical equipment given the possible negative impact on women and children;
 11. **Encourage** the APPF member countries to send women parliamentarians to international events promoting women's rights, such as the Third Eurasian Women's Forum, to be held in September 2021 in the Russian Federation; and
 12. **Urge** APPF Member Countries to make gender equality and empowerment of women and girls for peace and sustainable development a priority by implementing SDG5 and other gender SDG targets, through actions focused on eliminating all barriers to the realisation of the human rights of women and girls, ending violence against women and girls, increasing women's economic participation and access to economic resources and representation in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), ensuring women and girls' access to high quality education and health services, ensuring infrastructure, services and urban planning meets the needs of women and girls, and ensuring women are included in decision making and leadership.