



Resolution on Financial Affairs: Ensuring Efforts for Economic Growth

APA/ Res/2018/03
2 December 2018

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA resolution on the ramification of International Financial Crisis for the Economies of Countries of APA Member Parliaments, APA/Res/2015/13 and other relevant APA resolutions;

Expressing concern with the repercussions of the sovereign defaults and financial markets volatility to the economic growth in APA countries;

Noting that a social order based on justice and egalitarianism is of critical importance to accelerate social and economic progress everywhere, help in achieving international peace and harmony;

Appreciating the measures that have already been taken by Asian Parliaments and their governments to contain the negative impacts of economic crisis in their economies, and expect them to take further steps to stimulate their respective economies;

Noting that the economic growth in Asian Economies has not been shared equally in the society whereby the Gini Coefficient, as reported by the Asian Development Bank, had grown significantly over the last decades and that regional cooperation which have already existed in Asia could serve as a platform for enhancing cooperation among sub regional economic organization that would improve welfare for all in Asia;

Noting that peace and stability in the region is an important contributor to economic growth and that occupation, violence and political instability act as inhibitors for economic development and that maintaining regional collaboration on political stability is crucial;

Recognizing also the necessity to effectively reform the current global financial architecture so as to achieve a more balanced world economic and financial order;

Encouraging parliaments to adopt policies through their legislative and scrutiny roles aiming to enhance the role of the private sector and increasing its contribution to economic integration, in order to create the appropriate jobs and jobs opportunities;

Emphasizing parliaments on the role of the private sector by influencing national expenditure policies through the roles of parliaments, particularly with regard to discussions and approval of budgets and final accounts, as well as the adoption of investment laws and the provision of incentives and guarantees for private sector growth;

1. **Call upon** Asian governments to take new policy approaches to develop a more comprehensive and innovative growth strategies needed to sustain a more resilient, balanced, sustainable and inclusive economic growth that is necessary means to create decent jobs and reduce inequalities to promote the formation of a regional SME's network;
2. **Stress** upon Member Parliaments to remove all obstacles to socio-economic progress and all forms of discriminations,
3. **Call upon** APA Parliaments to ensure by all means respect for the dignity and value of all human beings and ensure adherence to human rights and social justice by legislative and oversight means, ensuring equality of opportunity for all;
4. **Encourage** Member Parliaments to work on an informal debate at APA platform on the potential benefits of social justice in their respective countries and promote greater cooperation for equitable economic development in Asia;
5. **Call upon** APA member parliaments to support the development of Asian-led multilateral bank and its capacity to promote equitable economic growth, improve national and trans-boundary connectivity and to seek possible establishment of a regional stabilization fund in times of economic crisis;
6. **Encourage** APA member governments to create a protocol to enhance resilience to economic crisis which regulates the allocation for some budget reserves for economic crisis mitigation;
7. **Also encourage** governments in Asia to promote cross-border private investments while ensuring an institutional capacity and prudent regulatory frame work to enable countries to absorb large capital flows, while at the same time using bilateral swap arrangement to promote the role of local currency in financing cross-border trade;
8. **Urge** Parliamentarians of Member Legislatures to promote social justice and development in their respective policies as a common interest of all nations of Asia by encouraging, promoting and endorsing national and regional efforts to raise the living standards of peoples;
9. **Recommend** APA member parliaments to promote the adoption of Basel III to improve supervision on financial sector governance;
10. **Encourage** parliaments in APA member countries to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable Development and focus on policies that alleviate poverty, including improving access to health, education, capital, employment and social protection to help close income inequalities;
11. **Call on** APA member parliaments to consider reviewing their respective legislations, where appropriate, to give more support to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) by giving access to low interest credit loan and to provide capacity building and regional networking to integrate SMEs into regional and global value chains;
12. **Encourage** parliaments to support financial inclusion for the poor and other vulnerable segments of society in each respective country and to share best practices of financial inclusion in the region;

13. **Stress** the importance to invest in human development and to provide sufficient public funding for education and health for everyone, without discrimination, to face the future global and Asian economic demands;
14. **Request** the governments in respective countries to channel more funds in joint research and development (R&D) activities as a means to spur innovation and viable economic growth strategies to sustain a more resilient economic growth;
15. **Also request** the governments in respective Asian countries to promote the implementation of low carbon economy despite the global economy deceleration;
16. **Call** upon the APA Member Parliaments to continuously promote the need for reform in global financial institutions and architecture, financial technology regulation, with the view for a balanced world economic and financial order;
17. **Call Upon** APA member countries to strive to create an enabling institutional and business environment that can promote financial stability, financial inclusion, and efficient mobilization and utilization of the available resources;
18. **Recommend** to establish a Technical Working Group so as to study the terminology issues related to green funding, classification of relevant financial instruments, methodology for standardizing such instruments and their subsequent certification;
19. **Call Upon** APA member countries to facilitate investing their sovereign funds and encourage their private investors to invest more in Asia;
20. **Express Concern very strongly** to the use of sanctions or any mechanisms of financial and economic pressure on APA Member States applied for political purposes;
21. **Request** the Secretary General to seek the views of APA Member Parliaments on the implementation of the present resolution and report there on to the next session of the Standing-Committee in 2018;