



APA/Economic Com/2007/01
20 November 2007

Resolution on Economic and Sustainable development

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly:

Being aware of the pivotal role of Asia in shaping the world economic architecture, considering its immense human, natural and technological resources;

Also being aware of the indisputable importance of transit and transport in promoting economic progress and cooperation among Asian countries;

Recognizing the responsibility of developed countries and international institutions towards global development and special needs of Asian countries in their strive towards achieving economic growth and sustainable development;

Acknowledging the importance of the South –South Cooperation (SSC) specially among the Asian developing countries as a crucial means to boost and expand economic cooperation to help these countries achieve MDGs and consider such cooperation as a supplement to the North –South Cooperation;

Emphasizing the need for achieving the targets defined by Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);

Bearing in mind that there is no “One size fits for all policy” for the economic growth and sustainable development of the Asian countries;

Being deeply concerned with severe economic and social burden that poverty, unemployment, human trafficking, narcotic drugs, natural disasters and foreign debt pose to the peoples of Asia:

1. **Urge** Member Parliaments to encourage their respective governments to expedite their efforts in making suitable policy at the national, sub regional, regional and continental level to achieve MDGs, specially through partnership for development among the Asian countries;
2. **Call on** Member Parliaments to collectively support South –South Cooperation, specially through the Triangular cooperation initiative, considering the different levels of economic developments of the Asian

countries that can be leveraged as a window of opportunity for expanding such economic cooperation;

3. **Recall** the need for creation of a mechanism by the APA to exchange information and best leveraged the experiences through the good or the best practices of the Asian countries to further address the current economic and developmental challenges posed by the globalization process,
4. **Welcome** the regional and international initiatives to preserve sound global environment for future generations, and urge Member Parliaments to observe environmental issues in their review of economic development plans.
5. **Emphasize** the need for access of all Asian countries to advanced technologies and know-how including nano-, bio-, agricultural, medical, nuclear, information and space sciences and technologies, while firmly opposing monopoly of any technology and restrictions to information access.
6. **Recall** the huge economic potentials of the regions, and encourage the creation of Asian integrated markets in appropriate fields such as energy including nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, and other new technologies, contributing to the sustainable development of Asian countries.
7. **Also recognize** that cultural diversity in the Asian regions is a genuine asset for its economic growth, and that there is a real need for expansion of tourism in the region which, in addition to economic advantages, would create closer link between Asian people and more understanding among each other.
8. **Encourage** Member Parliaments to promote investment and trade cooperation through bilateral or multilateral trade agreements, and incorporate MDGs in the trade cooperation as well as pave the way for the establishment of an Asian common market.
9. **Stress** the importance of SMEs, trade, services, insurance and investment flows as the engines of economic growth throughout Asia, and urges all Member Parliaments to accelerate ratification of those national, sub regional, regional and international trade and investment agreements.
10. **Reject firmly** the application of politically driven coercive economic measures and sanctions. The imposition of such measures not only have adverse impacts on the well-being and daily lives of ordinary people, but also contradicts the main principles of multilateral trading systems and WTO rules.

11. **Also stress** the importance of strengthening and attaining of the universality of the World Trade Organization and, in this context, calls for acceleration of the accession process without political impediments and in a transparent and balanced manner, according fair advantage to the developing countries applying for membership of the World Trade Organization.
12. **Take note** of the ongoing reform of the United Nations System in the economic and sustainable development fields. The outcome of the reform should lead to a more meaningful participation of all Member States of the United Nations in its decision making processes in economic matters. Its result should also respond to the vital needs of the developing countries and place economic development objectives at the center of the United Nations agenda.
13. **Remind** Member Parliaments to promote the development of a swift response and a regional cooperation and early warning system to reduce the tragic consequences of natural disasters which affect the lives and livelihoods of many Asians every year. Encourage the establishment of a regional center for information, communication and space technology – enabled disaster management to be taken into consideration.
14. **Call on** Member Parliaments to initiate exchange of information and joint action among their law enforcement authorities against human and narcotic drugs trafficking.
15. **Urge** Member Parliaments to give due consideration and to prepare reports on the implementation of the present resolution, and ensure that APA Secretary General establish a follow up mechanism for their implementation.
16. **Establish** a subcommittee on Alleviation of Poverty in Asia under the Standing committee of economic and sustainable development of APA composed of delegates from the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Islamic Republic of Iran and ..., to meet at least once a year prior to APA Executive Council session and consider how best to facilitate the implementation of the Provisions of the Plan of Action on Alleviation of poverty in Asia and this subcommittee will also make a feasibility study on Anti Poverty Fund ; Nomination of volunteer member parliaments to this subcommittee as well as the date and Venue of the host country will be coordinated through the member parliaments by the secretariat.
17. **Encourage** Member Parliaments to see to it that their governments provide, under APA Decision on Asian Monetary Fund contained in APA/Dec/2007/01, consultation and guidance, through a National Project Officer, to the Secretariat for preparation of a report on a "Structured Mechanism" to identify the most promising areas of economic cooperation throughout Asia.

- 18 **Establish** a subcommittee on Environment and Global Warming under the Standing committee of economic and sustainable development of APA composed of the Republic of Korea, Islamic Republic of Iran, the Philippines and ... to meet in the Republic Korea in 2008. The subcommittee will consider the Draft Plan of Action, prepared by the host country with the assistance of the Secretariat of APA, on environmental issues, including Global Warming, and planting of billions of trees through out Asia, and submit its report to the next Session of the APA Plenary.