



Resolution of APA Parliamentarians on Women

APA/ Res/2018/11
2 December 2018

We, members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling the APA Plenary Resolution (APA/Res/2010/06, 30 November, 2010) on the establishment of the Coordinating Meeting of APA Women Parliamentarians;

Mindful of the fact that despite all efforts made for the promotion of women's rights, gender inequality and injustice still persists between women and men both in the extent of power at decision-making and in mechanisms to promote the advancement of women;

Aware of the importance of promoting the participation of women in scientific, social, political, cultural and economic affairs, any peace dialogue;

Reaffirming that inclusion of women in positions of power and elected bodies, and also their involvement in the decision making process, strengthens the development of democratic principles in public life and increases the economic development;

Noting that the main obstacles women face in entering Parliaments in Asia include political, socio-economic and cultural prejudices;

Mindful of the necessity to put on the agenda of APA meetings matters of importance to women such as combating violence against women, empowerment of women in society, participation of women in political and economic life, and prevention of all kinds of harassments, sexual violence against women and girls, including in situation of armed conflict areas;

Stressing our resolve to participate and contribute actively in the deliberation of issues relating to women's rights, women's empowerment and women's representatives participation in APA meetings;

Underlining the need to facilitate networking between women parliamentarians of Asia;

1. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to ensure the inclusion and effective participation of women in social, cultural, economic, political, and sustainable development affairs in Asia, at national, regional, and international levels as appropriate.
2. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to adopt legislative regulations to facilitate women's representations in Asian Parliaments;
3. **Recommend** the inclusion of at least one woman parliamentarian in APA delegations;

4. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to recognize the concerns of women, and to effectively implement the relevant targets of United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which promote gender equality and empowerment, sustainable and inclusive economic growth, full and productive employment, and building accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.
5. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to recognize that gender equality and empowerment of women must be established as a standing-alone goal and must be achieved simultaneously with *goal 5 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*;
6. **Determine** to enhance the activities of the Coordinating Meeting of APA Women Parliamentarian through more effective exchange of views and close interaction;
7. **Request** the Special Committee of APA Women Parliamentarians to expand the scope of its activities under the auspices of Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs and to take appropriate measures to facilitate networking among women parliamentarians in Asia;
8. **Request** the APA Secretariat to assign one part of the website of the Assembly to facilitate networking among women parliamentarians of Asia covering updated information on the activities of the APA Women Parliamentarians;
9. **Express** concern at the dire situation of millions of women in all war-torn and conflict-ridden areas such as Palestine, Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Myanmar, and Afghanistan who are in danger of violence, killing, rape, and captivity;

Foot note: Indian delegation expresses reservation on operative para 9