

Resolution on Harmonious Development through Democracy

**APA/Plenary/SC-Political/Res/2019/08**

**16 December 2019**

*We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,*

*Recalling* the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter, which reaffirms the dignity and worth of human beings, in the equal rights of nations large and small and the principle of the sovereign equality of the UN Members;

*Recalling* also the United Nations Member commitment stipulated in the UN Charter to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all people;

*Reiterating* that democracy, dignity of human beings, rule of law and justice are universal, interconnected, mutually reinforcing and crucial for development;

*Recognizing* that the eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development and in this regard, stressing on the importance of an enabling environment based on principals of democracy for the promotion of higher living standards, decent employment, and conditions for economic and social progress and development;

Mindful of the need for leading role of Parliaments towards the full realization of SDGs;

1. **Acknowledge** the core role of Parliaments in the socio-economic development by involving the will of the people through transparent, accessible, accountable and effective institutions at all levels;
2. **Consider** democracy, transparency and accountability among the important means to sustainably end poverty, promote shared prosperity and the basic social and economic needs;
3. **Commit** to remove and eradicate all obstacles in the administration of socio-economic polices and all forms of discriminations, including, but not limited to race, color, creed, cast, sex, language, religion, nationality, and ethnicity;
4. **Recognize** the need for active engagement with civil society organization and youth at all tiers of governance to ensure equitable development;
5. **Urge** that APA Members Parliaments shall continue to encouragesustainable human development through social security programs for marginalized segments of the society;
6. **Acknowledge** that regional disparities in economic development are amongst the leading causes of marginalization of efficacy and efficiency of democratic setups. Requiring affirmative actions to bring equitable and judicious development across the region;
7. **Emphasize** to improve regional and inter-regional connectivity to promote socio-economic development of the people of Asia and
8. **Urge** APA Members to generate an informed debate and share experiences at APA platform on the democratic process leading to development.