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## Draft Resolution on Sustainable Tourism Cooperation in Asia

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

**Recalling** its resolution 2017/12 Resolution on The Role of APA Parliaments in Supporting the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;

**Re-emphasizing** cultural diversity and protection of cultural heritage in Asia;

**Highlighting** promotion of inter-faith dialogue and harmony among World Religions;

**Recalling** UN General Assembly resolution A/RES/75/229 on Promotion of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection;

**Stressing** that poverty is a multifaceted problem that requires a multifaceted and integrated approach in addressing its economic, political, social, environmental and institutional dimensions at all levels;

**Recognizing** that sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, health tourism, cultural tourism, pilgrimage tourism is a cross-cutting activity that effectively contribute to the three dimensions of sustainable development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, including by fostering economic growth, alleviating poverty, creating full and productive employment and decent work for all, accelerating the change to more sustainable consumption and production patterns and promoting the sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources, promoting local culture, improving the quality of life and the economic empowerment of young people and development of better living conditions for rural populations;

**Noting** the initiatives launched and the events organized at the sub regional, regional and international levels in the field of sustainable tourism;

**Acknowledging** the contribution of tourism industry to the economic development of the societies and as a tool for promoting understanding, peace and prosperity among nations;

**Underlining** the vast potential of the our region in the field of tourism and its ability to increase the region's share in global tourism and calling upon the need for protection and conservation of its natural and cultural heritage and safeguarding cultural richness, natural beauty, social values as well as local communities and traditions of the indigenous peoples;

*Have decided to,*

1. **Establish** our region as a peaceful and green tourism destination with diverse products and high quality services while ensuring responsible and sustainable tourism development and upgrading quality of life of the people through effective involvement of all stake holders throughout the process;
2. **Promote** Inter- regional tourism cooperation through regional integration organizations particularly ASEAN, ECO and other existing platforms;
3. **Support** regional tourism exchanges particularly for persons engaged in the tourism industry;
4. **Promote** Silk Road tourism through arranging events and festivals and in cooperation with the international community and relevant organizations will be revived;
5. **Facilitate** Visa procedures for the citizens of the Region;
6. **Strengthen** and diversify tourism health/medical, culture, winter, sea, mountain desert, religious and other niche areas/domains;
7. **Support** utilization of electronic media, human resource development and capacity building activities;
8. **Devise** and promote green tourism strategy in collaboration with international tourism bodies;
9. **Encourage** private sector and local community involvement in the tourism activities will be strengthened;
10. ....
11. **Selecting** the city of Zanjan, Islamic Republic of Iran as **Asia Tourism Capital** for the years 2023 as well as the cities of ----- for the years 2024 and 2025 respectively;
12. **Requests** the Secretariat to submit to the next meeting of...,a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including recommendations on ways and means to promote sustainable tourism in Asia, in a balanced and integrated manner.