



Draft Resolution on Tourism Cooperation in Asia

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Being cognizant of the economic significance of the tourism and travel sectors as well as their roles in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular in the protection of cultural and natural heritage and contribution to enhanced mutual understanding and better relations among peoples as a platform for peace and stability;

Recalling our commitment to the resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 25 September 2015, titled “Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” (A/RES/70/1), which exhorts to develop and implement policies to promote more resilient, inclusive and sustainable tourism sector, and acknowledges the role of tourism in creating jobs and promoting local culture and products as well as preserving them for the future generations;

Taking into account the recommendations and guidelines set forth by the United Nations World Tourism Organization for actions to be taken to mitigate the adverse impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on tourism and for recovery plans and programs for tourism;

Recognizing the potential of multilateral regional frameworks such as the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD), an Asia wide forum which declared “culture and tourism” as well as “education and human resource development” as two out of its six priority areas of cooperation;

Considering the deep-rooted, comprehensive and ever-growing relations between the Asian Parliamentary Assembly Member States, including in trade, tourism and travel as well as the need to make best use of this potential;

Recognizing the significant role of parliaments in promoting tourism industry, which employs and provides livelihoods to high number of people in the Member Countries;

Further acknowledging the short and long-term economic and social impacts of the COVID- 19 pandemic and the need for a speedy and safe recovery in all sectors following the overall guidance of relevant international organizations and initiatives;

Noting that COVID-19 pandemic had severe negative impacts on tourism industry worldwide and compelled countries to introduce safe travel measures that need to be standardized and institutionalized for future similar pandemics;

Emphasizing the need to consider tourism and travel sectors, which are among the hardest-hit sectors by the pandemic, as a vital pillar of recovery efforts;

Referring to the importance of increasing bilateral, regional and international cooperation for the purpose of mitigating the adverse impacts of the pandemic on tourism and travel sectors.