*Draft*

**30th Annual Meeting**

**of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum**

**RESOLUTION**

**ON STRENGTHENING CONNECTIVITY AND ENHANCING DIGITAL ECONOMY IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION**

*Draft Resolution Sponsored by Russian Federation*

We, the parliamentarians of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF), gathering in Bangkok, Thailand, for the 30th Annual Meeting of the APPF under the theme *Parliaments and the Post-COVID-19 Sustainable Development*:

***Reaffirming*** our commitment to a stronger, deeper and mutually beneficial relationship among the countries of the Asia-Pacific region (APR) in order to achieve comprehensive and sustainable economic growth that contributes to a better quality of life and job creation in the region;

***Considering*** digitalization as one of the key factors in the comprehensive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and, in particular, its economic component;

***Noting*** the rapid growth of the digital economy, the accelerated introduction of innovations and their widespread use in various sectors of the economy, that contribute to increased productivity and competitiveness of companies, reduction of production costs, creation of new qualified jobs, support of small and
medium-sized businesses, including in high-tech sectors;

***Recognizing*** that the COVID-19 pandemic as a whole has created risks for global macroeconomic stability, world trade, manufacturing sector, traditional economic ties and supply chains, while becoming a catalyst for digitalization processes in the economy;

***Noting*** the increasing importance of digitalization for the international security agenda in connection with the related challenges and risks, including the deepening digital divide between countries, the problem of ensuring personal data protection, the growth of information security threats;

***Acknowledging*** the importance of developing long-term strategies to create a favorable, inclusive, open, fair, and non-discriminatory digital environment that promotes the use of new technologies, including for the purpose of increasing entrepreneurial activity;

**RESOLVE TO:**

1. **Promote** the creation of favorable conditions in the APPF Member Countries for the development of the digital economy and effective competition with a view to encouraging investment and in the interest of creating an open and non-discriminatory market in the Asia-Pacific region that takes into account the interests of all economies;
2. **Call on** the APPF Member Countries to strive to increase mutual trade, reject protectionism, politically motivated restrictions and barriers, to comprehensively deepen investment cooperation, expand production cooperation based on the principles of equality, respect for and consideration of each other's interests;
3. **Call on** the APPF Member Parliaments to cooperate more closely to create international norms that ensure equitable, transparent management of the global network with a view to building an open, reliable and secure digital ecosystem in the region;
4. **Promote** the strengthening of cooperation between the APPF Member Countries on the development of common approaches to legal regulation in the field of confidentiality protection of personal electronic communications, personal data and consumer rights;
5. **Stimulate** the fulfillment of the potential of digital technologies and opportunities for the population of the APPF Member Countries to acquire advanced technological solutions as promising tools for improving competitiveness, labor productivity and the quality of life of the population, including in remote and rural areas;
6. **Promote** the development and creation of a digital economy infrastructure, including 5G, technological solutions based on artificial intelligence, industrial Internet of things, smart city systems, as well as the implementation of joint projects and initiatives between the APPF Member Countries;
7. **Make efforts** to develop digital educational programs and promote the exchange of best practices between the APPF Member Countries for improving the skills and training of specialists in digital transformation, as well as for increasing the general digital literacy of the population;
8. **Make more active use** of the APPF's capabilities as an effective platform for establishing an equal and mutually respectful dialogue on the issues of economic interconnection and the conjunction of integration processes in the Asia-Pacific region, removing barriers in various areas of trade and economic cooperation, ensuring sustainable economic growth, social progress and improving living conditions of citizens in the region.