

ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM (APPF)

8TH ANNUAL MEETING

RESOLUTION APPF8/RES.14

The Tenth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

(Sponsored by Thailand)

The 8th Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum;

Fully aware of the growing momentum for trade liberalization and the impact of globalization on global trade and development;

Gravely concerned at the inconclusive Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Seattle and the remaining unresolved trade liberalization issues;

Realizing the urgent need for the world to adopt a transparent and balanced approach to trade and development that addresses the legitimate concerns of all parties to trade;

Realizing further the role of laws in modern trade and development;

Welcoming the timely convention of the Tenth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in Thailand during February 12-19 2000 as being the first world level conference on trade at the beginning of the new millennium that could rectify the short comings of the Seattle WTO conference. Encouraged by the joint initiatives of the National Assembly of Thailand and the Inter-Parliamentary Union to organize in parallel with the UNCTAD X conference, the parliamentary meeting on the occasion of UNCTAD X from February 10-11 2000 in Bangkok to chart out a parliamentary strategy for trade and development in the face of new challenges to the global economy, posed by liberalization, globalization, and the Asian Economic Crisis;

RESOLVES TO:

1. **Support** the fruitful and extensive discussions of the parliamentary meeting on the occasion of UNCTAD X and the UNCTAD X conference to achieve outcomes acceptable to all;
2. **Monitor** the implementation of the UNCTAD X Plan of Action and the parliamentary strategy for such action in the APPF member countries;
3. **Urge** APPF member countries in the Inter-Parliamentary Union to have a strong regional representation at the highest possible level and participate actively in the dual UNCTAD X meetings.