**DRAFT RESOLUTION ON**

**PARLIAMENTS AND THE POST COVID-19 SUSTAINABLE RECOVERY TO PROMOTE DEMOCRACY, PEACE AND SECURITY**

*(Sponsored by Indonesia)*

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

***Recalling*** the UN General Assembly Resolution, A/RES/70/1, entitled ‘’Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development’’ which adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people centered set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets;

***Recalling*** the Madrid Declaration endorsed by the 143rd IPU Assembly which emphasized, among others; that the COVID-19 pandemic has further aggravated existing challenges, affecting democratic processes, leading to questioning of evidence-based decision-making, and ultimately challenging the ability of the democratic model to cope with and recover from emergencies;

***Reaffirming*** the APPF Resolution number APPF29/RES/09 on the Role of Parliaments in Balancing Disease Control, Economy, And Human Rights, And Ideas for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation adopted at the 29th Annual Meeting of the APPF held in Seoul, Republic of Korea as well as the APPF Resolution number APPF28/RES/13 on Building Trust for Peace, Security and Sustainable Development in the Region adopted at the 28th Annual Meeting of the APPF held in Canberra, Australia;

***Reaffirming*** that development, democracy, and peace and security are interlinked and mutually reinforcing;

***Expressing concern*** aboutthe devastating impact of the COVID-19, not only on the economy but also democracy, especially in the context of procedural democracy where democratic agendas such as election to be postponed due to social restrictions;

***Recognizing*** COVID-19 further effect on the effectiveness of parliament in carrying out its duties, particularly the oversight role in order to keep the balance between legislative and executive in handling the pandemic;

***Realizing*** that the COVID-19 pandemic has produced a severe and multidimensional outcome which may force unilateral measures that brings global implications towards the future of multilateralism, international cooperation and solidarity;

***Cognizant*** that democracy is perceived as the solution to most crisis, due to its positive impact on peace, security and stability in the region, which is a prerequisite to the realization of sustainable development and resilient recovery;

***Reiterating*** the need for a comprehensive approach to the post COVID-19 sustainable recovery which strongly requires parliaments as the most important pillar of democracy in ensuring a stable and functioning democracy in Asia-Pacific;

***Recalling*** the important role of the Asia-Pacific parliaments to involve in the effort of maintaining democracy, peace and security as key requirement not only to post pandemic recovery, but most importantly to conflict or crisis resolution.

**RESOLVE TO**:

1. ***Recommend*** APPF Member Parliaments to asses the COVID-19 response policies and ensure that the democratic agendas are still feasible and suitable with the public health measures in their respective countries.
2. ***Encourage*** APPF Member Parliaments to maintain balance between legislative and executive role in handling the pandemic by adapting through optimal utilization of technology, with the hope that it still can carry its legislative, budgeting, representative and oversight duties.
3. ***Call on*** APPF Member Countries to harness the post-Covid 19 recovery as a momentum to create more innovative democracy particularly by advancing digitalization, ICTs, and other mechanism to increase citizen's engagement in the policy making processes.
4. ***Call on*** APPF Member Parliaments to be a part of the solution through acting as bridge-builder and put forward dialogue and diplomacy to the table, in order to strengthen multilateralism and international cooperation, in resolving the existing crisis.
5. ***Urge*** APPF Member Countries to work together in addressing contemporary challenges to democracy and multilateralism such as the COVID-19 pandemic, which requires collaborative efforts at regional and international levels.
6. ***Encourage*** APPF Member Countries to engage and consult with all relevant stakeholders, including the Civil Society Organizations and those who live in vulnerable situations, in addressing the adverse impacts of the current pandemic and obstacles to sustain democracy.
7. ***Call on*** APPF Member Countries to maintain commitment to the principles of democracy, including good governance and rule of law while working closely together toward and inclusive, sustainable and resilient recovery.
8. ***Encourage*** APPF Member Parliaments to increase their active engagement in maintaining peace and stability in the region through parliamentary dialogue, respecting international laws as well as territorial sovereignty.