Report on the implementation of the resolutions adopted at the 29th APPF meeting (Seoul, December 13-15, 2021)

RES/01 RESOLUTION ON PARLIAMENTARY LEADERSHIP FOR PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC AND BEYOND

RES/02 RESOLUTION ON STRENGTHENING REGIONAL MULTILATERALISM AND ADDRESSING ISSUES BASED ON NORMS
AND RULES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

Russia is interested in creating a common space of peace, stability, development, and prosperity in Eurasia, including its Asia-Pacific part. To achieve this ambitious goal, we promoted the establishment of a broad continent-wide integration framework – the Greater Eurasian Partnership (GEP). The consistent strengthening of interaction between key regional associations facilitates its establishment: the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

We made efforts to further strengthen the SCO's role in ensuring security and promoting sustainable development in Eurasia. This consistently modernized Organization, whose space has been significantly expanded following the summit in Samarkand held on September 15 - 16 this year, has a solid legal basis and effective operational mechanisms; it implements a concrete agenda relevant for all its participants, being guided by the principles of pragmatism and consensus.

Russia invariably stands for preserving and strengthening the system of interstate relations in the Asia-Pacific region as an inclusive framework for the regional architecture focused on deepening connectivity and creative cooperation. We are making efforts to intensify the multidisciplinary strategic dialogue with the Association, expanding practical cooperation in all areas, including as part of the ongoing Year of Scientific and Technical Cooperation between Russia and ASEAN.

At the platform of the East Asia Summit, we are promoting several applied initiatives, such as launching anti-epidemic mechanism, the post-crisis recovery of the tourism industry, and establishing contacts through volunteer institutions. As part of the ASEAN Regional Security Forum, we put forward a series of proposals for security in using information and communication technology. At the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meetings with Dialogue Partners, Russia supervises anti-terrorist issues. In the agenda of the Conference

on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia, we have established a new line: cooperation in the field of international information security.

RES/05 RESOLUTION ON COUNTERING TERRORISM AND EXTREMISM IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

We are consistently working in the field of countering terrorism through the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the mechanism of the meetings of the ASEAN Defence Ministers and Dialogue Partners (ADMM-Plus) and the Russia-ASEAN Dialogue Partnership. The approval of the draft Russian-ASEAN Work Plan on Countering Terrorism and Transnational Crime for the next three years is at the final stage.

Despite the abolition of the APEC Counter-Terrorism Working Group (CTWG), the issue of countering terrorism as one of the factors ensuring the security of economic growth in the Asia-Pacific region remains relevant on the agenda of the forum. We support the Secretariat's efforts to redistribute the thematic blocks of the former CTWG among other APEC working groups.

In the multilateral formats of the Asia-Pacific region, we are promoting Russian approaches concerning the need to combine counter-terrorism capabilities, without "hidden agendas" and double standards, on the basis of international law and with an emphasis on the implementation of relevant decisions of the UN Security Council and the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

We encourage regional partners to increase efforts in order to interdict the spread of terrorist/extremist ideology and propaganda in the information field, with an emphasis on the need to develop rules of responsible behavior regarding the media and social networks. In particular, we once again drew attention to these tasks during the ministerial events of ASEAN in Phnom Penh (August 4-6, 2022).

We are also promoting appropriate approaches to the development of the Plan of Action on the Implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy at the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia.

RES/06 RESOLUTION ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR GREATER ECONOMIC RESILIENCE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH AFTER THE COVID-19 CRISIS

RES/07 RESOLUTION ON ACCELERATING DIGITAL ECONOMY AND ENHANCING CONNECTIVITY

RES/08 RESOLUTION ON ENHANCING ECONOMIC INTEGRATION AND PROMOTING TRADE IN THE REGION

We drew the world community's attention to the destructive effect of restrictive measures in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and the risks arising from the sanctions practice for the global social stability, security, and sustainable development.

Russia continues to responsibly and conscientiously fulfil its obligations under international agreements and contracts in terms of exports of agricultural products, fertilizers, energy carriers, and other critical goods. We are well aware of the importance of supplying such goods, especially food and fertilizers, for the social and economic development of the states of Asia and Oceania, for achievement of food security indicators and the Sustainable Development Goals.

In mutual settlements with the Russia's key trading partners, we paid increased attention to expanding the use of national currencies and interbank payment systems alternative to SWIFT.

We provided comprehensive assistance in promoting Russian vaccines against coronavirus on foreign markets.

We continued to provide diplomatic support for major infrastructure projects with Russian participation. We were actively involved in implementing the plans to improve the efficiency of the North-South international transport corridor.

Together with our associates from BRICS, SCO, and EAEU, we promoted the thesis about the importance of creating a fair, well-balanced, and transparent trading system free from any protectionist measures and illegitimate unilateral restrictions within the World Trade Organization (WTO) platform. We held the idea that the WTO reform should, among other things, restore the normal work of the system for resolving trade disputes.

At the platform of the International Monetary Fund and other relevant institutions, we pursued the policy of bringing the international monetary and financial system in line with the real balance of forces and interests in the world economy.

RES/11 RESOLUTION ON IMPROVING UNDERSTANDING OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC

Russia is a country with the extremely rich cultural heritage. Throughout the history of the Russian state, it was culture that accumulated spiritual experience in order to pass it on to new generations and guaranteed the unity of all the peoples inhabiting Russia, thus performing a creative function.

Among many factors that characterize the Russian culture, we should emphasize its multinationality and versatility. It can confidently be said that the culture of our country can be described by the phrase "unity in diversity".

The cultural specifics and traditions of the peoples, ethnic groups, and nationalities inhabiting Russia are protected within the country and promoted abroad.

Examples of this activity are large-scale cultural and humanitarian campaigns and international projects implemented by the governmental authorities of the Russian Federation and by Russian regions that are held in Russia and worldwide, including the countries of the Asia-Pacific region. These events present not only the achievements of classical art that are well known in the whole world, but also the best examples of folklore and traditions of the Russian peoples.

International contests held in Russia always enjoy great prestige and bring together participants from all over the world, whereas world-famous Russian creative teams continue to perform in various parts of the world.

Flagship projects implemented with the support of the Russian Ministry of Culture in the Asia-Pacific region that allow artists from Russia and countries of the Region to showcase their projects, include the International Pacific Theatre Festival and the Pacific Meridians International Film Festival of the Asia-Pacific Region. Both festivals are held in Vladivostok on a biennial and annual basis, respectively.

Every two years, as part of the programme for the development of theatrical art in the Far East sponsored by the State Theatre of Nations and the Russian Ministry of Culture, Vladivostok hosts the International Pacific Theatre Festival at one of the leading venues in the region – the Primorsky Stage of the State Academic Mariinsky Theatre.

Another important international cultural event in the Russian Far East is the Pacific Meridians International Film Festival of the Asia-Pacific Region.

The Pacific Meridians Festival is the only film festival in Russia that selects 8 full-length and 8 short-length films from the countries of the Asia-Pacific region for its competition programme. The successfully developing cinema art of these countries is annually widely

represented in the competition programme of the Festival, which allows to satisfy the huge interest of both professionals and audience to the cinematography of this region.

RES/12 RESOLUTION ON PROMOTING GENDER-SENSITIVE COVID-19 RESPONSE AND POST-PANDEMIC RECOVERY

RES/13 RESOLUTION ON ACHIEVING GENDER EQUALITY BY INCREASING WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION AND REPRESENTATION

At present, we continue implementing the Action Plan for the 2nd Stage (2019–2022) to carry out the National Action Strategy for Women for 2017–2022, which defines the main lines of the state policy in relation to women empowerment.

With the onset of the coronavirus pandemic, the Russian Federation has focused on helping women with children. The government implemented additional payments for families with children, increased unemployment benefits, and simplified the people's access to social assistance.

In this context, the priority of the government is to create all conditions for a healthy work-life balance for women. While continuing to implement the programmes aimed at the protection of motherhood and childhood and provision of material incentives for increasing the birth rate, Russian authorities are taking measures for a more active involvement of women in all areas of public relations, for their greater representation in politics and economy. Women in Russia have a high level of education and represent 49% of the total number of total employment in the economy. The share of economic activity of working-age women is 77%. At the same time, adherence to traditional family values, including the birth and upbringing of children, remains an important factor for them.

Women make up the majority of those employed in education (82%), health care and social services (80%), hospitality and catering (74%), financial and insurance business (69%), trade (62%).

About 30% of small- and medium-sized businesses are headed by women, which is more than 1 million 700 thousand enterprises.

The share of women's entrepreneurship in the social sector reaches 90%; in the service sector, 58%.

Women make up the majority (over 58%) in the rapidly growing creative industry sector, as well as in science, where the women's share among researchers is almost 40%.

The Promotion of Employment Federal Project as part of the Demography National Project provides for vocational training for women with children of preschool age. Women get the opportunity to update their professional competence and skills, which increases their competitiveness in the labour market, expands their ability to find a job that is most suitable for combining it with the duties of raising children.

Russian women are actively involved in public administration. There are 2 female Deputy Prime Ministers, 1 female Federal Minister and 26 female Deputy Federal Ministers in the Government of the Russian Federation. Women hold the positions of the Governor of the Central Bank, the Chairperson of the Central Election Commission, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the High Commissioner for Children's Rights, the Head of the Federal Service for Supervision of Consumer Rights Protection and Human Wellbeing, the Head of the Federal Agency for Youth Affairs, the Head of the Federal Agency for Tourism, and the Head of the Federal Service for Supervision of Natural Resources.

An illustrative example of Russia's commitment to ensuring true gender equality was the Third Eurasian Women's Forum which was held in October 2021 in Saint Petersburg at the initiative of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation in cooperation with the Interparliamentary Assembly of the CIS Member Nations. This event was dedicated to the role of women in building up a stable and secure future in the face of new challenges and threats. The Forum was attended by 2.5 thousand delegates from more than 111 countries (parliamentarians, representatives of executive authorities, business sector, scientific community, and non-governmental organizations).

In order to develop and systematically support projects and programmes in the interests of women, as well as to implement the Final Documents of the Eurasian Women's Forum, a permanent Council of the Eurasian Women's Forum was established under the Federation Council.