

RESOLUTION ON STRENGTHENING WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN POST-COVID-19 ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Draft Resolution Sponsored by Thailand

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*:

Reminding APPF Member Parliaments of the 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th and 29th APPF Annual Meeting resolutions regarding women's economic empowerment, increasing the political, economic and social participation of women, gender equality for sustainable development, women's empowerment in decision making at all levels and gender-sensitive COVID-19 response and post-pandemic recovery;

Taking note of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action which emphasizes the rights of women and girls;

Recalling the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 5, which highlights multistakeholder engagement, including national parliaments, to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls;

Also recalling the APEC Putrajaya Vision 2040 and APEC Leaders' commitment to achieving an open, dynamic, resilient, and peaceful Asia-Pacific community for the prosperity of all; and the La Serena Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth (2019 - 2030), which was endorsed by the APEC Ministerial Meeting in 2019 to encourage initiatives across all of APEC's workstreams to advance equality and women's economic empowerment;

Emphasizing that COVID-19 has impacted the global economy and caused millions of people to lose their jobs as a result of business closures, and that the pandemic situation has increased the risks of economic security, as they must bear additional burdens of unpaid domestic and care work such as care for a family member during the pandemic, which contributes to an inequality in society;

Also Emphasizing that the informal employment undertaken by women tends to be low-paying and without social protection, and that the care economy, which is predominantly carried out by women, is not typically regarded as a productive activity;

Concerning that the unpaid and underpaid care and domestic work undertaken by women have increased significantly during the COVID-19 pandemic which are barriers to women's participation in the formal economy and decent work;

Noting that apart from the current development of the global economy, the BCG Model--Bio-economy, Circular economy, and Green economy--is an opportunity to create more employment to ensure an equal and active transition on the part of women entrepreneurs and innovators;

Highlighting that the pandemic situation impacts women's participation in the formal labour market, which plays a significant role in building stronger economies and more equitable and sustainable growth to strengthen women's participation in post-COVID-19 economic recovery, and that COVID-19 disrupts employment since unemployed women are required to seek to return to the labour markets, as well as find flexible work and create new job opportunities such as online businesses, reviewers, and delivery businesses that could improve women's economy and boost economic recovery.

RESOLVE TO:

1. **Encourage** APPF Member Parliaments to review and implement the adopted APPF resolutions to strengthen cooperation on enhancing the legal framework to promote, enforce, and monitor equality and non-discrimination based on gender;
2. **Emphasize** that APPF Member Parliaments support the La Serena Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth (2019-2030), empower women through access to capital and markets, strengthen women's labor force participation, improve access of women to leadership positions at all levels of decision-making, support women's education, training and skills development and access in a changing world of work, and advance women's economic empowerment through sex-disaggregated data collection and analysis;
3. **Call on** their Governments to create inclusive, sustainable, practical, and measurable actions to advance gender equality and women's economic empowerment, including guaranteeing increased women's participation in the process of decision-making;
4. **Encourage** their Governments to take concrete action on the unpaid and underpaid care and domestic work undertaken by women in promoting equal social protection;
5. **Also Encourage** APPF Member Parliaments to promote and formalize the care economy business to ensure that care and domestic workers are paid fairly and progress in their careers which contributes toward attaining gender equality;
6. **Call upon** APPF Member Parliaments and their Governments to ensure that the concept of gender-responsive is considered in policy-making, budgeting process, and political participation at all levels;
7. **Also call upon** APPF Member Parliaments to empower women in all sectors, including public and private sectors which lead to Post-COVID-19 economic recovery ;
8. **Encourage** APPF Member Parliaments to support their governments to implement the BCG model – Bio-economy, Circular economy and Green economy, which extend the opportunities on employment and businesses in Post-COVID-19 economic recovery; and
9. **Encourage** APPF Member Parliaments to promote training opportunities for women with the goal of enhancing their professional and leadership skills, coupled with technological and business understanding and abilities.