

ASIA PACIFIC
PARLIAMENTARY FORUM



ASIE-PACIFIQUE
FORUM PARLEMENTAIRE

Joint Communiqué

The 5th ANNUAL MEETING

January 7-10, 1997

Vancouver, British Columbia

Canada



7. The Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, P.C., M.P., Prime Minister of Canada addressed the delegates at the Opening Plenary Session. The Prime Minister stressed that a dynamic and growing involvement in the Asia-Pacific Region is key to Canada's future prosperity. He noted with great satisfaction that 1997 has been declared as Canada's Year of Asia Pacific, and that the APPF meeting was the first event. He informed the Meeting of his third Team Canada Trade Mission to Korea, the Philippines and Thailand which would begin later on Wednesday, January 8, 1997. The Prime Minister spoke of the importance of the APPF and how parliamentarians are an essential part of the decision-making process and should play an active role in international relations. He wished the delegates well in their deliberations.

8. The Indonesian Delegation reviewed the results of the 3rd Annual ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) held on July 23, 1996 in Jakarta which was chaired by the Indonesian Foreign Minister and attended by all participants of the ARF. The delegation from Singapore reviewed the results of the First WTO Ministerial Meeting which took place in Singapore from December 9 to 12, 1996. The Philippine Delegation outlined the results of the Fourth APEC Leaders' Meeting held in Manila on November 24 to 25, 1996. The Delegation from Thailand summarized the discussions at the first Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) held in Bangkok on March 1 to 2, 1996. The delegation also outlined the discussions arising out of the inaugural meeting of the Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership (ASEP) which was held in Strasbourg, France on April 18, 1996.

9. The meeting unanimously adopted a document entitled, "New Vision of the Asia-Pacific Region in the 21st Century," to be referred to hereafter as the "Vancouver Declaration", setting forth the principles and intentions that will guide the work of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum in the years ahead. The Vancouver Declaration is appended as Annex 1 to this communique. Annex 2 is the list of the members of the participating delegations.

10. The meeting unanimously adopted a number of resolutions appended as follows:

Annex no.

3. Condemnation of the terrorist act perpetrated at the Japanese Ambassador 's residence in Lima, Peru
4. Nuclear weapons
5. Terrorism
6. Anti-personnel mines
7. Peace and stability on the Korean peninsula

Joint Communiqué

1. At the invitation of the Parliament of Canada, the Fifth Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) was held in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada from January 7 to 10, 1997.
2. The Fifth Annual Meeting was opened on Tuesday, January 7, 1997 at a special ceremony. Delegates, accompanying persons and invited guests heard remarks from: Mr. Philip L'Hirondelle, Programming Director for the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre; the Honourable Dan Hays, Senator, Chairman, Canadian Section of the APPF; the Honourable Gildas L. Molgat, Speaker of the Senate; the Honourable Raymond Chan, Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) of Canada; His Worship Philip Owen, Mayor of Vancouver; the Honourable Glen Clark, Premier of British Columbia; His Honour the Honourable Garde B. Gardom, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia; the Honourable David Anderson, Minister of Transport of Canada and the Honourable Yasuhiro Nakasone, President of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum.
3. The Meeting was attended by 92 parliamentarians from 21 member countries of the APPF and one observer country. The list of participating delegates appears as Annex 2.
4. The Honourable Dan Hays, Senator and Leader of the Canadian Delegation, was elected Chairman of the Fifth APPF Annual Meeting. The Honourable Donald H. Oliver, Senator and member of the Canadian Delegation was elected Vice-Chairman.
5. The President and Chairman of the Executive Committee, the Honourable Yasuhiro Nakasone, reported on the meeting of the Executive Committee held on January 7, 1997. The principal items reported were: 1) the addition to the agenda of a joint resolution from Japan and Peru concerning the terrorist act at the Japanese Ambassador's residence in Lima, Peru; 2) a Canadian proposal for amendments to the APPF Procedures in relation to the term of office, eligibility for re-election and the method of rotation which was to be re-submitted to the plenary session and reflect the comments of other Executive Committee Members, and; 3) the adoption of Terms of Reference for the Drafting Committee.
6. Mr. John Maloney, M.P., a member of the Canadian House of Commons, was appointed as Chairman of the Drafting Committee with members from Australia, Chile, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, Thailand and the United States.

8. APEC

9. Trade liberalization and APPF

10. Asia-Europe cooperation

11. Environmental issues

12. Human resource development

13. Education and literacy

14. Cultural exchange programme

15. Youth exchange

16. Human rights and the exploitation of children and women

17. Legislative exchanges - APPF Web-site

18. Legislative exchanges among member countries

19. Illicit drugs and money laundering

20. Parliamentary Sessions of APPF

11. The meeting unanimously endorsed the Statement of Congratulations to the Honourable Yasuhiro Nakasone on the occasion of his 50th anniversary as a Member of the Japanese House of Representatives. The Statement is appended as Annex 21.

12. The meeting accepted the Peruvian initiative to establish an APPF web-site as well as the proposal for Thailand to set up a working committee to study the establishment of an effective inter-parliamentary mechanism to facilitate legislative exchanges.

13. The meeting referred the Canadian proposal on the size, membership and term of the Executive Committee to the next meeting of the APPF Executive Committee to be held in Seoul, Republic of Korea in September 1997 and to the Sixth Annual Meeting in the Republic of Korea in 1998.

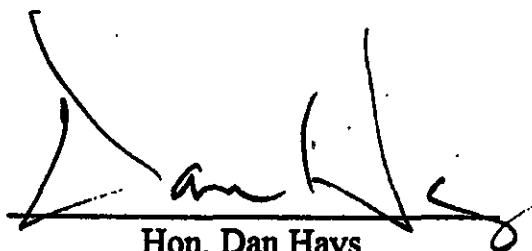
14. The meeting heard a report from the delegation of the Republic of Korea on the arrangements for the Sixth Annual Meeting in January, 1998.

15. The meeting expressed its appreciation to the Canadian Chairman of the Fifth Annual Meeting and to the Parliament of Canada for organizing and hosting a successful plenary meeting.

Adopted on Friday, January 10, 1997, at Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Yasuhiro Nakasone' in a cursive style.

Hon. Yasuhiro Nakasone
President of the APPF

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Dan Hays' in a cursive style.

Hon. Dan Hays
Chairman of the Fifth
Annual Meeting

ANNEX 1

THE VANCOUVER DECLARATION

NEW VISION OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Introduction

constructing a peaceful and prosperous Asia-Pacific common house

The international community is in the process of building a new world order now that the Cold War is over, and Asia-Pacific is attracting worldwide attention as the most dynamic region because of its remarkable economic growth. Countries in the region are cooperating more closely than ever, due in part to the increased economic exchanges in the area, greater trade and investment, and technological advances in fields like transportation and telecommunications, with an increasing sense of common destiny to live together and to share prosperity.

The Bogor Declaration of 1994 at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum and the Action Agenda adopted at the APEC Osaka Meetings in 1995 and the meetings in the Philippines show that the cooperative framework in the region is deepening. These achievements make us justifiably proud as we look forward to APEC membership for all qualifying APPF member countries.

Asia-Pacific is a diverse area with many different political systems, levels of economic development, culture, religion and languages. Rather than viewing this diversity as a shortcoming, however, we should see it as a strong advantage because it makes Asia-Pacific a "region of possibilities" that can create a new era through the harmonization of different cultures. In other words, we should embrace our differences with the goal of creating something new, rather than seeing diversity as a source of potential conflict.

Of course everyone in the region must respect the universal values that much of the world strives for today -- values such as democracy, human rights, a free trade system and the desire to bring all citizens together in harmony. What we are pursuing is the unity and diversity of the Asia-Pacific region, keeping mutual respect for the customs, values and traditions of various countries, while learning from each other's experience and seeking a common ground from which to build.

In order to achieve general prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region, it is important to form a consensus gradually through dialogue and by respecting the traditions of member countries. We hereby propose to name this gradual approach the "Asia-Pacific Way" as a guiding principle for all human beings in the 21st century.

The Parliamentary members of APPF are determined to make the Asia-Pacific community a common house where people can lead peaceful and prosperous lives. And we, as parliamentarians with considerable influence upon the policy-making processes of our respective countries, will strengthen the region's unity and foster mutual understanding, trust and friendship to promote cooperation in regional politics, security, the economy, and culture, through such regional inter-parliamentary organizations as the APPF, with a view to resolving and preventing problems that this region faces. To this end, we hereby propose:

1. Politics and Security

The region's economic growth has made Asia-Pacific increasingly stable. Nevertheless, some problems and destabilizing factors remain. The region has moved towards adopting a cooperative approach to handling tensions and potential problems, including through the establishment in 1994 of a multilateral security dialogue, the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF). In order to make peace and stability in the region a long-term reality, we are determined to support the activities of the ASEAN Regional Forum and to conduct political and security dialogues at a variety of levels and through different channels using the existing bilateral and multilateral relationships.

In order to promote peace and stability in the region and increase mutual understanding and confidence among the countries, we reiterate the 7 principles governing relations among the countries in Asia-Pacific:

- 1) Mutual respect for the independence, sovereignty, equality, territorial integrity and national identity of all nations;
- 2) Recognition of the right of every state to exist as a nation, free from external interference, subversion or coercion in its internal affairs;
- 3) Peaceful settlement of international disputes in accordance with international law and treaties;
- 4) Mutual efforts to expand confidence building measures, develop preventive diplomacy and strengthen regional resiliency;
- 5) Renunciation of the threat or use of force except in self-defence;
- 6) Adherence to international instruments which will prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction;
- 7) Respect for the UN Charter and cooperate to achieve efficiently its objectives.

2. Economy

Liberalizing and facilitating trade and investment in Asia-Pacific are vital in maintaining the region's dynamism as a global growth center that can positively impact the world economy. Liberalizing trade and investment will promote economic interdependence and make the region more efficient, thereby creating jobs and improving the standard of living of people in the region as an effective way to eliminate poverty. The Bogor Declaration, adopted at the APEC Leaders' Meeting in November 1994, designated the liberalization of trade and investment and promotion of development cooperation while reducing economic disparities among them and improving the economic and social well being of the people of the Asia-Pacific region, as one of its primary goals. The Action Agenda at the APEC Leaders' Meeting in Osaka in November 1995 was adopted to put these goals into practice. APEC member economies compiled individual Action Plans in accordance with the Osaka Action Agenda and submitted them to the 1996 Ministerial Meeting at Manila.

It is now time for us to urge governments to step-up efforts in making APEC a model of "open regional cooperation" that can supplement and reinforce the multilateral free trade system (WTO system) by sharing the benefits of liberalization within the region with countries elsewhere. Specifically, we will request our governments to allow non-member countries the opportunity to share the fruits of APEC's labor in liberalizing trade and investment within the region. In order to promote cooperation among regional organizations, we will hold consultations with parliamentarians from such other regional organizations.

In order to narrow the differences in levels of economic development within the Asia-Pacific region and further vitalize the regional economy, it is important to promote economic and technical cooperation in fields like development of human resources, science and technology, energy, small and medium-sized enterprises, and transportation and communications. We are determined to promote regional cooperation to help rectify these disparities while utilizing intergovernmental assistance, especially South-South cooperation, in these fields.

Furthermore, encouraging the vitality and initiative of the private sector to ensure further economic sustainable development in the region is necessary. To do this, an environment where the private sector can smoothly conduct business activities, while not imposing economic constraints to vulnerable economies in the region must be created. We will pursue deregulation, harmonization of standards and certification as well as multilateral assistance schemes to remove barriers to economic activities in the private sector in accordance with APEC's 1994 Bogor Declaration and the guidelines of the World Trade Organization.

3. Environment

Environmental issues are a key challenge facing the Asia-Pacific region. Environmental problems are beginning to affect not only the degree to which people in the region can enjoy the results of economic growth but more fundamentally will begin to impede the extent of that growth.

Demand for food and energy in the region will grow rapidly as standards rise and expectations increase. Soil erosion, salinity and pollution of marine and water resources will accompany pressure for greater agricultural productivity, while increased demands for energy will impact on the global climate. The growth of urban environments throughout the world, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region will also place a huge strain on basic services such as water, sanitation and shelter. These problems will need to be addressed by all regional governments.

The reality of the environmental challenges facing the region cannot be denied. Protection of the environment and sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific must not be viewed as incompatible with economic growth, but as the only thing that will ensure its continuation.

As environmental deterioration can spread beyond the limits of a country and could affect a neighbouring area, a regional approach to environmental management should be encouraged. In formulating a regional approach, the environmental differences and the different demands of industrializing and developing economies should also be taken into consideration.

4. Law and Order

Within the context of fostering respect for the various laws of our Asia-Pacific community, activities such as terrorism, production of and trafficking in illicit narcotics, money laundering and the operations of international organized crime syndicates must be recognized and remedial action taken either through existing laws or through the enactment of legislation, where necessary, that will outlaw such activities.

The social welfare of our communities, the economies of our nations and the political and national security of the region cannot be guaranteed if illegal elements, both domestic and international, are allowed to operate with impunity. To prevent this happening we must stand firm and address this threat by enacting appropriate legislation, implementing effective enforcement and fostering closer international cooperation to eradicate the problem, thus ensuring that events that have caused catastrophic problems elsewhere are not allowed to take hold in the Asia-Pacific region.

5. Human Rights

For a long time, the world has struggled against the infringement of human rights. We have fought against slavery, racism, segregation and other forms of human rights violation. Today, we face old but newly recognized violations; for example the exploitation of women and children. It is vital that we start tackling the situation immediately, and that we make very clear our determination to find ways to put an end to these abuses.

Any form of exploitation is unacceptable and merits our intense concern, so that we can offer our children a brighter future and enable all women to achieve equality, dignity and respect.

6. Education and Cultural Exchanges

The APPF is concerned about the different standards of education in the Asia-Pacific region. Even in some of the most developed countries, we find high degrees of illiteracy among adults and children.

The APPF supports access to education for all individuals. Its members are prepared to work towards a goal of total literacy in the countries of the Asia-Pacific region. Improving standards of education is important to increase the productivity of the region, to enhance the cultural level, to promote social welfare and to raise the standard of living in Asia-Pacific countries.

Furthermore, to foster mutual understanding, mutual trust, and true friendship in Asia-Pacific, we think it is important to understand and respect different cultures. When encountering different cultures in the future, we should base our cooperative efforts on universal values while preserving traditional values and refrain from causing friction. The most effective way to accomplish this goal is to create as many opportunities as possible for youth -- who will play a leading role in the future development of their countries -- to meet and cultivate true friendship and trust. In order to lay a solid foundation for this, we will call on governments to take the initiative so the countries in the region will implement the "Program on Youth Friendship for the 21st Century" to promote youth exchanges.

It is vital to promote exchanges among researchers at universities and research institutes. "The Academic Exchange Program" is proposed to achieve this and is aimed at promoting joint research projects between universities and research institutes and at training younger researchers. We also propose to establish a "Comprehensive Joint-Research Center" on culture and education in the Asia-Pacific Region.

The program must include women, who have not sufficiently benefited from such exchanges. We will urge the government of each country in the region to establish language and technical training programs especially for women.

To promote mutual understanding and friendship between countries in Asia-Pacific, it is important to create an information infrastructure as a basis for exchanges. We propose that the "Asia-Pacific Open Information Network" be established as an information infrastructure where diversity and openness -- the characteristics of our region -- will be respected. This network will include legislative information exchange so that legislative experience and knowledge gained by each individual country of the region can be shared among APPF member countries.

The APPF through its member countries can play an important role in *encouraging practical cooperation between parliamentary institutions and in fostering political/parliamentary exchanges*, as well as strengthening regional confidence building and preventive diplomacy.

Conclusion

The 21st Century, full of new opportunities and dynamism, is drawing near. In order to build a vigorous and harmonious Asia-Pacific and fully demonstrate the great potential within this region, we, the parliamentary members of the APPF are determined to fulfill our obligations and make important contributions to this end, aspiring to build as a final goal, the Asia-Pacific common house full of harmony and dynamism.

ANNEX 2

PARTICIPATING DELEGATIONS

APPF

Hon. Yasuhiro Nakasone
Former Prime Minister and Member of the
House of Representatives of Japan

President of the APPF and
Chairman of the APPF
Executive Committee

Mr. Shigeru Tanaka

Secretary to
Mr. Yasuhiro Nakasone

AUSTRALIA

Hon. Bob Halverson
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Leader of the Delegation

Hon. Alan Eggleston, Senator

Delegate

Mr. Paul Filing, M.P.
House of Representatives

Delegate

Mr. Colin Hollis, M.P.
House of Representatives

Delegate

Mr. Kelvin Thomson, M.P.
House of Representatives

Delegate

Mr. Peter Gibson
Clerk Assistant (Committees)
House of Representatives

Delegation Secretary

Mr. Lyn Barlin
Clerk, House of Representatives

Advisor

Mr. Phil Bergin
Senior Advisor to the Speaker

Advisor

Mr. Andrew Engel
Counsellor, Australian High Commission

Diplomat

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

Haji Rajid Pengiran Mohktar Puteh
Privy Councillor

Delegate

Hon. Dato H. Judin H. Asar
Secretary to Council of States

Delegate

CAMBODIA

Mr. Him Chhem
Member of the National Assembly

Delegate

Mr. Nou Saing Khan
Member of the National Assembly

Delegate

Mr. Penn Thol
Member of the National Assembly

Delegate

CANADA

Hon. Dan Hays, Senator	Leader of the Delegation
Hon. Ray Perrault, Senator	Delegate
Hon. Pat Carney, Senator	Delegate
Hon. Donald Oliver, Senator	Delegate
Mr. Bernie Collins, M.P. House of Commons	Delegate
Mr. Ron Fewchuk, M.P. House of Commons	Delegate
Mr. John Maloney, M.P. House of Commons	Delegate
Mr. Glen McKinnon, M.P. House of Commons	Delegate
Mrs. Anna Terrana, M.P. House of Commons	Delegate
Hon. Marcel Prud'homme, Senator	Observer
Mr. Richard Rumas	Delegation Secretary
Mr. Donald Bobiash	Advisor
Mr. Anthony Chapman	Advisor
Mr. Wolf Koerner	Advisor
Mr. Randolph Mank	Advisor
Mr. Ron McIntosh	Advisor

CHILE

Mr. Miguel Otero Lathrop, Senator Delegate

Mr. Beltran Urenda, M.P. Delegate

CHINA

Mr. Qizhen Zhu Leader of the Delegation
Member, Standing Committee, National People's
Congress

Mr. Fureng Dong Delegate
Member, Standing Committee, National People's
Congress

Mr. Fosong Wang Delegate
Member, Standing Committee, National People's
Congress

Ms. Weiwei Ye Delegation Secretary
Deputy Director General, Foreign Affairs Bureau,
General Office, NPC Standing Committee

Mr. Yongan Huang Delegation Secretary
Counsellor, International Affairs Department,
Foreign Ministry

Mr. Guomin Chen Delegation Secretary
Director, Foreign Affairs Bureau, General Office,
NPC Standing Committee

Mr. Guoxiang Sun Delegation Secretary
First Secretary, Asian Affairs Dept., Foreign
Ministry

Mr. Wen Wang Delegation Secretary
Deputy Director, Foreign Affairs Bureau, General
Office, NPC Standing Committee

Mr. Shi Gangzeng Diplomat

FIJI

Hon. Dr. Apenisa N. Kurisaqila
Speaker, House of Representatives

Leader of the Delegation

Mr. Militoni Leweniqila, M.P.
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries, Forests and
House of Representatives

Delegate

Mr. David Sidney Pickering, M.P.
Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation
House of Representatives

Delegate

Ms. Taufa Vakatale, M.P.
Minister for Education, Women and Culture
House of Representatives

Delegate

Satish Chandra Gulabdas, M.P.
House of Representatives

Delegate

Mrs. Mary Chapman
Secretary to Parliament

Advisor

INDONESIA

Mr. Theo L. Sambuaga, M.P. House of Representatives	Leader of the Delegation
Mr. Sugiarto, M.P. House of Representatives	Delegate
Mr. H.M. Dja'far Siddiq, M.P. House of Representatives	Delegate
Mr. Markus Wauran, M.P. House of Representatives	Delegate
Ms. Iris Indira Murti, M.P. House of Representatives	Delegate
Ms. Hernani Hurustiati, M.P. House of Representatives	Delegate
Mr. Sjoefjan Noor	Delegation Secretary
Mr. Jacky D. Wahyu	Diplomat
Mrs. Sulastri Martosoendjojo	Diplomat
Ms. Trini G. Sualang	Diplomat
Mr. Teuku Darmawan	Diplomat

JAPAN

Mr. Koji Kakizawa Member, House of Representatives	Leader of the Delegation
Mr. Issei Inoue Member, House of Representatives	Delegate
Ms. Akiko Yamanaka Member, House Representatives	Delegate
Ms. Shigeko Mieno Member, House of Councillors	Delegate
Mr. Takeshi Noma Member, House of Councillors	Delegate
H.E. Takashi Tajima <i>Ambassador of Japan</i>	Diplomat
Mr. Yasuo Nozaka Consul General	Diplomat
Mr. Sumio Kusaka	Advisor
Mr. Yoshifusa Masuda	Advisor
Mr. Toru Shimizu	Advisor
Mr. Tadashi Suzuki	Advisor
Mr. Tatsuo Nakajima	Diplomat

KOREA

Mr. Heung Soo Yoo Member of the National Assembly	Leader of the Delegation
Mr. Soo Myung Cha Member of the National Assembly	Delegate
Mr. Han Yong Chung Member of the National Assembly	Delegate
Mr. Young Tak Yun Secretary General	Advisor
Mr. Nam Wook Cho Protocol Officer/Interpreter	Advisor
Mr. Jang Seok Kang Director General	Advisor
Mr. Byoung Gill Lee Director Inter-Parliamentary Organization Division	Delegation Secretary
Mr. Joon Kim	Delegation Secretary

MALAYSIA

Hon. Dr. Nungsari Ahmad Radhi	Delegate
Hon. Yunus Rahmat	Delegate
Mr. Riduan Rahmat	Delegation Secretary

MEXICO

Mr. Jose Murat, Senator	Leader of the Delegation
Mr. Héctor San Roman Arreaga	Deputy Leader of the Delegation
Mr. Salvador Sanchez Vazquez, Senator	Delegate
Mr. Jose Angel Conchello Davila, Senator	Delegate
Mr. Héctor Sanchez Lopez, Senator	Delegate
Mr. Jaime del Rio Navarro Deputy	Delegate
Ms. Maria Cristina Diaz Salazar Deputy	Delegate
Mr. Alejandro Diaz Perez Duarte Deputy	Delegate
Mr. Pedro René Etienne Llano Deputy	Delegate
Mr. Cuauhtemoc Sandoval Ramirez Deputy	Delegate
Mr. Jorge A. Juraidini Director General of Interparliamentary Relations, Senate	Delegation Secretary
Mr. Gabriel Rosales Vega General Consul	Diplomat

MICRONESIA

Hon. Isaac V. Figir, Senator	Leader of the Delegation
Hon. Leo A. Falcam, Senator	Delegate
Hon. Yosiwo George, Senator	Delegate
Hon. Redley Killion, Senator	Delegate
Mr. Brian Zanze Legislative Counsel	Delegation Secretary

MONGOLIA

Mr. Tsahia Elbegdorj Vice Chairman of the State Great Hural	Delegate
Mr. Rentsen Sodhuu Member of the State Great Hural	Delegate
Mr. Tsagaandari Enhtuvshin Member of the State Great Hural	Delegate
Miss Urana Dashtseren Advisor, Interparliamentary Division of Secretariat of the State Great Hural	Delegation Secretary

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Rt. Hon. Sir Rabbie Namaliu
Speaker of the National Parliament

Leader of the Delegation

Hon. Bart Philemon, M.P.

Delegate

Mr. Gima Maro
Director of the Executive Division

Delegation Secretary

Mr. Andrew Ilam
Speaker's Staff

Advisor

PERU

Mr. Oswaldo Sandoval
Congressman

Leader of the Delegation

Ms. Graciela Fernandez Baca
Congresswoman

Delegate

Mr. Amador F. Velasquez G.M.
Consul General

Diplomat

Mr. Jose Betancourt
Consul

Diplomat

PHILIPPINES

Mr. Francisco S. Tatad, Senator	Leader of the Delegation
Mr. Roque Ablan Jr. Member, House of Representatives	Deputy Leader of the Delegation
Ms. Anna Dominique M.L. Coseteng, Senator	Delegate
Mr. Marcelo B. Fernan, Senator	Delegate
Mr. Hernando B. Perez Deputy Speaker, House of Representatives	Delegate
Ms. Josefina D. Azarcon Deputy Secretary General, House of Representatives	Delegation Secretary
Mrs. Lourdes G. Morales Consul	Diplomat
Mr. Bayani S. Mercado Consul General	Diplomat
Mrs. Ruby S. Balanban	Diplomat
Mr. Gamaliel N. Fernando	Diplomat

RUSSIA

Mrs. Svetlana Goryatcheva Deputy Speaker, State of Duma	Leader of the Delegation
Mr. Serguei Boskholov Deputy Chair, State Duma Committee on Security	Delegate
Mr. Mikhail Prusak Chair, Foreign Affairs Committee, Federation Council	Delegate
Mrs. Gvozdeva Svetlana	Delegate
Mr. Alexandre Vengerovski Deputy Chairman, State Duma Committee on the Security	Delegate
Mr. Vitaly Kopnov	Delegation Secretary, State Duma
Mr. Shiri Orest	Delegation Secretary
Mr. Anatoly Voronin	Delegation Secretary, Federation Council
Mr. Alexander Ignatov	Advisor
Ms. Natalya Klemesheva	Advisor

SINGAPORE

Mr. Chew Heng Ching	Leader of the Delegation
Mrs. Yu-Foo Yee Shoon	Delegate
Mr. Kenneth Chen	Delegate
Ms. Ng Sheau Jiuan	Delegation Secretary

THAILAND

H.E. Mr. Meechai Ruchupan President of the Senate	Leader of the Delegation
Hon. Surin Pitsuwan House of Representatives	Delegate
Hon. Pichai Vasinakorn, Senator	Delegate
Hon. Phaisith Phipatanakul, Senator Secretary General of the House of Representatives	Delegate
Hon. Lalita Lerksamran House of Representatives	Delegate
Hon. Prasop Ratanakorn, Senator	Advisor
Hon. Vichit Boonyawat, Senator	Advisor
Mr. Kamtorn Udomritthiruj Advisor to President of the Senate	Advisor
Mr. Alongkorn Ponlaboot	Advisor
H.E. Mr. Virasakdi Futrakul Ambassador of Thailand	Diplomat
Mr. Chamni Ridthiprasart Consul General	Diplomat
Mrs. Cholchinupan Chirranond Consul General	Diplomat
Miss Maturose Ruchupan Secretary to President of the Senate	Secretary to Leader of the Delegation
Mr. Phicheth Kitisin Assistant Secretary General of the Senate	Advisor
Miss Supasinee Khamasundara Assistant Director of Inter-Parliamentary Organization Division, House of Representatives	Delegation Secretary
Mrs. Rungarun Sangsuan Foreign Relations Officer, Inter-Parliamentary Organization Division	Delegation Assistant Secretary

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Hon. William V. Roth, Jr., Senator	Leader of the Delegation
Mr. Amory Houghton, Jr. House of Representatives	Delegate
Mr. Dan Bob Special Assistant, Asia and Pacific Affairs	Advisor
Mr. Robert VanWicklin Legislative Assistant	Advisor
Mr. Jay Bruns Consul General	Diplomat

VIETNAM

Mr. Van Phac Tran Deputy Chairman, Foreign Committee	Leader of the Delegation
Mr. Dang Ha Member of the Foreign Committee	Delegate
Mr. Anh Dzung Ngo Director of the Foreign Affairs Department of the office of the Vietnam Parliament	Advisor
Mr. Hai Ha Vu Official of the Vietnam Parliament	Delegation Secretary

ANNEX 3

**RESOLUTION SUBMITTED JOINTLY BY THE
JAPANESE AND THE PERUVIAN DELEGATIONS**

ON

**CONDEMNATION OF THE TERRORIST ACT PERPETRATED AT THE
JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE IN LIMA, PERU**

We, the parliamentarians of the APPF, gathered at its Fifth Annual Meeting at Vancouver in January 1997,

Shocked and outraged by the terrorist attack and hostage-taking perpetrated by the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA), at the residence of the Ambassador of Japan in Lima, Peru on the evening of December 17, 1996;

Convinced that this terrorist attack and taking of hostages, many of whom remain unreleased as of this date, undermines the rule of law, democratic institutions and human rights;

Noting the firm statements of condemnation and the show of solidarity by the international community with the peoples and governments of Peru and Japan;

Commending the Peruvian Government for doing its utmost to bring about a peaceful and principled resolution as soon as possible;

Welcoming the positive efforts of dedicated persons and organizations who have offered assistance in relation to this deplorable incident;

Recalling the APPF Resolution on terrorism (APPFII/Res/Pol/2) which strongly condemns any form of terrorism and criminal acts deliberately violating human rights;

Recalling further the communique of the G-7/P8 Ministerial Meeting on Terrorism held in Paris in July 1996, the Declaration of the Latin American Parliament and the communiqué of the G-7/P8 Governments, both issued in December 1996;

Resolve to:

- 1) express our strongest possible condemnation of the criminal act perpetrated by the terrorist group at the residence of the Ambassador of Japan in Peru;

- 2) reaffirm the general principle that no concession should be made in dealing with terrorists;
- 3) demand the immediate release of all hostages without exception;
- 4) express our solidarity with the Peruvian people and Government and, in particular, with the Congress of the Republic of Peru and the five congressmen held until now and give our full support for and confidence in their efforts to resolve the situation in a peaceful manner, with the priority aim of saving the lives of hostages; and
- 5) call on our respective governments to extend their full cooperation to the Peruvian Government in every possible way.

Adopted unanimously on January 8, 1997, in Vancouver.

ANNEX 4

RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION

ON

NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

Recalling the resolution on Nuclear Weapons Testing approved by acclamation at the Fourth Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum in Cha-am, Thailand in January 1996,

Reaffirming that a world free of nuclear weapons would enhance international peace and security,

Recognising the long-standing commitment of South Pacific countries to a region free of nuclear weapons as represented in the establishment of the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone,

Noting with satisfaction the recent accession of the Governments of the United States, the United Kingdom and France to the Protocols to the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty,

Recalling the successful conclusion of the South East Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone Treaty,

Noting that many countries in the Asia Pacific region have continuing concerns about the potential negative effects of nuclear weapons testing on the health and the environment of the peoples in the region;

Welcomes the successful adoption of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty by the United Nations General Assembly on 10 September 1996, and its opening for signature on 24 September 1996 at the United Nations in New York,

Affirms that the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty makes an historic contribution to the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons and the ultimate goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

Considers that the conclusion of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty has special significance for the Asia Pacific as the only region of the world where all the nuclear weapon states have at some time conducted a nuclear test,

Notes with approval that the Governments of the United States, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, France and China signed the Comprehensive

Nuclear Test Ban Treaty on 24 September 1996 in New York, thereby committing themselves to a permanent end to nuclear testing,

Strongly urges all members of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum to give their unequivocal support to efforts to encourage all States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty as quickly as possible so that the Treaty can be implemented without undue delay.

Adopted unanimously on January 9, 1997, in Vancouver.

ANNEXE 5

**RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY
THE DELEGATIONS OF
PERU, PHILIPPINES, AUSTRALIA, INDONESIA**

ON

BANNING OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

Deeply concerned that up to 110 million active land mines scattered in 64 countries, claiming 2000 victims every month, most of them innocent civilians, hinder the economic growth and the reconstruction of the countries, and restrain both the repatriation of refugees and the return of displaced peoples;

Noting the important role of mine clearance activities in rehabilitating mine affected countries, including training in mine clearance techniques, mine awareness courses and the provision of medical assistance, including prosthetics;

Noting that the 96th Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference in Beijing, China, September 1996, adopted the Resolution of the "World Banning of Anti-Personnel Mines and the Need to Remove them for Humanitarian Purposes";

Noting the report by a panel of military experts, which was made known by the International Committee of the Red Cross, directly challenging the effectiveness of anti-personnel mines *in combat*;

Noting with satisfaction the adoption of the Ottawa Declaration resulting from the International Strategic Conference towards a Global Ban on Anti-Personnel Mines", 3-5 October 1996, with the commitment to work for the prompt conclusion of a legally binding international agreement to ban anti-personnel mines;

Noting with satisfaction the adoption by the United Nations General Assembly on its 51st ordinary session of a Resolution requesting member States to start working in order to achieve, as soon as possible, the conclusion of an international agreement to ban the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of land anti-personnel mines;

Recognizing that until said international agreement is concluded, it is necessary that a great number of States accede to the "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be Deemed to be Considered Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects", particularly to its recently amended Protocol II;

Welcoming also the decisions taken by some States to adopt unilateral measures on the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel land mines;

Recognizing the need to conclude an international agreement to ban all anti-personnel mines as soon as possible.

Resolves to:

Encourage and Endorse the efforts of the international community for the early conclusion of an international agreement to ban anti-personnel mines;

Call on all countries to help deactivate land mines, support efforts to assist victims, and endorse the request of the Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference in Beijing, to provide technical assistance and advice to those countries which so require;

Request the international community to contribute financially to the UN Trust Fund For Mine Clearance, established in 1994;

Encourage the governments to accede to the "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be Deemed to be considered Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects" adopted in Geneva, May 3, 1996 and to its protocols, particularly the recently amended Protocol II;

Encourage States that have not yet done so to introduce unilateral measures, bans and other restrictions with respect to anti-personnel land mines.

*** Senator Roth of the United States did not agree with each aspect of this resolution.**

Adopted unanimously on January 10, 1997.

ANNEX 6

RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE PHILIPPINE DELEGATION

ON

TERRORISM

The Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum Fifth Annual Meeting,

Recalling the APPF Resolution on Terrorism (APPF4/Res/Pol/2);

Noting the many international efforts to combat the scourge of terrorism, including the International Conference on Terrorism held in Baguio City, Philippines, in February 1996 which adopted the following six fundamental principles in combating terrorism:

- Terrorist acts are crimes and all legally available means should be used to counter them;
- Combating terrorism requires cooperative efforts;
- There must be no sanctuary for terrorists;
- There must be no compromise in the fight against terrorism;
- Counter-terrorism measures must be in accordance with the relevant provisions of international law and international standards of human rights; and
- Countries that have not yet acceded to treaties and conventions on terrorism are urged to do so as a matter of highest priority.

Concerned that terrorism is spreading throughout the world posing a great threat to national as well as international peace and security;

Considering that terrorism is a crime against humanity, any country giving asylum, support, or assistance to terrorists is actually supporting and helping criminals, and that asylum should be given only in specific cases for justified humanitarian reasons;

Recognizing that today terrorism is often directly linked to drug dealing and organized crime;

Deploring the fact that terrorism employs the weapon of fear to obtain its objectives and, by doing so, undermines democracy;

Resolves to:

Condemn unequivocally all acts of terrorism everywhere and any support or assistance to terrorists through any means;

Reiterate support for the recommendations and suggestions contained in the APPF Resolution on Terrorism (APPF4/Res/Pol/2);

Call upon APPF member countries to seriously consider supporting the six fundamental principles to combat terrorism adopted at the International Conference on Terrorism held in Baguio City, Philippines in February 1996;

Urge APPF member countries to enhance cooperative efforts to address decisively the problems, causes, and harmful effects of terrorism on land, in the air and at sea on a meaningful scale.

Adopted unanimously on January 10, 1997.

ANNEX 8

**RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE DELEGATIONS OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND PERU**

ON

APEC

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum, held in the City of Vancouver, Canada;

Welcoming the positive results achieved in the Fourth APEC Informal Leadership Meeting and the Eighth APEC Ministerial Meeting held in the Republic of the Philippines.

Recognizing further the importance of strengthening economic and technical cooperation while emphasizing trade and investment liberalization in the Asia Pacific region.

Conscious of the need to promote the integration of the member countries of the APPF into other mechanisms of cooperation related to the Asia Pacific region;

Taking into consideration the results of the Eighth Meeting of Ministers and the Fourth Informal Meeting of APEC's Leaders, held in Manila, the Philippines, on 22-25 November 1996; and in accordance with the deliberations and agreements established during the Third Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum, held in Acapulco, Mexico on 12-14 of January 1995,

Resolve to:

1. Express their satisfaction for the important progress achieved in the Eighth Meeting of Ministers and the Fourth Informal Meeting of APEC's Leaders, held in the Philippines, on 22-25 November 1996 among which should be highlighted the removal of the moratorium imposed during the Seattle Summit, which will permit the admission of new members to APEC on the basis of adopted criteria, including Peru and Vietnam.
2. Call for reinforcing economic and technical cooperation in the Asia Pacific region on the basis of equality, mutual benefit and complementarity, so as to achieve common prosperity for all countries and regions, especially to enhance the economic capabilities of the developing countries and regions in order to narrow the gap with the developed countries.
3. Emphasize that the economic and technical cooperation in the Asia Pacific region should be done with the "APEC approach", especially should recognize the diversity; emphasize flexibility, gradual progress and openness; adhere to mutual respect, equality, mutual benefit, consensus and voluntariness.

Adopted unanimously on January 9, 1997, Vancouver.

ANNEX 7

**RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE DELEGATIONS FROM THE
REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

ON

PEACE AND STABILITY ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

Recognizing that peace on the Korean Peninsula is vital to peace, not just in Northeast Asia, but also in the Asia Pacific region as a whole;

Mindful that the Republic of Korea has provided humanitarian assistance, including 150,000 tons of rice to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea without preconditions to ease its severe food shortage problems and actively participated in the project to build light-water reactors in the DPRK through the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization;

Welcoming the successful settlement of the submarine incident;

Noting the proposal announced on April 16, 1996 calling for a Four-Party Meeting of the two Koreas, as well as China and the United States, to achieve a permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula; and

Recognizing that mutual trust is indispensable for the peaceful resolution of Korean issues, and that lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula is the task of the Korean People, and the two Koreas should take the lead in pursuit of this goal,

Resolves to:

Encourage the South and North of the Peninsula to strengthen contacts and dialogues, including participation in the Four-Party Meeting, enhance mutual understanding and trust, and solve the problems between them in a peaceful manner.

Adopted unanimously on January 9, 1997, in Vancouver.

ANNEX 9

RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE AMERICAN DELEGATION

TRADE LIBERALIZATION AND APPF

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

Welcoming the advances made by the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation leaders meeting toward the realization of free trade in the APEC area;

Recognizing that the Singapore Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization marked an important step in the development of a more liberalized multilateral trade system;

Recalling that the Tokyo Declaration of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum lists “open and non-exclusive cooperation for the expansion of free trade and investment....” as a guiding principle of APPF;

Recalling that the APPF Procedures adopted at the Second Annual Meeting describe APPF’s role, in part, as “open and non-exclusive cooperation for the expansion of free trade and investment...”

Noting that the economies of APPF member countries have become more dependent on overseas markets than ever before and that liberalized trade creates real jobs and real prosperity for all the peoples of the Asia Pacific; and

Recognizing that regardless of the merits of free trade in the APEC area or the expansion of the multilateral trading system based on internationally agreed and enforceable rules, these goals will remain elusive until the citizenry of APPF’s respective countries are convinced that liberalized trade will net them real, tangible benefits;

Invites APPF and its members to play a greater role in informing, persuading and mobilizing public support for liberalized trade.

Adopted unanimously on January 9, 1997, in Vancouver.

ANNEX 10

RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE DELEGATION OF THAILAND

ON

ASIA-EUROPE COOPERATION

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

Realizing the significance of inter-regional dialogue and consultation;

Aware that Asia-Europe Co-operation has now entered a new era of Asia-Europe Partnership for greater growth;

Noting the efforts of Asian and European Parliamentarians to establish a channel of formal consultation to enhance regional ties and strengthen regional co-operation;

Convinced that such initiative is in line with the APPF vision to develop closer inter-regional consultative links;

Resolves to:

Welcome the successful meetings of the First Asia Europe Meeting (ASEM) in Bangkok, Thailand in March 1996 and the First Asia Europe Parliamentary Partnership (ASEP) in Strasbourg, France in April of the same year;

Encourage the continuity of this type of inter-regional and parliamentary consultative processes by APPF member countries.

Adopted unanimously on January 9, 1997, in Vancouver.

ANNEX 11

**RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE DELEGATIONS
FROM PERU AND PHILIPPINES**

**ON
ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

The Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum Fifth Annual Meeting,

Noting that the environment is the world's life support system and must be conserved in order to maintain all forms of life;

Aware that uncontrolled human activities have caused negative impacts on the environment, resulting in ecological degradation and depletion of a number of species;

Recognizing that the abundant but not inexhaustible resources in the Asia-Pacific region are an invaluable inheritance for future generations and therefore should be used wisely;

Convinced that sustainable development is the key to satisfying the needs of the present generation without jeopardizing the prospects of future generations;

Desirous of making joint efforts with a view to reaching the objectives of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992 and, particularly, the recommendations of Agenda 21;

Recognizing that we share a commitment to sustainable development for the benefit of future generations and that there are multiple opportunities for regional cooperation in the fields of environmental resources, technologies and services.

Resolves to:

Urge APPF member countries to support Agenda 21 objectives approved by the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development, and to cooperate in protecting the environment for the purpose of sustaining development and integrating them into all aspects of development;

Encourage APPF parliamentarians to enact laws and measures that will complement international efforts to protect the environment, and to impose effective penalties on violators;

Work together as parliamentarians to exchange information and consult on priority subjects such as climatic change, protection of the ozone layer, biological diversity, sustainable use of forest resources, desertification, maritime resources, hydro resources, toxic and dangerous wastes, and control of pollution;

Call upon APPF governments and parliamentarians to participate in and support environmental management and other ecological rehabilitation activities.

Adopted unanimously on January 10, 1997.

ANNEX 12

RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE PHILIPPINE DELEGATION

ON

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

Aware that skilled and well-trained human resources are a very important factor for the enhancement of life and for socio-economic development;

Recognizing that ILO working standards should take into consideration socio-economic realities of individual countries;

Concerned that the recent trends in globalization and in the formation of regional blocs makes it doubly important for the Asia Pacific countries to invest heavily in human resources so that it can cope with the pressure of international competitiveness in foreign and domestic markets;

Emphasising the need for continuously improving and upgrading functional literacy, training and skill formation for the rapid restructuring of industrial production and technology which is currently taking place not only in the Asia Pacific region but all over the world;

Resolves to:

Encourage governments of APPF countries to formulate the necessary strategies to strengthen human resources development in cooperation with the appropriate international agencies, taking into account the varying individual capabilities of the developing countries, and the need to guarantee non-discriminatory practices against migrant workers;

Call on the governments of APPF countries to develop highly skilled, productive, disciplined and adaptable workforce, which can respond to changing demands imposed by the development of new technologies and market requirements and at the same time be able to remain competitive;

Call on the developed countries of the Asia-Pacific region to undertake mutually beneficial programs with the developing countries to enhance the quality of education of the young to enable them to respond effectively to the challenges of development of the region;

Urge APPF member Parliaments to pass measures to improve the quality of life of the workforce through enhanced labour standards, better social security measures and adequate occupational health and safety measures.

Adopted unanimously on January 9, 1997, in Vancouver.

ANNEX 13

RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE CANADIAN DELEGATION

ON

EDUCATION AND LITERACY

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

Recognizing that standards of education in Asia Pacific differ throughout the region;

Recognizing that literacy rate in the region is still too low, even in some of the most developed countries;

Cognizant of the fact that education is an investment in the future and forms an important component of any strategy for reducing poverty;

Mindful that those countries in the Asia-Pacific which have invested the most in education and training are those which have experienced the highest rates of economic growth;

Noting that, although the proportion of children enrolled in school is increasing, the absolute number of children in the world without education is expected to increase in 20 years; and

Recognizing strongly that children are "our" future and are *our most important investment*;

Resolves:

- (1) To strongly support access to education for all individuals;
- (2) To urge governments to make education a priority and commit the resources necessary to achieve this goal;
- (3) To encourage governments to ensure that levels of education and age of school access be facilitated to help with the increase in productivity of the region and full employment; and
- (4) To work towards a goal of total literacy in the Asia Pacific Region by the year 2010.

Adopted unanimously on January 9, 1997, in Vancouver.

ANNEX 14

**RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE PHILIPPINE DELEGATION
ON
CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME**

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

Cognizant of the role played by culture and values in the unification of people of diverse backgrounds and origins;

Realizing the importance of programs and activities that promote greater awareness of the history, culture and heritage of all Asia Pacific member countries in order to encourage the harmonious relationship among their peoples;

Realizing further that the different cultures of the Asia Pacific countries can be integrated into one cultural presentation where the countries can demonstrate their cooperation with each other while retaining their individual identities;

Fully aware that a cultural exchange program and related activities will enhance social and cultural development of the region and its people, as well as foster better understanding and closer friendly relations among them;

Resolves to:

Encourage the governments and Parliaments of APPF member countries to give full support on research and studies on cultural life, historical background and development of Asia Pacific countries;

Urge the governments and Parliaments of APPF member countries to establish and actively participate in an exchange program focusing on the different areas of culture and information.

Adopted unanimously on January 9, 1997, in Vancouver.

ANNEX 15

RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE PHILIPPINE DELEGATION

ON

YOUTH EXCHANGE

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

Aware of the significant role of youth in nation building and the need for their participation not only in the administration of the political, economic and social affairs of their respective governments but also in community leadership;

Cognizant of the fact that in order to have long term peace and sustained development of the world, youth should be trained and encouraged to respect the sovereignty of other nations and to promote international relations by settling state-to-state problems on the basis of the principles of reciprocity and equality;

Mindful that many international organizations have been making constant efforts to increase international understanding and cooperation through the comprehensive education of youth;

Resolves to:

Urge all governments of APPF member countries to actively participate in and support international youth activities in the region;

Encourage governments of APPF member countries to adopt development programs aimed at enhancing better understanding among the youth of APPF member countries and to teach them the importance of international cooperation;

Call upon governments of APPF member countries and parliaments to strengthen youth education by granting scholarship and training facilities and establishing intra-Asian-Pacific Youth Exchange Visit Programs.

Adopted unanimously on January 9, 1997, in Vancouver.

ANNEX 16

**RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE DELEGATIONS OF
AUSTRALIA, CANADA AND PHILIPPINES**

ON

HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN AND WOMEN

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

Recognizing that human rights violations, including those against women and children, remain tragically widespread in the Asia-Pacific region and throughout the world, with exploitative child labour, child abuse, sexual exploitation, and armed conflict being sorrowful examples;

Recognizing as well that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and numerous other UN conventions and resolutions proclaim the equal rights and inherent dignity of all peoples, and also identify the special care due to women and children;

Cognizant that the UN General Assembly decided in 1996 to focus on the problem of trafficking in humans, especially women and children, which often involves coercion, violence, prostitution, drug trafficking, health risks, forced labour, and other crimes;

Recognizing that a fuller and more vigorous implementation of resolutions on women and children, as well as greater international cooperation, would advance the welfare and protect the rights of women and children;

Realizing that human rights should be addressed in a balanced and integrated manner and protected and promoted with due regard for specific cultural and social circumstances;

Recognizing that, despite our cultural differences, we nevertheless share a love for our children and a desire to ensure their well-being and happiness.

Resolves to:

1. **Urge** member countries to observe human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without discrimination of any kind, in accord with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international instruments;

2. **Urge** those member countries who have not yet ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child to do so as a matter of priority;
3. **Urge** member countries to implement the Program of Action adopted by the World Congress on the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children;
4. **Call on** its members to maximize public awareness of the situation of women and children in their own countries, and take appropriate legislative measures to end the violation of the rights of women and children;
5. **Urge** governments to work together to address the issue of trafficking in women and girls, at its roots in order to combat the inequality that leads to the violation of women and children and makes them vulnerable to violence and exploitation.

* Senator Roth of the United States did not agree with each aspect of this resolution.

Adopted unanimously on January 10, 1997, in Vancouver.

ANNEX 17

RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE PERUVIAN DELEGATION
ON
LEGISLATIVE EXCHANGES

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the APPF,

Recognizing the growth of new media of communication and dissemination of information specially through Internet.

Acknowledging that several parliaments of the APPF have developed Web-Sites and databases which could be shared by other members of APPF.

Noting the interest of the members of APPF to exchange legislative information among themselves.

Understanding the importance of Internet as a means of making the objectives and the work of the APPF known throughout the world.

Realizing that other multilateral parliamentary organizations have already developed Web-Sites with important success.

Resolves to:

1. Charge one of the member parliaments of APPF with the task of developing and maintaining a Web-Site for the APPF
2. Request all members to provide the necessary information and support required for the accomplishment of this task.

Adopted unanimously on January 10, 1997, in Vancouver.

ANNEX 18

**RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE PHILIPPINE DELEGATION
ON
LEGISLATIVE EXCHANGES AMONG MEMBER COUNTRIES**

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

Recalling Resolution APPF4/Res/Coop/2 on legislative interchange among member countries adopted during the Fourth Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum held in Cha-am, Petchaburi Province, Thailand on January, 1996 which encourages APPF member countries to establish an effective inter-parliamentary mechanism by which legislative interchange can be made as a regular activity of the APPF;

Noting with satisfaction the benefits derived from the exchange of ideas and information among the APPF member countries which has been educational, useful and has contributed immensely to further strengthen the ties among the parliaments of the member countries;

Convinced that direct and active participation by APPF member countries in addressing common problems and interests is of great importance in promoting the objectives of the APPF and in ensuring the success of regional endeavors;

Resolves to:

Call on APPF member countries to consider implementing the recommendations made by the Fourth General Meeting of the APPF in Resolution APPF4/Res/Coop/2.

Urge all APPF member countries to undertake joint efforts to further strengthen legislative cooperation and interactions by setting up at this Fifth APPF Conference a working committee to study the establishment of an effective inter-parliamentary mechanism to fulfill the objective of the Fourth General Meeting of the APPF in Resolution APPF4 (Res)/Coop/2 and submit a report at the next Executive Committee Meeting in Seoul in September;

Adopted unanimously on January 10, 1997.

ANNEX 19

**RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE DELEGATIONS OF
AUSTRALIA, MEXICO, PERU AND PHILIPPINES**

ON

**INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING IN ILLICIT DRUGS AND
MONEY LAUNDERING**

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum,

Recalling the resolution on Drug Abuse, Trafficking and Money Laundering (APPF4/Res/S0/1) approved by acclamation at the Fourth Annual Meeting of the Forum in Cha-am, Thailand in January 1996, indicating our desire to work to resolve the drug problem;

Alarmed by the magnitude of the rising trend of drug abuse, illicit cultivation, production and trafficking in narcotic substances, including synthetic and designer drugs, which threaten social coexistence and affect the welfare of millions of persons and communities, particularly the youth of today in all countries of our region;

Recognizing the extent of international trafficking in illicit drugs and the increase in production and consumption in the Asia-Pacific region is due to the rising activities in the region of well-organised drug syndicates, often operating in close connection with terrorist organizations all of which threaten the peace and stability of affected countries;

Convinced of the clear connection between international organised crime, the trafficking in illicit drugs and the incidence of the laundering of the financial proceeds of these illegal activities;

Acknowledging that the fight against illicit drugs is of the highest priority and that a co-ordinated global approach is required to combat the organised crime associated with these activities;

Emphasising the important role that international and regional co-operation can play in breaking the chains of distribution and assisting national efforts in countering the activities of persons involved in these activities;

Recognizing the importance of the United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 in combatting crimes against humanity;

Resolves to:

Call upon APPF member governments to strengthen law enforcement in combating the production, trafficking and consumption of illicit drugs and money laundering, through closer co-operation in such areas as extradition and the exchange of information;

Invite delegations to the Sixth Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum to table reports as appropriate on the progress made in their parliamentary jurisdictions to ameliorate the drug problem;

Recommend that their governments support alternative development projects for countries affected by the drug problem, including those projects promoting alternative crops;

Suggest that their governments give priority to preventative and rehabilitative measures directed at drug addicts and potential users, particularly by educational efforts aimed at youth;

Invite APPF delegations to encourage their respective heads of state and government to convene a world summit on drug trafficking, money laundering, terrorism and organized crime.

Adopted unanimously on January 10, 1997, in Vancouver.

ANNEX 20

RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE PERU DELEGATION

ON

PARLIAMENTARY SESSION OF APPF

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the APPF:

Recognizing the importance that each member parliament follows up on the APPF resolutions adopted by the plenary;

Understanding the necessity to create conditions for continuity in the composition of the parliamentary delegations to allow for the accumulation of knowledge and information.

Resolves to:

Encourage the member parliaments to form sections of APPF in their parliaments in order to follow up on the work of the APPF;

Suggest that the member parliaments' leadership allow for at least a minimum number of delegates to attend consecutively all APPF functions.

Adopted unanimously on January 10, 1997.



ANNEX 21

**Statement of Congratulations to the
Hon. Yasuhiro Nakasone
on his Fiftieth Year as a Parliamentarian**

We would like to offer our heartfelt congratulations to you on this special occasion of your 50 years as an illustrious member of the House of Representatives in the Japanese Diet.

Throughout your long and distinguished career, you have been a leader in the finest, most honorable sense of the word. Whether as bold young legislator, visionary prime minister, or internationally active elder statesman, you have given purpose and determination to your fellow countrymen and received great respect from all of us who have had the privilege and honor of working with you.

The many programs and projects you have created and been involved in over the years are an exemplary legacy that future generations are sure to enjoy. Your ability to see what directions our society must take, and your courage in tackling tough but vital issues has been an inspiration for us all.

We look forward to the leadership you will continue to provide as the world heads towards the 21st century.

Unanimously endorsed on January 10, 1997, in Vancouver.