

27th Annual Meeting

Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum

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កម្មប្រជុំប្រចាំឆ្នាំលើកទី ២៧
នៃវេទិកាសហប្រតិបត្តិការស៊ី-ប៉ាស៊ីហ្វិក

ទីក្រុងសៀមរាប ព្រះរាជាណាចក្រកម្ពុជា
១៤-១៧ ខែ មករា ឆ្នាំ ២០១៩

APPF 27/RES/02

DRAFT RESOLUTION
ON
ENSURING EQUALITY FOR ALL WOMEN AND MEN AND ACCESS TO EDUCATION,
TECHNICAL TRAINING AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FOR PEACE AND
ACHIEVING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

(Proposed by Cambodia)

We, the parliamentarians of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF), gathering in the historic city of Siem Reap, Kingdom of Cambodia, for the 27th Annual Meeting of APPF under the theme **“Strengthening Parliamentary Partnership for Peace, Security and Sustainable Development”**:

Recalling the 26th APPF Resolution on Gender Equality for Sustainable Development and Shared Prosperity in the Asia-Pacific Region in Ha Noi, in 2018;

Recalling international treaties enhancing the protection and promotion of women’s rights including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Eliminations of All Forms of Discrimination against Woman (CEDAW, 1979);

Emphasizing Goal 4: Quality Education of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which aims to ensure inclusive and equitable education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all;

Welcoming the substantial progress made in increasing access to education for women and girls of whom more than 67 million have been enrolled in schools between 2010 and 2016 in the Asia-Pacific region;

Concerned by data shared by the UNESCO Institute for Statistics, which shows that enrollment rate for girls in secondary schools in 2016 was still as low as 45 percent in some Asia-Pacific countries, and that improvements have been slow until now;

Deeply concerned with persistent gender inequalities in education and in society despite international standards and agreements such as the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the Education for All global movement, and the SDGs;

Acknowledging APPF Member Countries policies and program efforts to achieve gender equality, engaging both men and women in social and political life;

Recognizing the importance of fostering education and vocational training for women and girls in information and communications technology ICT as well as science, technology, engineering and mathematics STEM subjects;

Understanding the centrality of assuming collective responsibility and joint action to bring significant changes in the Asia-Pacific region;

Noting that the gender gap in innovation and digitalization is wide and will further disadvantage women as jobs are transforming and requiring high innovation and digitalization capacities;

Believing that enhancing access to education for women and girls contributes to socio-economic development and undeniably fosters stronger social cohesion and political institutions;

Acknowledging parliamentarians' role in mainstreaming gender-sensitive issues into national policies and laws and ensuring the implementation and enforcement of the law;

RESOLVES TO:

1. Call on all APPF Member Countries to respect, protect and fulfill the rights of women and girls, ensuring equal access to education by redoubling their efforts to achieve SDG4: Education for All;
2. Update policies and initiatives that substantially reduce the number of children, especially girls, out of school in the region such as mainstreaming gender in education and human resource development strategies, including gender in curricula, and training teachers in gender equality and gender-neutral education;
3. Appeal to APPF Member Countries to ratify, implement and monitor treaties and conventions, focusing on education for all goals to improve the application of existing legal frameworks and standards to advance gender equality in education;
4. Recommend that APPF Member Countries design and implement educational and vocational training programs in response to the needs and dignity of women and girls, including those from rural communities;
5. Call on APPF Member Countries to enhance access to and use of ICT and other technologies for women and girls, as well as men and boys in rural areas;
6. Encourage APPF Member Countries to implement the Concluding Observations from the CEDAW Committee on Education, especially by fostering education and training for women and girls in ICT and other STEM subjects in the age of innovation and technological change;
7. Urge APPF Member countries to develop, support and implement actions promoted by the UN and its bodies in the framework of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the World Summit on the Information Society, including in the context of

school curricula development to strive for women's empowerment in the digital age at the level;

8. Encourage the APPF Member Countries to run campaigns to raise women's awareness on the benefits of vocational and ICT training both for women and society as a whole;
9. Promote training opportunities for women, with the aim of strengthening leadership skills, managerial competencies, negotiations, advocacy and communication;
10. Increase membership and participation of women in national and international fora, to strengthen advocacy on crucial issues such as enhancing education for all women and girls and achieving gender equality and women is empowerment in society.