



27TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM (APPF)

SIEM RIEP, KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA, 14-17 JANUARY 2019

"PROMOTION OF FINANCIAL ACCESS AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOR SMES IN PURSUIT OF EMPLOYMENT AND PEACE"

DRAFT RESOLUTION SPONSORED BY THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES OF CHILE

Acknowledging that the Pacific basin has seen one of the highest rates of dynamism and growth in the world in recent decades, positioning itself as a key player in the global economy;

Reasserting the Tokyo Declaration 1993, Vancouver Declaration 1997, Valparaiso Declaration 2001 and the New Tokyo Declaration 2012, which include the promotion of prosperity, stability and peace of the Asia-Pacific countries as fundamental goals of the APPF;

Bearing in mind that the Vancouver Declaration 1997 urges the promotion of an environment where the private sector can operate without complications and stresses the importance of its vitality and initiative in achieving a sustainable economic development;

Aware of the APPF26/RES/03 Resolution adopted in January 2018 during the 26th Annual Meeting of the APPF in Hanoi, Vietnam about supporting smaller sized companies in the digital age;

Taking note of the OECD Ministerial Conference 2018 Declaration on SMEs, regarding the importance of strengthening SMEs and entrepreneurship to improve productivity and achieve inclusive growth;

Reasserting the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, specifically SDG 4 and 8 and their goals for 2030 of "considerably increasing the number of young people and adults that have the necessary competences, in particular technical and professional ones, to access employment, decent work and business" and "to promote development focused policies that support production, the creation of decent job positions, enterprise, creativity and innovation and to foster the formalization and growth of micro, small and medium sized companies, even through access to financial services";

Recalling resolution A/RES/71/279 adopted in 2017 by the United Nations General Assembly where the fundamental role that SMEs have in achieving Agenda 2030 and its goals is acknowledged;

Acknowledging that micro, small and medium sized companies are fundamental motors for Asia-Pacific economies, due to both their contribution in overall employment, and in innovation and overcoming poverty;

Understanding that certain market failings affect MiSMEs more, like for example, difficulties in accessing information, knowledge and financing, and that the States have a role in overcoming these imbalances;

Considering that training programs and policies provide new work and business-based abilities that let people be better involved in the economic development of their countries,



improving their productivity;

Taking note of the international evidence which sustains that suitably designed training and job programs can be a relevant factor in peace-building processes by providing economic opportunities and promoting interaction and peaceful contact between conflictive parties, as well as providing opportunities to address economic or social injustice

HEREBY RULES:

- 1. To emphasize** the importance that SMEs have in the economic activity and employment of countries, and the relevance of helping them overcome obstacles for their full development and operation;
- 2. To reassert** the potential of financial inclusion to overcome poverty, efficiently distribute resources and contribute to a sustainable and inclusive economic development;
- 3. To stress** the direct relationship there is between access to financing and training over creation, growth and productivity of companies and their incorporation in a competitive economy;
- 4. To strongly encourage** Asia-Pacific governments and parliaments to create a favorable regulatory framework to fully incorporate SMEs into the financial market, guaranteeing them access to different banking products and financing with fair conditions;
- 5. To urge** Asia-Pacific governments and parliaments to implement vocational training programs that allow small companies to fully develop their capacities, and thus increase their productivity, through economic incentives and public-private alliances;
- 6. To acknowledge** the important role that regional coordination plays in supporting financial access and vocational training for SMEs, in the means that the exchange of information and experience about laws, regulations and programs is made possible;
- 7. To make the call** that financial access and vocational training for SMEs in pursuit of employment and peace are matters that are among the tasks of the Asia-Pacific region's governments and that they are successfully included in future international cooperation agreements.