
The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

Report of the Parliamentary
Delegation to the Twenty-fourth
Annual Meeting of the Asia
Pacific Parliamentary Forum,
Vancouver, Canada

Vancouver, Canada – 17 – 21 January 2016

March 2016

Canberra

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Foreword

In January 2016 an Australian delegation participated in the twenty-fourth Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) in Vancouver, Canada. The APPF includes members from countries in the Asia-Pacific region with which Australia has highly significant links. Australia's continued participation in, and active contribution to, the APPF's annual meetings are significant for institutional and professional relationships with regional parliamentarians.

The delegation wishes to thank the host parliament in Canada, and in particular Senator the Hon Donald N Plett, President of the APPF Executive Committee in Canada, for his leadership of arrangements and the meeting. The hosts were generous in their welcome and hospitality, and the program arrangements, and secretariat and liaison officer support were of a high standard.

On behalf of the delegation I would like to thank the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for assistance with preparations and advice for the visits and meetings, and for the excellent support provided in Vancouver by Ms Victoria Wood, Head of Trade and Economic Policy, Australian High Commission, Ottawa and colleagues.

The Parliamentary Library provided briefing material that anticipated the delegation's needs well. The International and Parliamentary Relations Office assisted us with administrative arrangements for the delegation's visit.

Hon Dr Sharman Stone MP

Delegation Leader

The Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF): work of the Twenty-fourth Annual Meeting

Overview

- 1.1 In January 2016 a delegation from the Parliament of Australia comprising the Hon Dr Sharman Stone MP (Leader of the Delegation), Ms Anna Burke MP and Mr Luke Simpkins MP participated in the Twenty-fourth Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF24) in Vancouver, Canada.
- 1.2 This chapter begins with a description of the twenty-fourth annual meeting of the APPF and then addresses the work of the meeting which took place according to the program set out in Appendix A.
- 1.3 The meeting began in Vancouver, Canada on 16 January 2016, with the arrival and registration of delegates. Appendix B is a record of delegations participating at APPF24.
- 1.4 The first formal activity was the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians on 17 January. This is the first occasion on which such a meeting has taken place, with participation open to all member countries. The initiative for convening such a meeting originated with the members of the Indonesian delegation to APPF23, who proposed that the program for the next APPF Annual Meeting include a distinct Meeting of Women Parliamentarians to foster women's participation in political and public life. Appendix C sets out the program and agenda and concept notes for the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians.
- 1.5 The Executive Committee also met on 17 January to adopt the draft agenda and program of activities. The Executive Committee supported Fiji as the host of the twenty-fifth annual meeting to be held in January 2017.

Also, a tentative hosting calendar was circulated, with Australia listed to host APPF31 in 2023 (Australia hosted APPF8 in 2000).

Inaugural Meeting of Women Parliamentarians

- 1.6 The inaugural meeting was co-chaired by Senator Mobina Jaffer (Canada) and Dr Nurhayati Ali Assegaf (Indonesia). Welcoming remarks were made by the Hon Geoff Regan PC MP, Speaker of the House of Commons, and the opening address was given by the Hon Dr Hedy Fry PC MP (Canada). The program and agenda were adopted and the meeting proceeded.
- 1.7 Dr Stone and Ms Burke took part in the debate, which focussed on women's participation in political and public life, in particular, the challenges for women parliamentarians and means of increasing women's participation. This debate contributed towards development of the two final resolutions expressly supporting the roles of women which were agreed at APPF24, one on Women's Economic Empowerment for Regional Growth and Prosperity, and the other on Ensuring Women's Participation at all Levels of Political and Public Life. This inaugural women's meeting concluded with a commitment to seek to include similar meetings of women parliamentarians at all future APPF annual meetings. The Australian delegation played a strong role in assisting this message to be expressed and delivered to the Executive Committee, as reported below.

Opening session and addresses

- 1.8 The opening session of the twenty-fourth annual meeting was held in the morning of 18 January 2016. The session began with a welcome to the Canadian Territory of the Coast Salish by Amanda Nahannee, followed by remarks of welcome from the Hon Donald N Plett, Senator and President of the APPF Executive Committee, the Hon George J Furey QC, Speaker of the Senate, the Hon House Speaker Geoff Regan PC MP, His Worship Gregor Robertson, Mayor of Vancouver and the Hon Takuji Yanagimoto, Member of the House of Councillors of Japan.
- 1.9 The opening address was made by Ms Pamela Goldsmith-Jones MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. After this address, the work of the meeting proceeded by way of the three formal groupings, plenary sessions, working groups established by the Drafting Committee and the Drafting Committee, according to a carefully scheduled timetable.

- 1.10 The keynote address was given mid conference, on 19 January, by Mr Stewart Beck, President and CEO of the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada.

Subject matter of the annual meeting

- 1.11 The meeting followed the agenda proposed by the Executive Committee. The agenda comprised three substantive subject areas on the customary range of issues considered by APPF meetings, namely: politics and security, economics and trade, and regional cooperation, as well as future work of the APPF. The items were debated in four plenary sessions.

- 1.12 The agenda's substantive subject areas comprised:

Political and security matters

- Strengthening peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region
- Addressing Transnational Crime and Human Trafficking
- Combating Terrorism
- Building the Tools of Democracy and Citizen Engagement

Economic and trade matters

- Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation: Report by the Philippines (APEC 2015)
- Expanding Regional Trade and Investment and Optimizing Global Value Chains
- Promoting Gateways and Enhancing Infrastructure
- Fostering Innovation and Connectivity

Regional cooperation

- Ensuring an Optimistic and Prosperous Future for Youth
- Building Resilience to Disasters and Crises
- Protecting Wildlife and Advancing the Sustainable Management of Land and Marine Ecosystems
- Implementing the Post-2015 Development Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals

The APPF

- Outcome of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians
- Reports on Previous APPF Work
- Future work of the APPF

- Host of the 25th Annual Meeting
- Adoption of Resolutions and Joint Declaration

Draft resolutions proposed

1.13 For APPF24, 47 draft resolutions were proposed by 11 countries including four by Australia. This number is comparable to the 49 draft resolutions proposed at APPF23 and to 41 draft resolutions proposed at APPF22). Most proposed resolutions were received in sufficient time to be published on the APPF24 website, allowing other delegations an opportunity to consider them before the meeting.

1.14 All draft resolutions received were adopted for consideration at the annual meeting. These comprised:

- **Australia**

- ⇒ Arms Trade Treaty
- ⇒ Cooperative Action on Climate Change
- ⇒ Strengthening Anti-Corruption Institutions in the Asia-Pacific
- ⇒ Acknowledgement of First Peoples

- **Canada**

- ⇒ Conserving and Sustainably Managing our Shared Ocean
- ⇒ The Global Response to Humanitarian Crises
- ⇒ Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing
- ⇒ Achieving Denuclearization, Stability and Peace on the Korean Peninsula
- ⇒ Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Cooperation
- ⇒ International Trade and Regional Value Chains
- ⇒ Women's Economic Empowerment

- **Chile**

- ⇒ Resilience in the Face of Disasters and Crises
- ⇒ The Tools of Democracy
- ⇒ The 2003 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- ⇒ Combating Terrorism

- **China**

- ⇒ Regional Connectivity for Shared Prosperity in Asia-Pacific

■ Indonesia

- ⇒ Promotion of Peaceful Settlement to the Current Political Tensions in the Asia-Pacific
- ⇒ Transnational Crimes and Human Trafficking
- ⇒ Connectivity Between Regions Towards Asia-Pacific Economic Integration
- ⇒ An Inter-Parliamentary Network on Anti-Corruption
- ⇒ Middle East Peace Process
- ⇒ Protecting the Rights of Economic Migrants
- ⇒ The Role of Parliament in Humanitarian Crises

■ Japan

- ⇒ Achieving Denuclearization and Peace on the Korean Peninsula
- ⇒ The Middle East Peace Process
- ⇒ Economy and Trade
- ⇒ Disaster Risk Reduction

■ Malaysia

- ⇒ Countering IS (Islamic State) Threats
- ⇒ Combatting Terrorism for Prosperity, Security and Growth
- ⇒ Development of Hala Ecosystem
- ⇒ Sustainable Energy
- ⇒ Empowering Older Persons in the Society

■ Mexico

- ⇒ Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
- ⇒ Building Resilience to Disasters and Crises
- ⇒ Combatting Terrorism
- ⇒ Ensuring an Optimistic and Prosperous Future for Youth
- ⇒ Promoting Gateways and Enhancing Infrastructure

■ New Zealand

- ⇒ Regional Trade and Investment and Global Value Chains

⇒ The Tools of Democracy and Citizen Engagement

■ **Russian Federation**

- ⇒ Economic and Trade Cooperation in Asia-Pacific
- ⇒ On the inadmissibility of Sanctions Against Parliamentarians
- ⇒ Political and Security Matters in Asia-Pacific
- ⇒ Counter-Terrorism

■ **Thailand**

- ⇒ Regional Trade and Investment and Global Value Chains
- ⇒ Innovation and Connectivity
- ⇒ Gateways and Infrastructure

Working through the agenda

- 1.15 As is the practice, the meeting made progress through the agenda with delegates speaking on agenda items. A delegate from those countries that proposed a draft resolution on a particular agenda item spoke to it, and other delegates also contributed. Notionally, completion of debate in the plenary on an agenda item, was followed first, by negotiation and debate on related draft resolution(s) in meetings of the relevant working groups established by the Drafting Committee, and then by the finalisation of the terms of all resolutions in the Drafting Committee itself.
- 1.16 As is apparent from the list of draft resolutions set out above, for many of the agenda items at APPF24 more than one draft resolution had been proposed, and a number of draft resolutions were broadly rather than specifically relevant to agenda items. Six working groups were convened to negotiate and develop the draft resolutions, which were then brought before the Drafting Committee for further consideration and to settle final drafts to be presented to the plenary, for adoption.
- 1.17 The working groups comprised representatives from delegations that had proposed the resolution(s) under consideration and representatives of other delegations with an interest in participating in negotiations and drafting. At APPF 24 there was a busy schedule of working group meetings. Six working groups were established and their meetings commenced in the afternoon of 18 January.
- 1.18 The Drafting Committee began its work with a formal meeting in the morning of 18 January. After noting the schedule of working group meetings, the Drafting Committee commenced debate on those agenda

items where there was a single draft resolution. The Drafting Committee continued to meet throughout annual meeting, concluding on 20 January.

- 1.19 The 27 final draft resolutions that were settled by the Drafting Committee were put to the plenary at the last session of the meeting on the afternoon of 20 January, and adopted by consensus, in accordance with APPF practice, see Appendix D.

Australia's preparations for the annual meeting

- 1.20 With assistance from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), the Parliamentary Library and the delegation's secretary, detailed briefing material on all agenda items was provided to the delegation before the annual meeting. The briefing material was accompanied by background material on Canada. To facilitate access, the briefing material was provided to delegates electronically in a format that is available on mobile devices, as is usual practice for support for all outgoing parliamentary delegations.
- 1.21 Before attending the annual meeting, the delegation met in Canberra on 3 December 2015. It considered a background briefing document on the APPF together with the agenda for the forthcoming annual meeting, and identified the topics that delegates wished to speak on. The delegation agreed to submit a draft resolution for each agenda item to be spoken to in the plenary. At the meeting, the delegation also received a briefing from DFAT on Australia's bilateral relationship with Canada.
- 1.22 The delegation meeting was important in the delegation's preparations for the annual meeting, particularly given the need to submit draft resolutions and register speakers in advance of the annual meeting. On this occasion there was a delay in receiving the draft agenda from the secretariat and this flowed through to a later than usual selection of agenda items to be debated and preparation of draft resolutions.
- 1.23 Ms Victoria Wood, Head of Trade and Economic Policy, Australian High Commission, Ottawa, met the delegation in Vancouver and accompanied and supported the delegation throughout the various activities and meetings at APPF24. The support, professionalism and advice from Ms Wood, were valued greatly. Not only was she knowledgeable about the various topics under debate, Ms Wood liaised most effectively with other delegations, including with their diplomatic staff, and she demonstrated excellent in-country knowledge which was most useful in understanding the contemporary situation in Canada, particularly in light of the recent elections and new parliament.
- 1.24 More generally, the Australian delegation wishes to express its sincere gratitude for the high level of support it received from the Department of

Foreign Affairs and Trade. The Parliamentary Library also provided valuable assistance.

- 1.25 The quality of work that goes into preparatory briefings and materials and support during the annual meeting itself, contributes significantly to the delegation's capacity to represent the Parliament effectively and to participate fully at annual meetings of the APPF.
- 1.26 The delegation notes that there are lead times for participation in the APPF annual meetings. Under the APPF rules, draft resolutions need to be provided two months in advance of the annual meeting, and delegates wishing to make statements in the plenary need to be registered in advance. Accordingly, the delegation supports the suggestion of earlier reports that Australian delegation members be identified by end October each year.

Australia's contribution to debate and work of the annual meeting

- 1.27 The delegation had a very busy schedule, contributing four speeches to the plenary sessions in support of the draft resolutions the delegates proposed to the APPF. The full text of the draft resolutions proposed by the delegation is included in Appendix G. Dr Stone spoke to her motion: *Enhancing Acknowledgement of Indigenous Peoples and Closing the Gap in Inequalities*. In speaking to her motion Dr Stone drew the attention of delegates to the fact that many Indigenous populations in the region were still suffering the consequences of a colonial legacy, suffering disadvantage and inequalities. Her motion called for the recognition of first people's status of Indigenous societies wherever they exist, and for special measures to be taken to close any gaps in inequalities, for example, in employment, health, education, rights and income. The aim is to ensure all citizens of the region are empowered and have equal access to opportunities.
- 1.28 Ms Burke spoke to the two motions: *Enhancing Cooperative Action on Climate Change* and an *Arms Trade Treaty*.
- 1.29 Mr Simpkins made a speech in relation to *Building an Inter-Parliamentary Network on Anti-Corruption*. In acknowledging that cross border cooperation is imperative, his remarks focussed on the need for democratic government:

It is not enough that the citizens of the Asia Pacific Region have the right to vote. It is not enough that they can vote for whomever they like. They must have confidence that the process of voting is fair and without corruption. They must also have confidence that those whom they vote for obey the rules and regulations, both in detail and in convention. They must see the agencies that provide

services and administer the functions of government are clear of corruption, or at least that corruption is fought and consequences plain for all to see.

- 1.30 In addition to speeches in the plenary, the delegation was represented at, and contributed actively and constructively to, five of the six working groups at the meeting.¹ These included the working groups relating to the four agenda items on which Australia and other countries had submitted draft resolutions.
- 1.31 Many of the working groups involved extended discussion, including where there were multiple draft resolutions to be combined from countries whose APPF participants did not share a common language. Within the working groups Australia successfully negotiated changes to a number of key resolutions.
- 1.32 Delegation leader, Dr Stone, represented Australia at meetings of the Drafting Committee and was a constant presence, playing an influential role.
- 1.33 In the Drafting Committee meetings, the text of the draft resolutions presented from the working groups was considered clause by clause and line by line and many amendments were made. Consensus was able to be achieved, often after extended discussion. In the event, 27 resolutions were agreed for presentation to the plenary.
- 1.34 At its final session, the Drafting Committee also developed the draft Joint Communiqué for consideration by the plenary.

Final plenary session

- 1.35 As mentioned, at the final plenary session on 20 January 2016, the meeting considered and adopted the resolutions and Joint Communiqué prepared by the Drafting Committee. The Joint Communiqué contains an overview of the activities of the meeting. It outlines the attendance at the meeting, the broad scope of the debates, the resolutions adopted, acknowledgment of the work of the hosts and plans for the next annual meeting to be held in the Republic of Fiji in January 2017. A copy of the joint statement from the Communiqué is contained in Appendix E of this report.
- 1.36 The topics of the 27 resolutions that were adopted at APPF24 are set out in Appendix D. Australia was sponsor or co-sponsor of four of these final resolutions.

¹ The delegation was not able to be represented at the sixth working group, as meetings of most of the working groups, sessions of the plenary and meetings of the Drafting Committee all ran in parallel.

Other meetings and activities

- 1.37 The Australian delegation was also pleased to be able to hold two bilateral meetings, with delegations from Canada and Ecuador.
- 1.38 On the final day of meetings, 20 January, Dr Stone and Ms Burke played a pivotal role in drafting a formal request to the Executive Committee calling for a meeting of women parliamentarians to be included as a permanent feature of all future annual meetings. This proposal was enthusiastically supported by delegations from Cambodia, Canada, Ecuador, Fiji, Mexico, New Zealand, Russia and Singapore, whose representatives all signed the correspondence. Dr Stone presented the correspondence to the President of the Executive Committee, and a copy is included at Appendix F.
- 1.39 All Australian delegation members took full opportunity to participate in informal discussions during breaks in meetings of the plenary, Drafting Committee and working groups and at the social activities organised for that purpose. Delegation members established fruitful links with members of other participating delegations.

Outcomes

- 1.40 APPF24 comprised a full program of meetings and formal social activities. Although only three in number, the Australian delegation played an active and influential role at the meeting, contributing effectively to debate in the plenary, to negotiations on draft resolutions in meetings of working groups, and to the work of the Drafting Committee throughout the meeting.
- 1.41 The delegation is satisfied that its representation of the Parliament at the meeting's sessions, both formal and informal, demonstrated the Australian Parliament's continuing commitment to the APPF. In addition, the delegation was able to consider significant subject matter together with parliamentary colleagues in the region, and to build sound parliament-to-parliament links.

The Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF): general role and operations

Australia and the APPF

- 2.1 This chapter of the delegation's report describes the role and activities of the APPF in general terms, and Australia's contribution to its work over the years. This background information informs the first chapter, which covers the delegation's contribution to APPF24 and its perception of the outcomes of the meeting.
- 2.2 The APPF is an assembly of members of national parliaments in the Asia-Pacific region which has met each year since 1993 to discuss a range of issues of mutual concern. A former Prime Minister of Japan, HE Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, was central to the establishment of the APPF.
- 2.3 Issues the APPF deals with are mainly strategic, economic, social and cultural in nature. More information about the history and objectives of the APPF is provided below.
- 2.4 The APPF is of importance to the Australian Parliament as a parliamentary association of members which share Australia's regional strategic and economic interests. Key regional countries with which Australia has strong links send delegations to APPF annual meetings. The APPF, thereby, provides a unique framework for Australian parliamentarians to engage in dialogue, share perspectives and develop ideas with their regional counterparts. Australian delegates are able to offer Australian perspectives and to develop their knowledge and understanding of the perspectives of parliamentarians in neighbouring countries on a range of issues.

- 2.5 Australia has played a prominent part in the APPF from the time of its inception, with one of the two preparatory meetings leading to its establishment being held in Canberra in 1991. Since then, the eighth annual meeting in 2000 was held in Canberra, and Australia has been a constant participant at annual meetings. Australia's delegation has been active in submitting, debating, and negotiating draft resolutions on a variety of agenda items. The delegation's draft resolutions have focused on regional social, political, economic and security cooperation.

History and role of the APPF

Members

- 2.6 The APPF was established formally at its First Annual Meeting in Tokyo in January 1993, following preparatory meetings held in 1991 (Singapore and Australia). The Tokyo Declaration adopted at the First Annual Meeting, referred to below as the '1993 Tokyo Declaration'¹, outlined the objectives and organisational aspects of the APPF. It provided for the APPF to be open to all national parliamentarians² in the Asia-Pacific region, particularly from the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum members, and members of the South Pacific Forum (Pacific Islands Forum since 1999) who:
- have an active interest in promoting dialogue among parliamentarians in the region; and
 - accept the objectives and principles of the APPF.³

Objectives

- 2.7 The objectives of the APPF, as initially outlined in the 1993 Tokyo Declaration and, following incorporation with minor amendment, as reflected in the New APPF Rules of Procedure adopted in 2012 at APPF20 in Tokyo, are to seek to provide opportunities for national parliamentarians of sovereign states of the Asia-Pacific region to:

1 The text of the 1993 Tokyo Declaration is available at [http://www.appf.org.pe/Milestone Declarations, Tokyo Declaration](http://www.appf.org.pe/Milestone%20Declarations,%20Tokyo%20Declaration).

2 Under the 'New APPF Rules of Procedure', adopted at APPF20, the membership of the APPF is now open to national parliaments of sovereign states in the Asia-Pacific region.

3 Paragraph 7 of the 1993 Tokyo Declaration.

- identify and discuss matters of common concern and interest and to highlight them in a global context;
- deepen their understanding of the policy concerns, interests and experiences of the countries of the region;
- examine the critical political, social and cultural developments resulting from economic growth and integration;
- encourage and promote regional cooperation at all levels on matters of common concern to the region; and
- play the roles of national parliamentarians in furthering in their respective countries a sense of regional cohesion, understanding and cooperation.⁴

Guiding principles

2.8 The APPF operates under these guiding principles:

- commitment to frank and constructive dialogue;
- equal respect for the views of all participants; and
- full recognition of the roles performed by governments, business communities, labour organisations, research institutes and others.⁵

APPF procedures

Defining documents

2.9 The policies and administrative procedures of the APPF have gradually developed by means of resolutions agreed at annual meetings. Australia has had a significant role in the development of the APPF as expressed in these documents. There are now five strategic documents:

- 1993 Tokyo Declaration;
- Vancouver Declaration (1997);
- Valparaiso Declaration (2001);
- new Tokyo Declaration (2012); and
- New APPF Rules of Procedure (2012).⁶

4 Rule 2 of the New APPF Rules of Procedure; paragraph 2 of the 1993 Tokyo Declaration refers.

5 Rule 3 of the New APPF Rules of Procedure; paragraph 3 of the 1993 Tokyo Declaration refers.

The 1993 Tokyo Declaration

2.10 The 1993 Tokyo Declaration is the foundation document of the APPF and describes the APPF's functions:

4. The APPF will act to promote greater regional identification and cooperation with particular focus on:

- a. cooperation for the further advancement of peace, freedom, democracy, and prosperity;
- b. open and non-exclusive cooperation for the expansion of free trade and investment, and sustainable development and sound environmental practices; and
- c. non-military cooperation, which gives due consideration to issues relating to regional peace and security.⁷

2.11 The 1993 Tokyo Declaration also provides that:

- all decisions of the APPF be made by consensus at an annual meeting;⁸
- all delegates to the annual meetings be national parliamentarians;⁹ and
- membership of the APPF be reviewed 'when necessary'.¹⁰ The most recent additions to the membership of the APPF were Costa Rica and Ecuador in 2001.

2.12 In relation to decision making by consensus, the New APPF Rules of Procedure include a provision to allow partial reservations to resolutions to be mentioned in the resolution document, thereby permitting minority opinions at APPF meetings to be reflected in the outcomes of the meeting. At APPF24, all decisions continued to be made on a consensus basis.

Vancouver, Valparaiso and new Tokyo (2012) declarations

2.13 As referred above, three additional policy documents are relevant to the operations of the APPF:

6 Rules of procedure were first adopted in the 1994 annual meeting in the Philippines and have subsequently been amended, most recently at APPF20.

7 Paragraph 4 of the 1993 Tokyo Declaration.

8 Paragraph 5 of the 1993 Tokyo Declaration.

9 Paragraph 7 of the 1993 Tokyo Declaration.

10 Paragraph 8 of the 1993 Tokyo Declaration.

- the Vancouver Declaration (1997) enunciated the common interests of countries in the region in the context of the end of the Cold War and the approach of the 21st century;
- the Valparaiso Declaration (2001) focused on the geographical significance of the Asia-Pacific region and identified five basic principles for peaceful co-existence in the region; and
- the new Tokyo Declaration (2012) noted major transformations in the Asia-Pacific region and in the international community since the establishment of the APPF in 1993, the many challenges faced, and the importance of action, particularly in the areas of advanced information, communications and scientific technologies, to address the challenges. The declaration affirmed the value of the APPF in promoting the peace, stability and prosperity of the Asia-Pacific region.

Rules of procedure

- 2.14 The procedural arrangements in the APPF were first set out in the 1994 Annual Meeting in the Philippines and have been updated from time to time. Minor amendments to the rules were agreed in Lima in 1999 (Executive Committee changes) and Hawaii in 2002 (additional member countries). The meeting in Beijing in 2004 established the role of an Honorary President and provided for a rotating Presidency (a President is to be appointed each year by the next host country).
- 2.15 Significant amendments to the rules were agreed at APPF20 in Tokyo in 2012 including in relation to the structure and role of the organisation, arrangements for annual meetings, and the role of the position of Honorary President.

Executive Committee: structure and current issues

- 2.16 The Executive Committee consists of representatives from member countries, rather than individuals, with countries being elected on a rotating basis. The Committee has eleven members, with eight members representing the four APPF sub-regions (two representatives per sub-region), two members representing the host countries for the current and the next annual meeting, and one member (Japan) designated by the Honorary President.¹¹

11 Under the New APPF Rules of Procedure, rule 39 (c), there is provision for the Honorary President to designate a country to be represented on the Executive Committee.

2.17 The four sub-regions of the APPF comprise:

- **Northeast Asia** (five countries): People's Republic of China, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mongolia, Russian Federation;
- **Southeast Asia** (eight countries): Kingdom of Cambodia, Republic of Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Republic of the Philippines, Republic of Singapore, Kingdom of Thailand, Socialist Republic of Vietnam; (Negara Brunei Darussalam is not included as it has observer status);
- **Oceania** (six countries): Australia, Republic of Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea; and
- **The Americas** (eight countries): Canada, Republic of Chile, Republic of Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Republic of Peru, United States of America.

2.18 Under the New APPF Rules of Procedure, the term of office of the Executive Committee is from May of the year of an annual meeting until April four years later. Previously the membership term was two years. Half the members of the committee are re-elected every two years to provide continuity and share representation. The member from the next host country joins the committee in the May before the annual meeting and retires in the April following the annual meeting.¹²

2.19 The arrangements for representation on the Executive Committee from Oceania are set out in the report of the Australian Delegation to APPF19.¹³ The forward arrangements for Oceania membership of the Executive Committee are as follows:

2016	Papua New Guinea	New Zealand
2017	Papua New Guinea	Fiji
2018	Papua New Guinea	Fiji
2019	Australia	Fiji ¹⁴

2.20 The Oceania representatives have also agreed that should a representative not be able to attend an annual meeting, then the Oceania member countries present would agree which of them should attend the Executive

12 New APPF Rules of Procedure, rule 44.

13 *Report of the Parliamentary Delegation to the nineteenth annual meeting of the APPF*, March 2011.

14 Fiji is scheduled to begin its term at APPF25 in January 2017 and Australia is scheduled to begin its term at APPF27 in January 2019.

Committee meeting in place of the absent representative, and inform the secretariat for that meeting as soon as possible.¹⁵

- 2.21 The arrangements set out in the previous two paragraphs were formally reported at APPF21. At APPF24, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea represented Oceania at the Executive Committee meeting.

Organisation of the annual meeting

Annual meetings and secretariat

- 2.22 APPF annual meetings take place in January each year and are hosted by a national parliament. The host, date and venue of each annual meeting are determined at the preceding meeting (rule 19 of the New APPF Rules of Procedure refers). The host for the annual meeting makes the necessary arrangements for the meeting, in consultation with the Executive Committee. Further arrangements relating to the annual meeting, including the timing of preparations for annual meetings, are set out in the rules. The timetable for preparations is referred to in Figure 1 and in the following paragraphs.

Proposed agenda

- 2.23 Prior to each annual meeting in January, a proposed agenda and program are developed by the host country in consultation with the Executive Committee. Until 1999 there were advance meetings of the committee which were generally held in the country which was to host the next annual meeting. Since then, arrangements for annual meetings have been arranged by electronic communications between the next host country, the Honorary President's office in Tokyo, and other Executive Committee representatives. The final and official agenda is adopted by motion at the commencement of the annual meeting. For APPF24, a draft agenda was received in December 2015.

Invitations

- 2.24 The host country sends official invitations to member countries to attend the next annual meeting, typically by the end of October.

15 New APPF Rules of Procedure, rule 43(b), provides that the method of election of representatives is a matter to be settled by the sub regions as they see fit.

Draft resolutions

- 2.25 Under the New APPF Rules of Procedure, draft resolutions are required two months in advance of the annual meeting. Draft resolutions were requested for APPF24 by 22 December 2015, shortly after the draft agenda was received. This was a more contracted timetable than usual.
- 2.26 Draft resolutions are posted on the APPF website where they may be viewed by all APPF members (and members of the public). In practice, many countries do not prepare draft resolutions and choose to debate the draft resolutions of those countries that do provide them according to the timetable. Australia customarily provides draft resolutions ahead of the annual meetings. For APPF24, Australia provided four draft resolutions.
- 2.27 Under the New APPF Rules of Procedure, draft resolutions are required to be relevant to an agenda item. Where more than one country has submitted a draft resolution on a particular agenda item, participants from the countries involved (and any other interested delegations) meet in working groups to produce a single draft resolution on the item. Combining multiple drafts often forms much of the work of working groups of delegates that support the Drafting Committee.

Drafting Committee

- 2.28 A Drafting Committee is established at the Annual Meeting on the advice of the Executive Committee to prepare final draft resolutions and a draft joint communiqué for consideration, adoption, and release at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting.
- 2.29 Participation in the work of the Drafting Committee varies from delegation to delegation. The Drafting Committee may establish a number of working groups to assist in developing consolidated draft resolutions. Smaller delegations may not have the capacity to enable members to participate in both the plenary and the Drafting Committee when the meetings are held simultaneously. Similarly, if delegations have a number of draft resolutions being negotiated in working groups that are meeting at the same time, it may not be possible to be represented at all meetings. Some of the larger delegations have members who specialise in the subject matter of particular items and some have professional advisers such as academics and diplomats.
- 2.30 At APPF24, delegations varied in size from two to 25 persons and there were varied levels of representation at the different kinds of meetings. It was often the case at APPF24 that meetings of the plenary, of multiple working groups and of the Drafting Committee were held simultaneously.

As a consequence, it was not possible for members of the Australian delegation to attend all working group meetings, although it was able to actively participate in five of the six working groups, the Drafting Committee and the plenary.

- 2.31 When the final draft resolutions come before the plenary, participants from those countries which provided the original draft resolutions may speak on the item. Other delegates may also speak. The final draft may be amended during the debate in the plenary and the text is determined by consensus. In practice, because there has often been extensive debate on draft resolutions beforehand in the working groups and in the Drafting Committee, there is little likelihood of the final draft being debated and amended during debate in the plenary.
- 2.32 At APPF24, the Drafting Committee's meetings finalised draft resolutions that had been discussed, amended and combined by the six working groups of delegates. The plenary adopted the proposals of the Drafting Committee without further debate. Twenty seven resolutions were adopted at the final session.

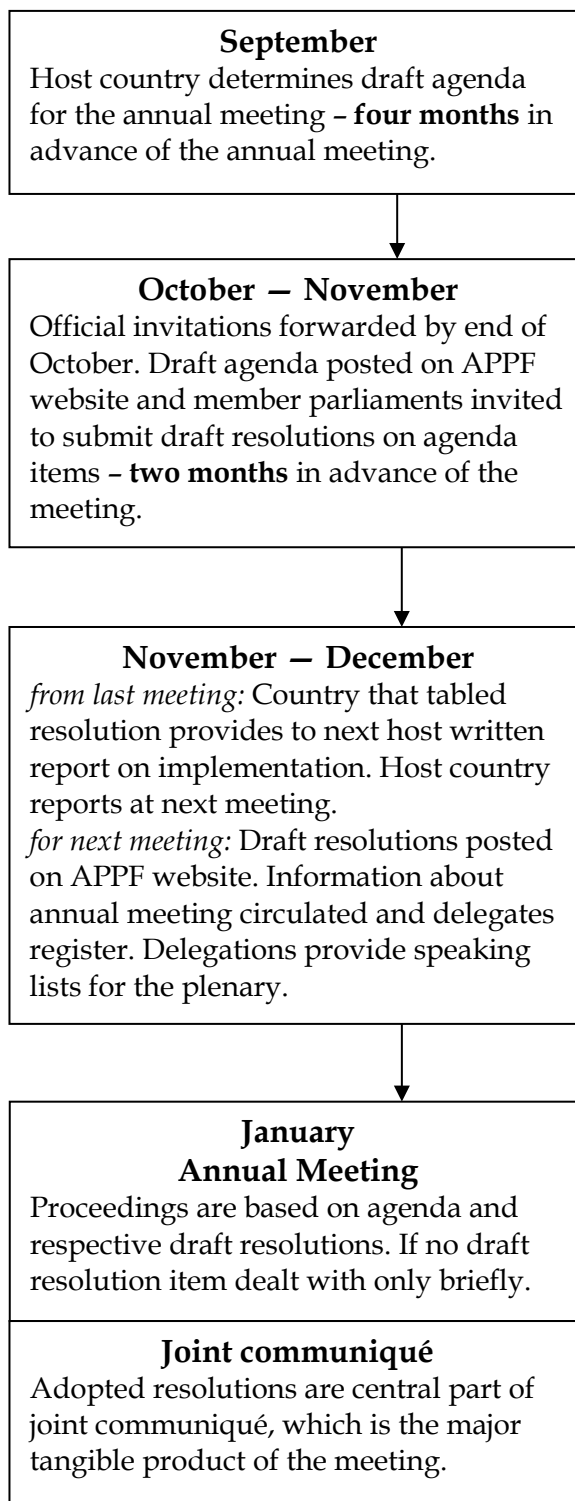
Joint Communiqué

- 2.33 At the conclusion of each annual meeting the leaders of all participating nations sign a Joint Communiqué, prepared by the Drafting Committee, which includes, amongst other things, a list of all resolutions passed by the meeting. The text of all the resolutions that were adopted is available from the website.¹⁶

THE HON SHARMAN STONE MP

16 <https://conferencesparl.ca/APPF24FPAP/documents/final-resolutions/>

Figure 1 Outline of annual meeting preparations and proceedings



Photographs of the Australia delegation at APPF24

Figure 2: The Australian delegation signs the Joint Communiqué, Mr Luke Simpkins MP, Dr Sharman Stone MP (Delegation Leader) and Ms Anna Burke MP



Figure 3: Ms Anna Burke MP presenting in the plenary session with Mr Luke Simpkins MP



Figure 4: Dr Sharman Stone MP (Delegation Leader) presenting in the plenary Session



Figure 5: Dr Sharman Stone MP (Delegation Leader) in a meeting of the Drafting Committee



Figure 6: APPF24 Drafting Committee



Figure 7: Mr Luke Simpkins MP, representing the Australian Delegation in a working group



Figure 8: Ms Anna Burke MP, representing the Australian Delegation in a working group



Figure 9: Dr Sharman Stone MP (Delegation Leader) and Ms Anna Burke MP, representing the Australian Delegation at the meeting of Women Parliamentarians





Appendix A

Program for the Twenty-fourth Annual Meeting of the APPF Vancouver, Canada

APPF24 Program: 16 – 21 January 2016, Vancouver, Canada¹

Saturday 16 January 2016

All day	Arrival of participants - Vancouver International Airport Greeting and transportation to the Official Hotel <i>Venue:</i> The Westin Bayshore, Vancouver 1601 Bayshore Drive, Vancouver Registration of delegates and participants <i>Venue:</i> APPF registration and information desk The Westin Bayshore, Vancouver
Private Program	

¹ The meetings of the working groups are not included in this program.

Sunday 17 January 2016

All day	<p>** All meetings take place at The Westin Bayshore, Vancouver **</p> <p>Arrival of participants – Vancouver International Airport</p> <p>Greeting and transportation to the Official Hotel <i>Venue:</i> The Westin Bayshore, Vancouver 1601 Bayshore Drive, Vancouver</p> <p>APPF registration and information desk Bayshore Grand Foyer – The Westin Bayshore, Vancouver</p>
9.00 – 12:00	<p>Meeting of Women Parliamentarians Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 1</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Welcoming Remarks by The Honourable Geoff Regan, P.C., M.P. Speaker of the House of Commons of Canada</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Opening Address by The Honourable Hedy Fry, P.C., M.P. House of Commons of Canada</p>
12.15 – 14.00	<p>Luncheon for Women Parliamentarians hosted by</p> <p>The Honourable Mobina Jaffer, Q.C., Senator of Canada; and Dr. Nurhayati Ali Assegaf, M.P., House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia</p> <p>Fairmont Pacific Rim Hotel, 1038 Canada Place, Vancouver <i>[by invitation only]</i></p>
12.00 – 13.30	<p>Luncheon for Members of the Executive Committee International Suite, 5th floor, Main Building, The Westin Bayshore <i>[by invitation only]</i></p>
12:30 – 13:30	<p>Meeting of Advisors and Secretaries to delegations Cypress</p>
14.00 – 17.00	<p>Meeting of the Executive Committee Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 1 and 2</p>

18.30 – 21.30	<p>Welcome Dinner Reception hosted by</p> <p>The Honourable George J. Furey, Q.C. Speaker of the Senate of Canada; and</p> <p>The Honourable Geoff Regan, P.C., M.P. Speaker of the House of Commons of Canada</p> <p>Bayshore Grand Foyer, The Westin Bayshore <i>Business Attire</i> <i>[for all participants]</i></p>
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Monday 18 January 2016

9.00	<p>Press conference Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 1</p>
9.30 – 10.30	<p>Official Opening Session Bayshore Grand Ballroom</p> <p>Welcoming to the Territory of the Coast Salish by Amanda Nahannee</p> <p>Welcoming Remarks by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The Honourable Donald N. Plett, Senator and President of the APPF Executive Committee <input type="checkbox"/> The Honourable George J. Furey, Q.C., Speaker of the Senate <input type="checkbox"/> The Honourable Geoff Regan, P.C., M.P., Speaker of the House of Commons <input type="checkbox"/> His Worship Gregor Robertson, Mayor of Vancouver <input type="checkbox"/> The Honourable Takuji Yanagimoto, Member of the House of Councillors of Japan <p>Opening Address by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. Pamela Goldsmith-Jones, M.P. , Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs
10.30 – 10.45	<p>Health break</p>
10.45 – 12.00	<p>First Plenary Session Bayshore Grand Ballroom</p> <p><i>Political and Security Matters</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Building the Tools of Democracy and Citizen Engagement

11.00 – 12.00	Meeting of the Drafting Committee Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 1
12.00 – 14.00	Luncheon for Speakers and Heads of Delegations hosted by The Honourable George J. Furey, Q.C. Speaker of the Senate of Canada; and The Honourable Geoff Regan, P.C., M.P. Speaker of the House of Commons of Canada International Suite, 5th floor, Main Building, The Westin Bayshore <i>[by invitation only]</i>
12.00 – 14.00	Buffet luncheon for all Delegates Currents Restaurant The Westin Bayshore
14.00 – 17.00	First Plenary Session (continued) Bayshore Grand Ballroom <i>Political and Security Matters</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Strengthening Peace and Security in the Asia-Pacific Region <input type="checkbox"/> Addressing Transnational Crime and Human Trafficking <input type="checkbox"/> Combatting Terrorism
14.00 – 17.00	Meeting of the Drafting Committee Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 1
14.00 – 17.00	Working Groups (4) Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 2 and 3 Oak Cypress
18:15	Assemble in the hotel lobby
18:20	Departure by bus for Stanley Park Pavillion
18.30 – 21.30	Dinner Reception – Naturally Canada Stanley Park Pavilion 610 Pipeline Road Stanley Park, Vancouver <i>Casual Dress</i> <i>[for all participants]</i>

Tuesday 19 January 2016

9:00 – 9:30	Keynote Address by <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Stewart Beck, President and CEO of the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada Bayshore Grand Ballroom
9:30 – 12:30	Meeting of the Drafting Committee Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 1
9:30 – 12:30	Working Groups (4) Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 2 and 3 Oak Cypress
9.00 – 10.30	Second Plenary Session Bayshore Grand Ballroom <i>Economic and Trade Matters</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
10.30 – 10.45	Health Break
10.45 – 12.00	Second Plenary Session (continued) Bayshore Grand Ballroom <i>Economic and Trade Matters</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Fostering Innovation and Connectivity
12.00 – 14.00	Buffet Luncheon for all Delegates Currents Restaurant The Westin Bayshore
13.00 – 17.30	Meeting of the Drafting Committee Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 1
13.30 – 17.30	Working Groups (4) Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 2 and 3 Oak Cypress

14:00 – 16:30	<p>Second Plenary Session (continued)</p> <p>Bayshore Grand Ballroom</p> <p><i>Economic and Trade Matters</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Expanding Regional Trade and Investment and Optimizing Global Value Chains</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Promoting Gateways and Enhancing Infrastructure</p>
16:30 – 17:30	<p>Third Plenary Session</p> <p>Bayshore Grand Ballroom</p> <p><i>Regional Cooperation in Asia-Pacific</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ensuring an Optimistic and Prosperous Future for Youth</p>
	Private Program

Wednesday 20 January 2016

9.00 – 12.00	<p>Third Plenary Session (continued)</p> <p>Bayshore Grand Ballroom</p> <p><i>Regional Cooperation in Asia-Pacific</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Building Resilience to Disasters and Crises</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Protecting Wildlife and Advancing the Sustainable Management of Land and Marine Ecosystems</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Implementing the Post-2015 Development Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals</p>
9.00 – 12.00	<p>Meeting of the Drafting Committee</p> <p>Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 1</p>
12.00 – 14.00	<p>Buffet Luncheon for all Delegates</p> <p>Currents Restaurant</p> <p>The Westin Bayshore</p>
13.00 – 14.00	<p>Meeting of the Drafting Committee</p> <p>Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 1</p>
14.00 – 16.00	<p>Final Plenary Session</p> <p>Bayshore Grand Ballroom</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Outcome of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Reports on Previous APPF Work</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Future Work and Hosts of APPF Annual Meetings</p>

	<input type="checkbox"/> Presentation by the next host parliament <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption of the Resolutions and Joint Declaration <input type="checkbox"/> Signature of the Joint Declaration <input type="checkbox"/> Closing Statements
16.30 – 17.00	Final Press Conference Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 1
	Private Program

Thursday 21 January 2016

All Day	Departure of Delegates
8.30 – 16.30	Excursion to Whistler Village (Optional) 8:30 Departure by bus for Whistler 10:30 Arrival in Whistler Greeted by Whistler Tourism Officials 10:45 Peak 2 Peak Gondola Arrival on top of Blackcomb Mountain Photo and viewing opportunity Peak 2 Peak back to Whistler Mountain Photo and viewing opportunity Gondola back to Whistler Free time in village 14:30 Departure by bus for Vancouver 16:30 Arrival in Vancouver

Friday 22 January 2016

All Day	Departure of delegations
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Appendix B

Delegates to the 24th Annual Meeting of the APPF¹

Australia

Hon. Dr. Sharman Stone	MP, Head of Delegation
Ms. Anna Burke	MP
Mr. Luke Simpkins	MP
Ms. Claressa Surtees	Delegation Secretary

Cambodia

H.E Vun Chheang	MP, Head of Delegation
H.E. Sreymom Ban	MP
H.E. Kimyeat Chhit	Senator
H.E. Ham Pol	MP
H.E. Heang Thul	Delegation Secretary
(+ 6 staff members)	

Canada

Hon. George J. Furey	Speaker of the Senate
Hon. Geoff Paul Regan	Speaker of the House of Commons

¹ A full list of participants at APPF annual meetings can usually be obtained at <http://www.appf.org.pe/> at the Annual Meetings page

Hon. Victor Oh	Senator, Head of Delegation
Mr. John Aldag	MP
Mr. Blaine Calkins	MP
Hon. Joseph A. Day	Senator
Mr. Sukh Dhaliwal	MP
Mr. Earl Dreeshen	MP
Hon. Dr. Hedy Fry	MP
Hon. Mobina Jaffer	Senator
Hon. Jim Munson	Senator
Mr. Ron McKinnon	MP
Mr. Joe Peschisolido	MP
Hon. Donald Neil Plett	Senator
Mr. Geng Tan	MP
Hon. David Tkachuk	Senator
Hon. David M. Wells	Senator
Hon. Alice Wong	MP
Mr. Alexandre Roger (+1 staff member)	Delegation Secretary

Chile

Hon. Ramón Farías	MP, Head of Delegation
Hon. Iván Flores	MP
Hon. Javier Hernández	MP
Hon. Jorge Rathgeb	MP
Hon. Karla Rubilar	MP
Hon. Raúl Saldivar	MP
H.E. Jacqueline Van Rysselberghe (+ 1 staff member)	Senator

China

H.E. Changzhi Chen	Vice-Chairman of the National People's Congress, Head of Delegation
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H.E. Weizhou Cao	Vice Chairman of Foreign Affairs Committee
H.E. Shuangjian Fu	Member of Financial and Economic Affairs Committee
H.E. Liucheng Wei	Vice Chairman of Environmental Protection and Resources Conservation Committee
Mr. Linlin Jin (+ 11 staff members)	Delegation Secretary

Ecuador

Hon. Fausto Cayambe	Assembly Member, Head of Delegation
Hon. Gina Godoy (+ 1 embassy staff)	Assembly Member

Fiji

Hon. Jiko Fatafehi Luveni	Speaker of Parliament, Head of Delegation
Hon. Mikaele Rokosova Leawere	MP - Opposition
Hon. Alexander David OConnor	MP - Government
Mr. Sakiusa Rakai	Delegation Secretary

Indonesia

H.E. Fadli Zon	Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, Head of Delegation
Hon. Dr. Nurhayati Ali Assegaf	Chairperson of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation of the House of Representatives
Hon. Rugas Binti	MP
Hon. Dailami Firdaus	Vice Chairperson of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation
Hon. Dwie Aroem Hadiatie	MP

Hon. Ahmad Jajuli	MP
Hon. Teguh Juwarno	Vice Chairperson of the Committee for Inter- Parliamentary Cooperation of the House of Representatives
H.E. Farouk Muhammad	Deputy Speaker of the House of Regional Representatives
Hon. A.M. Iqbal Parewangi	Chairperson of the Committee for Inter-parliamentary Cooperation
Hon. Andika Pandu Puragabaya	MP
Hon. Irine Yusiana Roba Putri	MP
Hon. Hanafi Rais	MP
Hon. Yusran Silondae	MP
Hon. Haripinto Tanuwidjaja	Vice Chairperson of the Committee for Inter- Parliamentary Cooperation
Ms. Endang Dwi Astuti	Delegation Secretary
Hon. Hadiyah Alpha Indriani	Delegation Secretary
Hon. Victor Pualillin	Delegation Secretary
Hon. Wiryawan Narendro Putro	Delegation Secretary
Ms. Anne Widiana	Delegation Secretary
(+ 7 staff members and media)	

Japan

Mr. Takuji Yanagimoto	Member of the House of Councillors, Head of Delegation
Dr. Tsuyoshi Yamaguchi	MP, Deputy Head of Delegation
Dr. Takashi Shinohara	MP
Mr. Shigeru Tanaka	Member of the House of Councillors
Mr. Hideo Tsunoda	MP
Mr. Hiroyuki Togawa	Delegation Secretary
(+14 staff members)	

Korea (Republic of)

Hon. Chang-Young Yang	MP, Head of Delegation
Hon. Hoe-Sun Kim	MP
Hon. Man-Woo Lee	MP
Hon. Moon-Sik Shin	MP
Mr. Dong-Wan Choi (+ 3 staff members)	Delegation Secretary

Lao P.D.R.

H.E. Bounngong Boupha	Vice Chairperson of Foreign Affairs Committee, Head of Delegation
H.E. Khemphone Anothay	Deputy Director of Foreign Affairs Department, Delegation Secretary

Malaysia

H.E. Abu Zahar Ujang	President of the Senate, Head of Delegation
H.E. Pandikar Amin Mulia	Speaker of the House of Representatives, Head of Delegation
Hon. Norliza Abdul Rahim	Senator
Hon. Abdul Rahim Abdul Rahman	Senator
Hon. Datuk Noraini Ahmad	MP
Hon. Doris Sophia Brodi	Deputy President of the Senate
Hon. Ronald Kiandee	Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives
Hon. Mohd Hatta Md Ramli	MP
Hon. Admiral Mohd Anwar Mohd Nor (Retired)	Senator
Mr. Megat Zulkarnain Oмарdin	Senator
Hon. Prof. Kui Hian Sim	Senator
Hon. Nallakaruppan Solaimalai	Senator
Mr. Riduan Rahmat	Clerk of the Senate

(+ 7 staff members)

Mexico

Mr. Daniel Gabriel Ávila Ruiz	Member of the Committee of Foreign Relations, Asia-Pacifico of the Senate, Head of Delegation
Mr. Jorge Aréchiga Ávila	Member of the Committee of Commerce and Industrial Development of the Senate
Mr. Jose Teodoro Barraza Lopez	Chamber of Deputies
Ms. Jasmine María Bugarín Rodríguez	Chamber of Deputies
Mrs. Marcela Guerra Castillo	President of the Committee of Foreign Relations, North America of the Senate
Mr. Javier Octavio Herrera Borunda	Chamber of Deputies
Mr. Abel Murrieta Gutierrez	Chamber of Deputies
Mr. Arturo Santana Alfaro	Chamber of Deputies
(+ 3 staff members)	

Micronesia

Hon. Joseph J. Urusemal	Chairman, Committee on Education, Head of Delegation
Hon. Ferny S. Perman	Vice Chairman, Committee on Health & Social Affairs
Hon. Paliknoa K. Welly	Chairman, Committee on External Affairs
(+1 staff member)	

New Zealand

Mr. Lindsay Tisch	Assistant Speaker, Head of Delegation
Mr. Richard Prosser	MP
Ms. Poto Williams	MP

Mr. Steve Cutting
Manager Parliamentary Relations,
Delegation Secretary

Papua New Guinea

Hon. Aide Sibin Ganasi
Acting Speaker of National
Parliament, Head of Delegation

Hon. Mai Dop
Assistant Speaker

Mr. Christopher Aburu
Senior Inter-Parliamentary
Relations Office, Delegation
Secretary

Mr. Basil Kambuliagen
(+ 1 staff member)
Acting Deputy Clerk

Russia

Mr. Konstantin Kosachev
Chairman of the Council of
Federation Committee on Foreign
Affairs, Head of Delegation

Mr. Georgy Karlov
MP

Mr. Oleg Morozov
Member, Council of Federation

Mr. Igor Morozov
Member, Council of Federation

Ms. Anna Otke
Member, Council of Federation

Mr. Mikhail Slipenchuk
MP

Mrs. Irina Kuzmina
Delegation Secretary

Ms. Olesya Podolina
Delegation Secretary

(+4 staff members)

Singapore

Mr. Yih Pin Sitoh
MP, Head of Delegation

Mr. Darryl Wilson David
MP

Mr. Thiam Poh Gan
MP

Ms. Xiaolin Chen
Delegation Secretary

Thailand

Hon. Pol.Gen. Chatchawal SUKSOMJIT	MP, Head of Delegation
Hon. ADM. Choomnoom ARDWONG	MP
Hon. ACM Songtam CHOKKANAPITAG	MP
Hon. Gen. Pairoj PANICHSAMAI	MP
Hon. ACM Chanat RATANA-UBOL	MP
Hon. Dr. Vorapol SOCATIYANURAK	MP
Miss Sirawasa TESTHOMSAP	Delegation Secretary
(+ 6 staff members)	

Vietnam

Hon. Hai Ha Vu	Vice-Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Head of Delegation
Hon. Thi My Huong Dang	MP
Hon. Thu Ha Le	Ranked Director General, Foreign Affairs Department
Hon. Van Tu Tran	Head of the Parliamentary Caucus of Dong Nai Province
Mrs. Kim Chi Tran	Head of Multilateral Division, Foreign Affairs Department, Delegation Secretary
(+ 1 staff member)	

Brunei Darussalam

Hon. Salbiah Sulaiman	MP, Head of Delegation
Ms. Rose Aminah Ismail	Deputy Clerk to Legislative Council, Secretary of Delegation

Diplomatic Corps

Ms. Victoria Walker	Head of Trade and Economic Policy, Australian High Commission, Ottawa
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Mr. Sukri Sharbini	Second Secretary, Brunei Darussalam High Commission
Mr. Alejandro Gibbons	Consul General, Consulate General of Chile, Vancouver
Mrs. Germania Djimino	Assistant to the Consul General, Consulate General of Chile, Vancouver
H.E. Zhaohui Luo	Ambassador, Embassy of the People's Republic of China to Canada
H.E. Fei Liu	Consul General, Consulate of the People's Republic of China, Vancouver
Mr. Jian Du	Consul, Consulate General of the People`s Republic of China, Vancouver
Mr. Xiaodong Fan	Deputy Consul General, Consulate General of the People`s Republic of China, Vancouver
Mr. Yingchun Hong	Counsellor, Embassy of the People's Republic of China
Mr. Gang Huang	Second Secretary, Embassy of the People's Republic of China
Ms. Ni Tian	Consul, Consulate General of the People`s Republic of China, Vancouver
Mr. Wentian Wang	Minister, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of the People`s Republic of China to Canada
Mr. Kuang Xu	Consul, Consulate General of the People`s Republic of China, Vancouver
Mr. Changxue Yu	Consul, Consulate General of the People`s Republic of China, Vancouver
Mr. Hao Zhang	Vice Consul, Consulate General of the People's Republic of China, Vancouver

Ms. Xioa Lei Zhang	Consul, Consulate of the People's Republic of China, Vancouver
Ms. Xintao Zheng	Consul, Consulate General of the People`s Republic of China, Vancouver
Mr. Xuan Zheng	Consul, Consulate General of the People`s Republic of China, Vancouver
H.E Monica Pinzon	Consul General, Consulate General of Colombia, Vancouver
Mr. Etienne Emile Vincent Walter	Consul General, Consulate General of the Republic of Ecuador
Mr. Akuila Kamanalagi Vuiria	First Secretary, Fiji High Commission
H.E. Teuku Faizasyah	Ambassador of the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia to Canada
Ms. Sri Wiludjeng	Consul General, Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia, Vancouver
Mr. Mochamad Rizalu Akbar	Deputy Director, Consulate General of Indonesia, Vancouver
Mr. Yudhono Irawan	Consul, Consulate of the Republic of Indonesia, Vancouver
Mrs. Sri Mulatsih	Consul, Consulate General of Indonesia, Vancouver
Ms. Esthy Putri Muryanti	Consul, Consulate General of Indonesia, Vancouver
Mrs. Nina Kurnia Widhi	Consul, Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia, Vancouver
Mr. Seiji Okada	Consul General, Consulate General of Japan, Vancouver
Miss Sakaya Fujino	Administrative Staff, Consulate General of Japan, Vancouver
Mr. Shigeru Matsuda	Consul, Consulate General of Japan, Vancouver
Mr. Takashi Nakatsugawa	Consul, Consulate General of Japan, Vancouver

Mr. Akira Uchida	Deputy Consul, Consulate General of Japan, Vancouver
Mr. Kie Cheon Lee	Consul General, Consulate General of the Republic of Korea, Vancouver
Miss Hyun Jin Kim	Executive Assistant to the Consul General, Consulate General of the Republic of Korea, Vancouver
Mr. Hak You Kim	Deputy Consul General, Consulate General of the Republic of Korea, Vancouver
Miss Hey Rim Yoo	Researcher, Consulate General of the Republic of Korea, Vancouver
Mr. Mohd Adli Abdullah	Consul General, Consulate General of Malaysia, Vancouver
Mr. Ahmad Shanizam bin Abdul Ghani	Consul, Consulate General of Malaysia, Toronto
Mr. Deddy Faisal Ahmad Salleh	First Secretary (Political), High Commission of Malaysia to Canada
Mr. Wan Nor Haimi Wan Mahmud	Consul, Consulate General of Malaysia, Vancouver
Mrs. Claudia Franco Hijuelos	Consul General, Consulate General of Mexico, Vancouver
Mr. Atanacio Campos	Deputy Consul General, Consulate General of Mexico, Vancouver
Mr. Fidel Herrera Borunda	Consul (Business Affairs and Cooperation), General Consulate of Mexico, Vancouver
H.E. Alexander Darchiev	Ambassador of the Embassy of the Russian Federation to Canada
Mr. Manuel Cacho-Sousa	Consul General, Consulate General of Peru, Vancouver
Hon. Neil Frank Ferrer	Consul General, Consulate General of the Philippines, Vancouver
Ms. Ma. Charmaine Guevara	Vice Consul, Consulate General of the Philippines, Vancouver

Mr. Andrei Ledenev	First Secretary, Embassy of the Russian Federation to Canada
Mr. Sergey Stokov	Counsellor, Embassy of the Russian Federation to Canada
Mr. Artem Tevanyan	First Secretary, Embassy of the Russian Federation to Canada
H.E. Vijavat Isarabhakdi	Ambassador, Royal Thai Embassy, Ottawa
Mrs. Sutthiluck Sa-Ngarmangkang	Consul General, Royal Thai Consulate-General, Vancouver
Mr. Adisak Jantatum	First Secretary, Royal Thai Embassy, Ottawa
Mrs. Kamolpatr Pratoomkaew	Deputy Consul-General, Royal Thai Consulate-General, Vancouver
Mr. Narat Vidyananda	Consul, Royal Thai Consulate-General, Vancouver
Ms. Lynne Platt	Consul General, Consulate General of the United States of America, Vancouver
Mr. Manh Hai Pham	Consul General, Consulate General of Vietnam, Vancouver
Ms. Phuong Anh Pham	Consul, Consulate General of Vietnam, Vancouver

Special Guests

Hon. Dan Hays	Former Speaker of the Senate of Canada
Ms. Lourdes Li	Communications and Events Officer, ParlAmericas
Hon. Linda Reid	Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, Canada
Mr. Andrew Saxton	Former Member of Parliament, Canada
Ms. Wai Young	Former Member of Parliament, Canada



Appendix C

Women's Program and Agenda

The meeting of Women Parliamentarians is scheduled for three hours on Sunday, 17 January 2016 (9.00 am to 12.00 pm). The program includes the following agenda items:

- Opening Session (20 minutes)
- Introduction by the Co-Chairs of the meeting
 - Senator Mobina Jaffer (Canada) and Dr Nurhayati Ali Assegaf (Indonesia)
- Welcome address
 - The Honourable Geoff Regan, Speaker of the House of Commons (Canada)
- Keynote address
 - Dr Hedy Fry, Member of Parliament (Canada)
- Plenary discussion on women's participation in political and public life (90 minutes)
 - ⇒ Statements are invited to address three key themes: (1) challenges facing women's representation in parliaments (2) measures that can help to increase women's participation in public life, and (3) inclusive financing for women.
 - ⇒ A presentation by the Parliament of Ecuador will highlight the results of the "Second Parliamentary Forum: Beijing 20 Years Later," which was held in Quito, Ecuador on 17-18 September 2015. It will be delivered by Mrs. Gina Godoy, Member of Parliament (Ecuador) and President of the ParlAmericas Group of Women Parliamentarians.

- ⇒ As an illustrative example, this plenary session will also invite delegates to consider women's leadership related to disaster risk reduction. It is an issue of particular consequence for the Asia-Pacific region – which is the most disaster-prone in the world – and for women, who are disproportionately affected by disasters. Examining women's leadership in building adaptive and disaster-resilient communities provides a concrete example that can help to anchor the session's broader consideration of women's roles in parliaments and the tools and resources available to them.
- ⇒ The plenary discussion will include the consideration of a draft resolution on "Ensuring Women's Participation at all Levels of Political and Public Life." The draft resolution will be prepared in advance of the meeting by the Co-Chairs and made available on the Annual Meeting website. Comments and proposed amendments may be submitted in advance to the following email address: appf24fpap@parl.gc.ca.
- Health Break (10 minutes)
- Plenary discussion on the future of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) Meeting of Women Parliamentarians (55 minutes)
 - ⇒ This discussion is intended to culminate in a recommendation that the Co-Chairs will bring forward for the consideration of the APPF Executive Committee on the structure and purpose of future APPF Meetings of Women Parliamentarians. Additional information may be found in the "Proposal from the Co-Chairs."¹
- Closing remarks by the Co-Chairs of the meeting (5 minutes)

Concept note

Overview

The first-ever Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) Meeting of Women Parliamentarians will be held on 17 January 2016 in Vancouver. The initiative for convening such a meeting originated with the members of the Indonesian delegation to the 23rd Annual Meeting of the APPF, who proposed that the program for the next APPF Annual Meeting include a distinct Meeting of Women Parliamentarians.

1 https://conferencesparl.ca/APPF24FPAP/documents/meeting-of-women-parliamentarians/APPF_Women_Parliamentarians_Proposal

As a parliamentary forum that brings together Northeast and Southeast Asia, Oceania and the Americas, the APPF can play an important role in ensuring women's participation at all levels of political and public life, and in examining strategies that can help to achieve that objective.

Women's Participation in Political and Public Life

In the first plenary session of this meeting, the discussion will be on "Ensuring women's participation at all levels of political and public life." Delegates will be invited to deliver statements on three key themes: (1) challenges facing women's representation in parliaments (2) measures that can help to increase women's participation in public life, and (3) inclusive financing for women.

According to statistics² from 1 September 2015, women's representation in the single or lower house of parliament averaged 19.0% in Asia, 13.1% in the Pacific and 27.4% in the Americas. While progress continues to be made, most parliaments fall below the benchmark – of 30% female representation – that is widely recognized as being needed to ensure a critical mass of women in a parliament.

Women's participation in parliaments is important for a number of reasons. It upholds fundamental notions of equality, social justice, human rights, and democracy. It also expands the range of perspectives that are brought to bear in legislative, budgetary and policy-making processes.

The equal participation of women and men in public life is reflected in international accords. It is a tenet of the 1948 *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* and the 1979 *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women*. Moreover, the *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action* – the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995 – identified equality between men and women in decision-making as one of its 12 areas for action. A goal of the recently adopted United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

Realizing these commitments requires contending with a number of challenges. Inadequate access to high-quality education for girls and women, limited employment opportunities, and the lack of financial independence are some of the inhibiting factors.

Political parties themselves can be an obstacle to women entering the political arena since they may not facilitate the selection or nomination of female candidates. Women continue to be under-represented globally in the upper echelons of law, academia and the business world. Consequently, they may have had fewer opportunities to acquire the skills and experience and the funding

2 IPU statistics can be found at <http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/world.htm>

necessary to run as candidates, or to develop the professional networks sought by political parties.

In some countries, the electoral system itself can be a hindrance. Even once elected, women's participation can be challenged by parliamentary culture, structures, operations and procedures. In recognition of this reality, there is growing awareness of reforms³ that can enable parliaments to become more gender-sensitive institutions.

Women's Leadership in Building Disaster-Resilient Communities

In order to anchor the session's broader consideration of women's roles in public life, delegates will be invited to discuss the ways in which women's leadership can be mobilized and strengthened in building adaptive and disaster-resilient communities. In so doing, participants will have the opportunity to instil the views of women parliamentarians in deliberations regarding one of the items on the overall agenda of the 24th Annual Meeting.

In emergency settings, women and girls experience disproportionate vulnerabilities as a result of gender inequality, discrimination, and power imbalances. They also face distinct protection challenges, such as the threat of gender-based and sexual violence, including human trafficking.

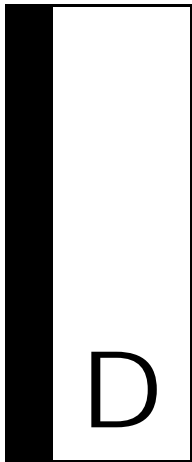
The importance of women's leadership was recognized in the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030*, which was adopted at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction on 18 March 2015, and subsequently endorsed by the UN General Assembly. It recognizes the role of women as "critical to effectively managing disaster risk" and to "designing, resourcing and implementing gender-sensitive disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes." In November, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Leader's Declaration welcomed and adopted the APEC Disaster Risk Reduction Framework, which encourages member economies to craft action plans on disaster risk reduction in 2016, and to renew existing efforts.

Parliaments can be a focal point for the integration of gender perspectives in disaster risk reduction strategies. Women parliamentarians can advocate for the mainstreaming of gender analysis in all approaches to disaster management, and in the allocation of national resources and the coordination of international humanitarian assistance, including with respect to the APEC Principles for the Movement of Humanitarian Goods and Equipment during Emergencies. Women parliamentarians can also play a leadership role in efforts to harness women's skills and knowledge towards the enhancement of societal resilience. A key step is the inclusion of women leaders from community, civil society and business

3 [Link to IPU Report Gender-Sensitive Parliaments – A Global Review of Good Practice](http://www.ipu.org/pdf/publications/gsp11-e.pdf)
<http://www.ipu.org/pdf/publications/gsp11-e.pdf>

groups, as well as women healthcare and emergency response professionals and educators, in decision-making about disaster preparedness and response.

The session will also consider the role of women in building community resilience to manage the effects of climate change, which are exacerbating the region's already high vulnerability and exposure to natural disasters. While women can play a crucial role in adaptation and mitigation efforts, they are often underrepresented in decision-making about responses to climate change.



Appendix D

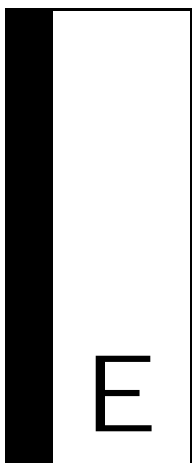
Resolutions of the 24th Annual Meeting of the APPF

List of resolutions and sponsors¹

1. Women's Economic Empowerment for Regional Growth and Prosperity (sponsored by Canada)
2. Empowering Older Persons in Society (sponsored by Malaysia)
3. Conserving and Sustainably Managing our Shared Ocean (sponsored by Canada)
4. Enhancing Acknowledgement of Indigenous Peoples (sponsored by Australia)
5. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (sponsored by Chile)
6. Enhancing Cooperative Action on Climate Change (sponsored by Australia)
7. Sustainable Energy (sponsored by Malaysia)
8. Ensuring an Optimistic and Prosperous Future for Youth (sponsored by Mexico)
9. Fostering and Strengthening Connectivity towards Economic Integration and Shared Prosperity in the Asia-Pacific Region (sponsored by China and Indonesia)
10. Fostering Innovation and Connectivity (sponsored by Thailand)
11. Promoting Gateways and Enhancing Infrastructure to Facilitate Economic and Trade Goals (sponsored by Thailand and Mexico)
12. Promoting the Development of Halal Ecosystem (sponsored by Malaysia)

¹ The text of the resolutions can be viewed at:
<https://conferencesparl.ca/APPF24FPAP/documents/resolutions/>

13. Combating Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing (sponsored by Canada)
14. Arms Trade Treaty (sponsored by Australia)
15. Political and Security Matters in Asia Pacific (sponsored by the Russian Federation and Indonesia)
16. Addressing Transnational Organised Crime, Specifically Trafficking in Persons, Drugs and some Illegal (Unregulated and Unreported) Fishing (sponsored by Indonesia)
17. Economy, Trade and Regional Value Chains (sponsored by the Russian Federation, New Zealand, Canada, Japan, Mexico and Thailand)
18. The Middle East Peace Process (sponsored by Japan and Indonesia)
19. Promoting Peace on the Korean Peninsula and Improving Inter-Korean Relations (sponsored by Canada, Japan and the Republic of Korea)
20. Building an Inter-Parliamentary Network on Anti-Corruption (sponsored by Australia and Indonesia)
21. Building the Tools of Democracy (sponsored by Chile)
22. Ensuring Women's Participation at All Levels of Political and Public Life (sponsored by New Zealand, Canada and Indonesia)
23. Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers (sponsored by Indonesia)
24. Counter-Terrorism (sponsored by the Russian Federation, Malaysia, Indonesia, Mexico and Chile)
25. Strengthening the Global Response to Humanitarian Crises (sponsored by Canada)
26. Responsibilities of States and Parliaments Towards Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons in Humanitarian Crises (sponsored by Indonesia)
27. Building Resilience to Disasters and Crises (sponsored by Japan, Chile and Mexico)



Appendix E

Joint Statement of the 24th Annual meeting of the APPF

At the invitation of the Parliament of Canada, the 24th Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) was held in Vancouver, Canada from 17 to 21 January 2016 with 252 participants – including 113 parliamentarians – from 20 countries and 1 observer country.

The first-ever APPF Meeting of Women Parliamentarians was held on 17 January, before the opening of the Annual Meeting. More than 40 delegates from 14 countries participated in the meeting Co-Chaired by the Honourable Dr. Nurhayati Ali Assegaf (Indonesia) and the Honourable Senator Mobina Jaffer (Canada). The Speaker of the House of Commons of Canada, the Honourable Geoff Regan, addressed the participants and communicated Canada's full support for this inaugural meeting, underlining that it would provide a legacy that would enrich APPF meetings for years to come.

The Meeting of Women Parliamentarians addressed themes that included women's participation in political and public life and women's leadership in building disaster-resilient communities. From these discussions, there was overwhelming consensus among the delegates who participated in the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians that there should be a permanent event at every Annual Meeting. This meeting also supported further consideration of the ways in which women's participation in APPF Executive Committee Meetings could be increased.

The Executive Committee convened on 17 January where it approved the Agenda and Program for the Annual Meeting. The Honourable Joseph A. Day, Senator of Canada, was confirmed as the Chair of the Drafting Committee.

On 18 January 2016, The Honourable Donald Neil Plett, Senator of Canada and President of the APPF, opened the Annual Meeting. The Honourable George Furey, Speaker of the Senate of Canada, and the Honourable Geoff Regan, Speaker of the House of Commons of Canada, provided keynote remarks. On behalf of the Mayor of Vancouver, the Deputy Mayor, Ms. Heather Deal, welcomed all delegates to the city of Vancouver. The Honourable Takuji Yanagimoto, Member of the House of Councillors and Head of the Delegation of Japan, delivered a speech on behalf of the APPF Honorary President, His Excellency Mr. Yasuhiro Nakasone. Ms. Pam Goldsmith-Jones, Parliamentary Secretary to Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs, addressed the plenary on behalf of the Honourable Stéphane Dion, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

At the conclusion of the opening plenary session, the Agenda for the 24th Annual Meeting was adopted. The Honourable David Tkachuk, Senator of Canada, and Mr. Geng Tan, Member of Parliament of Canada's House of Commons, were designated as the Annual Meeting's Co-Chairs.

In the plenary sessions on political and security issues, delegates discussed a wide range of topics relevant to the peace and stability of the Asia-Pacific region. The plenary considered the ways in which parliamentarians can build the tools of democracy including through initiatives that can enhance citizen engagement and parliamentary outreach to the public, as well as those that can strengthen anti-corruption measures. Interventions also addressed the importance of regional security, including efforts to address transnational crime and end trafficking in persons. Particular attention was paid to the necessity of combatting terrorism in light of the January 2016 attacks in Jakarta, Indonesia. Noting that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) had announced that it had conducted a fourth nuclear test on 6 January 2016, delegates also emphasised the importance of achieving denuclearisation and peace on the Korean Peninsula.

In the plenary sessions on economic and trade issues, discussion focused on regional efforts targeting the expansion of trade, investment and sustainable development. Cognisant that the global economic recovery remains uneven, delegates emphasised the need for further efforts to ensure that the benefits of global trade and economic development as inclusive, reaching the broadest possible range of countries, communities, and people. Another common theme was the optimisation of global value chains, not only with respect to trade in merchandise, but also services. Measures that were highlighted as key building blocks included those targeting the integration of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises and the enhancement of connectivity and innovation, including through public and private investment in infrastructure.

In the plenary session on regional cooperation, delegates articulated their long-term vision for sustainable development in the region and the steps necessary for the realisation of those objectives. Themes that were addressed included those pertinent to economic and social affairs – youth prosperity, employment and education – and those focused on societal and environmental resilience, including with respect to the prevention and recovery from disasters and crises and the protection of wildlife and marine ecosystems. These discussions were anchored by the recently adopted United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. As the APPF is an inter-parliamentary forum, delegates drew attention to the role of parliamentarians in the national implementation and monitoring of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and their 169 targets.

Throughout the Annual Meeting, the members of the Drafting Committee carefully considered the many draft resolutions that had been submitted by the APPF member countries, which culminated in the Committee's referral of draft resolutions to the plenary for review, approval and adoption. The Working Groups oriented around the following themes: peace and security; terrorism and transnational crime; economy and trade; innovation, infrastructure and connectivity; tools of democracy; and disasters and crises.

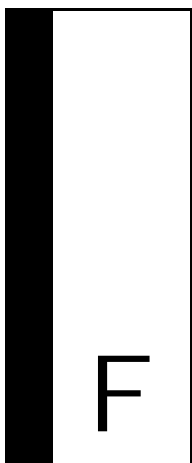
The 24th Annual Meeting of the APPF adopted the 27 resolutions. They are all available on the official website of the 24th Annual Meeting.¹

In the final plenary session, the participants discussed the work and activities of the APPF as an institution, including with respect to the APPF Meeting of Women Parliamentarians, which had been held for the first time in Vancouver. Throughout the week's proceedings, delegates emphasised the success of the inaugural meeting, and their support for its continuation at future APPF Annual Meetings, a matter that they agreed should be addressed in greater detail by the APPF Executive Committee. Delegates also welcomed confirmation that the 25th Annual Meeting of the APPF will be hosted by the National Assembly of the Republic of Fiji in January 2017.

In his concluding remarks, the President of the 24th Annual Meeting, Senator Plett, congratulated the delegates and commended them for their important contributions to the plenary sessions, Working Groups and Drafting Committee, thus ensuring a productive, cooperative and inclusive Annual Meeting.

All delegates wish to thank the Parliament of Canada for hosting this 24th Annual Meeting and express appreciation for the kind hospitality extended to all of us in the beautiful city of Vancouver.

¹ See Appendix D for a listing.



Appendix F

Correspondence calling for APPF women's meetings

20 January 2016

Honorary President, President and
Members of the Executive Committee
Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum

Dear Honorary President, President and Members of the Executive Committee

In the spirit of the APPF procedural arrangements, we the undersigned national parliament members of the APPF would like to propose the following:

Acknowledging the initiative of the Indonesian delegation at the 23rd Meeting of the APPF in Ecuador for a distinct Meeting of Women Parliamentarians;

Welcoming the first Meeting of Women Parliamentarians at the 24th Meeting of the APPF here in Vancouver;

Recognising the overwhelming consensus among the delegates who participated in the first Meeting of Women Parliamentarians that it should be a permanent event at every Annual Meeting;

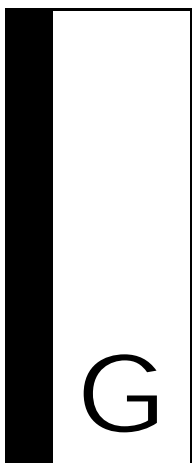
Formalising women's participation in the APPF Executive Committee;

CALLS ON THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO:

1. **Include** at least two women members on the Executive Committee;
2. **Include** a Meeting of Women Parliamentarians at every Annual Meeting commencing from the 25th Meeting of the APPF in Fiji; and

3. **Establish** a subcommittee of the Executive Committee, if necessary, to develop the necessary rules of procedure to support these changes.

Yours sincerely



Appendix G

Resolutions sponsored by Australia

RESOLUTION APPF24/RES.04

ENHANCING ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

The 24th Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum;

Recognising the ongoing issues experienced by the region's Indigenous peoples and the need by all governments to assist where possible to help reduce the gaps in socio-economic and health status;

Welcoming the opportunity to partner with Indigenous peoples;

RESOLVES TO:

1. **Affirm** the need to provide appropriate support to assist Indigenous peoples in reclaiming self-empowerment;
2. **Urge** countries in the region to work in partnership with Indigenous peoples on closing the gap on socio-economic and health outcomes;
3. **Urge** countries to support Indigenous peoples to access equal opportunities within the wider community.

RESOLUTION APPF24/RES.06**ENHANCING COOPERATIVE ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

The 24th Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum;

Recognising the risks posed by climate change and the need for urgent, effective action by governments of all levels, business, civil society and communities around the world to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build climate resilient and adaptable economies and societies;

Welcoming the adoption of the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) on 12 December 2015;

RESOLVES TO:

1. **Affirm** the need to progressively enhance global action on climate change consistent with the agreed goal of holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels;
2. **Urge** UNFCCC Parties to become a Party to the Paris Agreement;
3. **Urge** countries and other actors to take appropriate steps to implement the outcomes of COP21, including by communicating and carrying out nationally determined contributions, and updating those contributions every five years from 2020, building ambition over time.

RESOLUTION APPF24/RES.14
ARMS TRADE TREATY

The 24th Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum;

Recalling the entry into force of the Arms Trade Treaty on 24 December 2014;

Welcoming Tuvalu's ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty in September 2015;

Welcoming the fact that 79 States are party to the Arms Trade Treaty as of December 2015;

Recognising that disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation are essential for the maintenance of international peace and security;

Recognising the security, social, economic and humanitarian consequences of the illicit and unregulated trade in conventional arms;

Recognising further the legitimate political, security, economic and commercial interests of States in the international trade in conventional arms;

RESOLVES TO:

1. **Call on** all Governments that have not yet done so to accede to the Arms Trade Treaty;
2. **Call upon** those States Parties in a position to do so to provide assistance, including legal or legislative assistance, institutional capacity-building and technical, material or financial assistance, to requesting States in order to promote the universalization of the Treaty.

RESOLUTION APPF24/RES.20**BUILDING AN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY NETWORK ON ANTI-CORRUPTION**

(Sponsored by Australia and Indonesia)

The 24th Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum;

Recalling the United Nations Convention Against Corruption, the APPF Resolution on Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation to Prevent and Fight Corruption adopted at the 22nd APPF Annual Meeting in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, 2014 and other relevant APPF resolutions;

Recalling also the 22nd APEC Economic Leaders' Declaration and the 2014 Beijing Declaration on Fighting Corruption adopted at APEC Ministerial Meeting held in Beijing, China, 2014 which calls for more concerted efforts for Asia Pacific cooperation in the fight against corruption including through denying safe haven to those engaged in corruption;

Welcoming the works of the APEC Network of Anti-Corruption Authorities and Law Enforcement Agencies (ACT-NET) to advance cross-border cooperation between agencies responsible for investigations and prosecutions of corruption, bribery, money laundering, and illicit trade and the identification and return of proceeds of those crimes;

Mindful that the establishment of the APPF aimed to promote cooperation among Parliaments of Asia and the Pacific countries and to provide solutions on regional problems by considering the principles of mutual interest and respect;

Reaffirming the commitment to enhance the role of the APPF in curbing corruption by building parliamentary integrity, accountability, and good governance in respective member countries;

Noting the importance of cooperation amongst parliamentarians and others, including through the Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC), to combat corruption and promote transparency and accountability to maintain the highest standards of integrity in public sectors;

RESOLVES TO:

1. **Support** the work of anti-corruption parliamentary organizations and/or networks as platforms for sharing best practices, knowledge and capacity building of parliamentarians to adopt and effectively implement anti-corruption measures;

2. **Encourage** APPF Member States to convene a meeting of parliamentarians to discuss developments and legislation addressing the anti-corruption situation in the Asia-Pacific region;
3. **Encourage** the timely development of bilateral and multilateral anti-corruption instruments, in particular the *United Nations Convention Against Corruption* (UNCAC), addressing extradition, mutual legal assistance, and the recovery and return of proceeds of corruption through inter-parliamentary cooperation;
4. **Provide** the appropriate domestic parliamentary measures to support the work of anti-corruption agencies in performing their duties and to strengthen agency to agency relationships in developing further regional cooperation.

