
The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

Report of the Parliamentary
Delegation to the Twentieth
Annual Meeting of the Asia
Pacific Parliamentary Forum,
Tokyo

Tokyo, 8 to 12 January 2012

February 2012
Canberra

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Foreword

In January 2012 the Australian delegation participated in the Twentieth Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) in Tokyo, Japan. The Forum includes members from countries in the region with which Australia has highly significant links. Australia has participated in all meetings of the Forum, including the two preparatory meetings. Its continued participation is important for institutional and professional relationships with regional parliamentarians.

The delegation wishes to thank its host parliament in Japan, and in particular co-Presidents, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, HE Mr Takahiro Yokomochi and the President of the House of Councillors of Japan, HE Mr Hirata Kenji, for their considered leadership of the meeting. The hosts were generous in their welcome and hospitality and most effective in their program arrangements. The delegation considers that the management of the entire Forum was of an exceptionally high standard. Secretariat staff of APPF20 were unfailingly dedicated and efficient in their support to the meeting and to delegates.

On behalf of the delegation I would like to thank the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Canberra for assistance with briefing materials and advice for the visit. In Tokyo, the Ambassador HE Mr Bruce Miller and embassy staff, in particular, the liaison officer for the visit, Mr Peter Roberts, provided excellent advice and support.

The Parliamentary Library provided briefing material that anticipated the delegation's needs well. The International and Community Relations Office assisted us with administrative arrangements for the delegation's visit. Finally, I wish to record my thanks to my fellow delegation members and to the delegation secretary whose excellent advice and co-ordination of the delegation's activities was an essential ingredient in the success of the delegation.

Janelle Saffin MP

Leader



Membership of the delegation

Leader	Ms Janelle Saffin MP	Member for Page Australian Labor Party
Deputy Leader	Mr John Forrest MP	Member for Mallee The Nationals
Members	Senator Chris Back	Senator for Western Australia Liberal Party of Australia
	Senator Catryna Bilyk	Senator for Tasmania Australian Labor Party
Staff	Ms Robyn McClelland	Delegation Secretary

The Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum

General role and operations

Australia and the APPF

- 1.1 In January 2012 a delegation from the Australian Parliament comprising Ms Janelle Saffin MP, Mr John Forrest MP, Senator Chris Back and Senator Catryna Bilyk, participated in the Twentieth Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) in Tokyo, Japan.
- 1.2 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 on the APPF sets the scene for the second chapter, which covers the delegation's contribution to the Twentieth Annual Meeting (APPF20) and its perception of the outcomes of the Meeting.
- 1.3 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. The former Prime Minister of Japan, H.E. Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, was central to the establishment of the Forum. Mr Nakasone, at the age of 93 years, attended APPF20 in person and was a central figure at the Forum.
- 1.4 The issues the Forum deals with are mainly strategic, economic, social and cultural. More information about the history and objectives of the Forum is provided below beginning at paragraph 1.7.

- 1.5 The APPF is of particular importance to Australia as a parliamentary association because it focuses on countries that are of immediate concern to Australia's regional strategic and economic interests. All regional countries with which Australia has strong links send delegates to APPF annual meetings. The APPF, therefore, provides a unique framework for Australian parliamentarians to develop professional relationships with their regional colleagues and offer them Australian perspectives on current issues. At the same time the Australian delegates are able to develop their understanding of perspectives of neighbouring parliaments.
- 1.6 Australia has played a prominent part in the Forum from the time it was established. One of the two preparatory meetings to establish the Forum was held in Canberra and the eighth annual meeting in 2000 was also held in Canberra. The Australian delegation at annual meetings has submitted, debated, and negotiated draft resolutions on a variety of agenda items. The delegation's draft resolutions have focused on regional political, economic, and security cooperation.

History and role of the APPF

Members

- 1.7 The APPF was established formally at its First Annual meeting in Tokyo in January 1993, following preparatory meetings held in 1991 in Singapore and Canberra. The Tokyo Declaration adopted at the First General Meeting henceforth referred to in this Report as the 1993 Tokyo Declaration¹, 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) group members, and members of the South Pacific Forum who:
- have an active interest in promoting dialogue among parliamentarians in the region; and
 - accept the objectives and principles of the APPF.³

1 The text of the Declaration is available at <http://www.appf.org.pe>, Milestone Declarations, Tokyo Declaration.

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

3 Paragraph 7 of the 1993 Tokyo Declaration.

Objectives

- 1.8 The objectives of the APPF, as initially outlined in the 1993 Tokyo Declaration, and following incorporation with minor amendment in the 'New APPF Rules of Procedure' at APPF20, as now reflected in these Rules, are to seek to provide opportunities for national parliamentarians of sovereign states of the Asia-Pacific region:
- to identify and discuss matters of common concern and interest and to highlight them in a global context;
 - to deepen their understanding of the policy concerns, interests and experiences of the countries of the region;
 - to examine the critical political, social and cultural developments resulting from economic growth and integration;
 - to encourage and promote regional cooperation at all levels on matters of common concern to the region; and
 - to play the roles of national parliamentarians in furthering in their respective countries a sense of regional cohesion, understanding and cooperation.⁴

Principles

- 1.9 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

- 1.10 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 Forum as expressed in these documents. Following APPF20, there are now five strategic documents:

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

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

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

The 1993 Tokyo Declaration

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

The APPF seeks to promote greater regional identification and cooperation with particular focus on:

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

1.12 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 Forum be reviewed 'when necessary'.¹⁰ The most recent additions to the membership of the Forum were Costa Rica and Ecuador in 2001. The Executive Committee at the Thirteenth Annual Meeting considered the attendance of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at APPF meetings. After deliberation the Executive agreed that the President of the Fourteenth Annual Meeting would consult with member countries on the participation of the DPRK in future meetings. At the Fourteenth Annual Meeting, the issue of the DPRK possibly observing meetings was raised again. Delegates agreed that the

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.

debate be postponed and might be an agenda item at the next meeting. In the event the issue was not in fact included in the agenda at this meeting. At the Sixteenth meeting, the Executive Committee agreed that the question of whether an invitation be extended to the DPRK to attend meetings as an observer, or to become a member, be considered at the Seventeenth Annual Meeting. At the Seventeenth meeting the Executive considered that the agenda for the Eighteenth Annual Meeting should include consideration of APPF membership, observer status, and rules of procedure. At APPF18 the meeting considered in general terms the future role of the APPF and at APPF19 the meeting considered in more detail the future role of the APPF, including membership. At APPF20, the APPF rules of procedure were substantially amended, addressing issues such as meeting agendas, follow-up of resolutions, the membership and role of the Executive Committee, and strengthening ties with other parliamentary fora and international institutions, as outlined further in paragraph 2.29.

Vancouver, Valparaiso and New Tokyo Declarations

- 1.13 Three additional policy documents are relevant to the operations of the APPF:
- 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 of peaceful co-existence in the area; and
 - the new Tokyo Declaration (2012) noted major transformations in the Asia-Pacific and in the international community since the establishment of the Forum in 1993 and the many challenges currently faced, and the importance of action, particularly in the areas of advanced information, communications and scientific technologies, to address these challenges. The declaration affirmed the value of the APPF in promoting the peace, stability and prosperity of the Asia-Pacific region.

Rules of procedure

- 1.14 The procedural arrangements in the APPF were first set out in the 1994 Annual Meeting in the Philippines and are 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 Chairman and provided for a rotating Presidency (a President will be appointed each year by the next host country).

- 1.15 As mentioned, significant amendments to the Rules were agreed in Tokyo in 2012. The amended rules, adopted at APPF20 as the New APPF Rules of Procedure, cover:
- the structure and role of the organisation (rules 1-5);
 - eligibility for membership and observership, and participation as delegates at annual meetings (rules 6-9);
 - arrangements for annual meetings (rules 18-34);
 - rules of debate (rules 35-38);
 - the role of the President and Chairman of the annual meeting (rules 10-12 and 15-17);
 - the role of the position of Honorary President (rules 13-14 and 39(c));
 - the Executive Committee (rules 39-45);
 - the Drafting Committee (rules 46-50);
 - working groups (rules 51-52); and
 - matters not covered by the rules (rule 53).
- 1.16 The background to the amendment of the rules at APPF20 is outlined in paragraphs 1.36 – 1.40. The amendments are further discussed in Chapter 2.

Executive Committee: structure and current issues

- 1.17 The Executive Committee consists of representatives from member countries, rather than individuals, with countries being elected on a rotating basis. The Committee has ten members – with eight members representing the four APPF sub-regions (two representatives per sub-region), and two members representing the host countries for the current and the next annual meetings.¹¹
- 1.18 The four sub-regions of the APPF comprise:
- **Northeast Asia** (five countries): People’s Republic of China, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mongolia, Russian Federation;

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

- **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, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands; and
- **The Americas** (eight countries): Canada, Republic of Chile, Republic of Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, United Mexican States, Republic of Peru, United States of America.

The term of office of the Executive Committee is from May of the year of an annual meeting until April four years later. Half the members of the committee are re-elected every two years to provide continuity. The member from the next host country joins the Executive Committee in the May before the annual meeting and retires in the April following the annual meeting.¹²

- 1.19 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 membership on the Executive Committee from Oceania, as notified to the APPF Executive at the meeting in Singapore in 2010, are as follows:

2012	Marshall Islands	Micronesia
2013	Micronesia	New Zealand
2014	New Zealand	Papua New Guinea
2015	Papua New Guinea or Australia	Fiji (if a parliament is in place)

- 1.20 The Oceania representatives have also agreed that should a representative not be able to attend an Annual Meeting, then the Oceania member countries that were present would agree which of them should attend the Executive Committee meeting (s) in place of the absent representative, and inform the secretariat for that meeting as soon as possible.¹⁴

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 *Ibid*, p. 41.

- 1.21 At APPF20, the Marshall Islands delegation was not present. With the agreement of the Oceania member countries that were present, Australia, together with Micronesia, represented Oceania at the Executive Committee meeting.¹⁵

Organisation of the annual meeting

Annual meetings and secretariat

- 1.22 APPF annual meetings take place in January each year – usually for five days – and are hosted by a national parliament, occasionally with help from an independent agency. The host, date and venue of each annual meeting are determined at the preceding meeting (rule 19 of the New APPF Rules of Procedure). The New APPF Rules of Procedure (rules 21 and 22) provide for the host for the annual meeting to make 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 rules 23 – 38. The new timetable for preparations is referred to in Figure 1 and in the following paragraphs.

Proposed agenda

- 1.23 In the September prior to the January annual meeting, a proposed agenda is determined by the Executive Committee. Until 1999 these September meetings of the Executive Committee 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 communication between the next host country, the Honorary Chairman'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 APPF20, a draft agenda was provided in October 2011.
- 1.24 Under the New APPF Rules of Procedure, the host country will determine the provisional agenda in principle no later than four months prior to the opening date of the Annual Meeting. For APPF21, this will be by 8 September 2012.

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.

Invitations

- 1.25 Following the meeting of the Executive Committee, official invitations to attend the next annual meeting are sent to member countries, usually, and as was the case for APPF20, by the end of October.

Draft resolutions

- 1.26 Member countries are asked to forward all theme papers and draft resolutions by a date that is nominated each year in November or December. For APPF20, draft resolutions were requested by 30 November 2011. Under the New APPF Rules of Procedure, draft resolutions are required two months in advance of the annual meeting. For APPF21, this will be by 8 November 2012.
- 1.27 The draft resolutions are posted on the APPF website where they may be viewed by all members (and members of the public). In practice, few countries forward draft resolutions according to the official timetable.¹⁶ Most countries do not prepare draft resolutions and choose to propose amendments to the draft resolutions of those countries that do prepare them according to the timetable. Australia customarily provides four or five draft resolutions ahead of the annual meetings. For APPF20, six resolutions were proposed.
- 1.28 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), are asked by the Chair of the annual meeting to cooperate in order to produce a single draft resolution on the item. Depending on the way the agenda is interpreted by the Chair, drafts on different sub-topics of an agenda item may have to be combined. Combining 'competing' drafts often forms much of the work of the Drafting Committee and informal groups of delegates that support that committee.
- 1.29 The method of converting similar (sometimes contrasting) draft resolutions into an agreed final draft for consideration by the full meeting ('the plenary'), varies. At some annual meetings all drafts are finalised by a formal drafting committee. On some occasions, almost all of the debate and redrafting of resolutions has been undertaken by informal sub-groups of the Drafting Committee, and the full Drafting Committee's scrutiny has then been less detailed. At APPF20,

16 An outline of the timing of the preparations for meetings and meeting proceedings is included at the end of this chapter.

working groups were convened to produce draft single resolutions for consideration by the Drafting Committee. The schedule of working group meetings is detailed in the program for APPF20, at Appendix A.

Drafting Committee

1.30 Under the New APPF Rules of Procedure, the 'terms of reference' for the drafting committee is as follows:

A Drafting Committee will be established at the Annual Meeting on the advice of the Executive Committee to prepare draft resolutions and a draft joint communiqué for consideration, adoption, and release at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting.

The Chair of the Drafting Committee shall be designated based on approval from the Executive Committee. ...

A participating delegate from each member parliament submitting a draft resolution shall participate in the Drafting Committee examination of that resolution.

The Drafting Committee, when in session, shall determine its own priorities. At the conclusion of its deliberations the Drafting Committee will report to the plenary session of the Annual Meeting.

Reports of the Drafting Committee on its work may be made orally or in writing at the Annual Meeting.¹⁷

1.31 Participation in the work of the Drafting Committee varies from delegation to delegation. 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 at the one time, it may not be possible to have a member participate in all negotiation 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.

1.32 At APPF20, delegations varied in size from one to 22 delegates plus staff and there were varied levels of representation at the different kinds of meetings. It was typically the case at APPF20 that meetings of the plenary, of working groups and of the Drafting Committee

17 New APPF Rules of Procedure, rules 46 - 50.

were all held simultaneously. As a result, throughout much of the Forum, the Australian delegation was represented at the various meetings by individual delegates or by two delegates. On one occasion, for example, there were four separate meetings occurring at the same time, at which the Delegation was represented.

- 1.33 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. The Chair of the meeting determines when consensus has been reached. The secretariat then arranges for the printing of the resolution and it is circulated to all delegates. In practice, because there has often been extensive debate on draft resolutions beforehand in the Drafting Committee, there is little likelihood of the final draft being debated and amended during debate in the plenary.
- 1.34 At the Twentieth Annual Meeting, the Drafting Committee's meetings finalised draft resolutions that had often been extensively discussed and amended and combined, by the working groups of delegates. The plenary adopted the proposals of the Drafting Committee without further debate. Thirteen resolutions were adopted at the final session.¹⁸

Joint Communiqué

- 1.35 At the conclusion of each annual meeting the leaders of all participating nations sign a Joint Communiqué which includes, amongst other things, a list of all resolutions passed by the meeting.

Future role of the APPF

- 1.36 At APPF17 there was agreement that the Japanese Diet would host the Twentieth Annual Meeting in 2012 to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of APPF. As anticipated at the Executive Committee meeting at APPF18, following some spirited debate about the rules of procedure, the Honorary Chairman of the APPF, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, later wrote to members to invite comments and suggestions on a review of the structure and procedures of the APPF, with a view to enhancing its effectiveness. The expressed intention

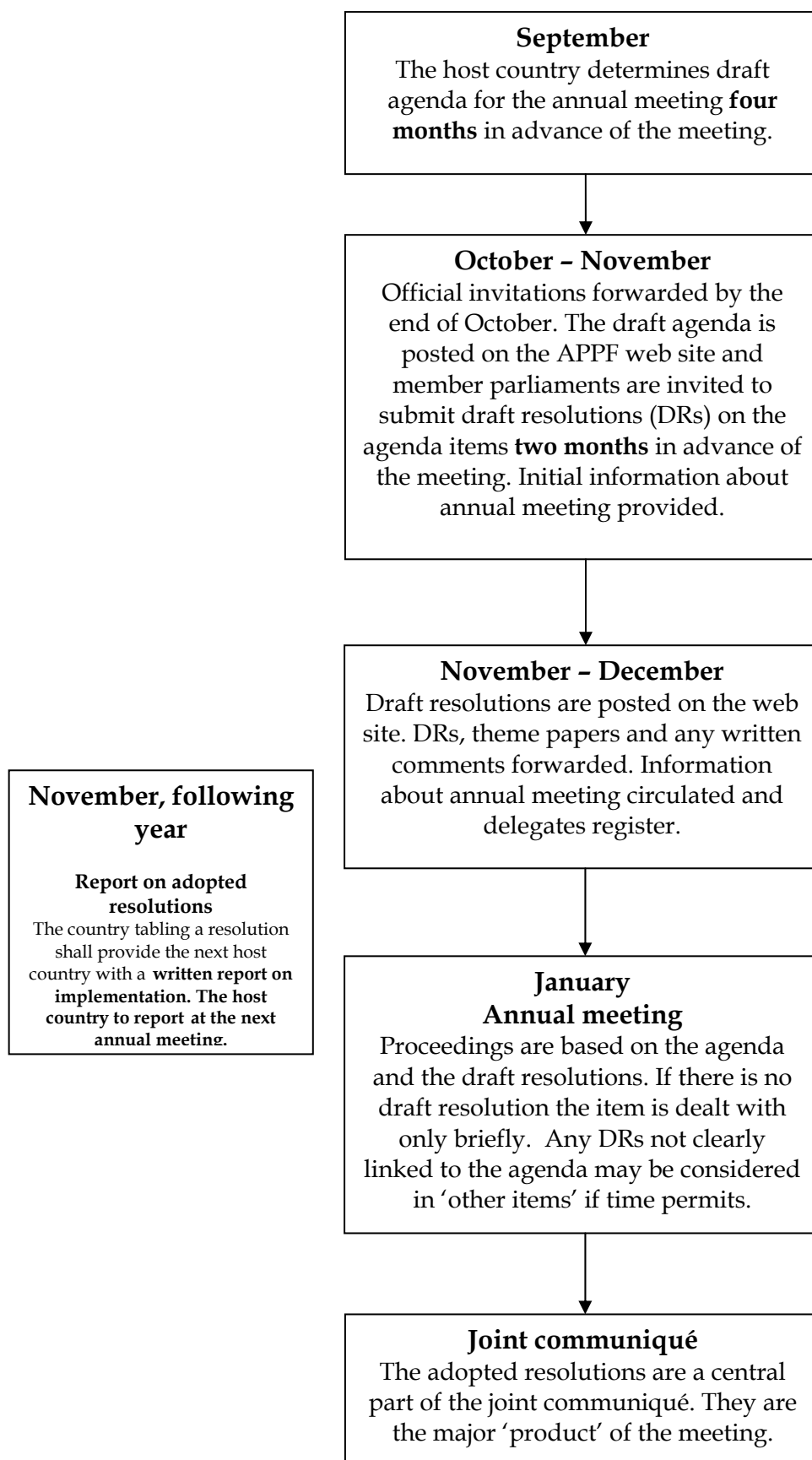
18 <http://www.appf20.com/adopted/index.html/> viewed 14 February 2012. After May 2012, it is likely that the APPF20 website will no longer be supported, as is the custom when the annual meeting secretariat hands over to the secretariat for the next meeting, and the text of final resolutions and other key meeting documents will be available at <http://www.appf.org.pe/> (annual meetings page).

was for staff at the Japanese Diet to consolidate suggestions and comment in preparation for discussion and decision at APPF19, and implementation at the annual meeting in Tokyo in 2012.

- 1.37 In response to the invitation to submit comments and suggestions, the then Speaker, Mr Harry Jenkins MP, wrote to Mr Nakasone in May 2010 with a range of suggestions, including the need for a new declaration, revision of the rules of procedure to ensure their clarity and comprehensiveness, accessibility of meetings to all member countries, and the revival of the Technological Working Group, with a renewed mandate. At APPF19, the Japanese delegation reported on the various proposals it had received from a number of delegations, including Australia.
- 1.38 The outcome of APPF19 was that the Japanese Diet would seek further input on the various proposals from each member country before APPF20, and that changes would be implemented then.
- 1.39 After APPF19, Mr Nakasone invited comments on the proposals. Mr Jenkins, as Speaker, discussed the proposals with Mr Nakasone and replied to his letter in May 2011. Mr Nakasone subsequently sent all member countries a list of 'main opinions' in July 2011, foreshadowing a draft revision of APPF rules of procedure around September.¹⁹
- 1.40 In the event, draft new rules of procedure were provided to member countries on 16 December. They were subsequently debated at APPF20 in the Drafting Committee and revised before being adopted at the final plenary as the New APPF Rules of Procedure. This is further discussed in Chapter 2.

¹⁹ Mr Nakasone replied to the Speaker's May letter in September 2011; Mr Jenkins as Speaker replied in November 2011, and Mr Nakasone replied in December 2011.

Figure 1 Outline of meeting preparations and proceedings



Work of the Twentieth Annual Meeting

Overview

- 2.1 This chapter begins with a brief description of the beginning of the Twentieth Annual Meeting of the APPF. It then addresses the work of the annual meeting from the delegation's perspective.
- 2.2 The meeting began in Tokyo on 8 January 2012, when delegates registered for the meeting.
- 2.3 The first formal activity was the Executive Committee meeting on 8 January 2012. Participants at the meeting included representatives of six executive Committee member countries: Australia (substituting for the Marshall Islands), Canada, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Micronesia. The host country, Japan and the host country at the next APPF Annual Meeting, Russia, were also represented. The meeting was chaired by Mr Taro Aso, Leader of the Japanese delegation.
- 2.4 The meeting adopted the draft program of activities and agenda, and resolved that the Plenary would have as Vice-Chairpersons, Mr Seishiro Eto, Vice-Speaker of the House of Representatives of Japan, Mr Hidehisa Otsuji, Vice-President of the House of Councillors and other Japanese delegation members from both houses. The Drafting Committee would be chaired by Mr Takeaki Matsumoto, a Member of the House of Representatives. Mr Kusuo Oshima, Member of the House of Councillors, would be Vice Chairperson of the Drafting Committee. The meeting agreed on the usual time limits for speakers at plenary sessions (seven minutes) and for interventions (five minutes). The Committee confirmed the recommendation of Russia as host of the 21st annual meeting in 2013.

Opening ceremony

- 2.5 The opening ceremony was held on the morning of 9 January 2012. It was in three parts: an opening performance; opening addresses and a slide show of 20 years of history of the APPF from 1991 – 2011. The opening performance combined tradition and modernity. It featured Japanese musician and composer, Hideki Togi, playing a traditional Japanese wind instrument, and a ‘presentation’ by humanoid robot ‘Asimo’. The slide show provided an overview of the history of the Forum over its 20 years. It was a most fitting item for the opening ceremony of the 20th anniversary meeting.
- 2.6 The opening addresses began with an address by co-President of the APPF20 and Speaker of the House of Representatives of Japan, HE Mr Takahiro Yokomochi. In welcoming delegates and opening the meeting, Mr Yokomochi expressed deep gratitude for the support extended to Japan following the Great East Japan Earthquake. He said that it was a pleasure and an honour to host the APPF meeting in Japan again. Over the 20 years of the APPF, the Asia-Pacific region had grown in political and economic influence, and this was increasing the importance of the APPF. Mr Yokomochi foreshadowed the importance of debate at the meeting of proposals for amendments to the APPF Rules of Procedure and the draft of a new Tokyo declaration, ‘documents that would be critical in shaping the direction of the APPF’s work in the years ahead’. He expressed a ‘heartfelt wish’ that the meeting would be significant and fruitful.
- 2.7 The other co-President of the APPF20, and President of the House of Councillors of Japan, HE Mr Hirata Kenji welcomed delegates on behalf of the House of Councillors. He noted that the Asia Pacific region had experienced many difficulties but had continued to grow. He emphasised the importance of discussion among parliamentarians in addressing the challenges facing the region. The APPF was an asset for the region, and he looked forward to the APPF reform measures as a means of further enhancing its role.
- 2.8 The APPF Honorary President, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone reflected on the context for the establishment of the APPF, current global complexities and security, economic and environmental challenges, and the significance of the APPF at this time. He recalled his vision for the APPF and stated:

I believe that it is incumbent upon us all to be constantly aware that we live on the same planet as everyone else and work with other countries and regions to serve humbly in the cause of world peace and stability. Moreover, I am convinced that the APPF will become a cornerstone in the future construction of a multilateral 'political dome' in this region.

- 2.9 The meeting was also addressed by Mr Nyamaa Enkhbold Vice-Chairman of the State Great Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia, host of APPF19. A message of congratulations was read out for the Prime Minister of Japan, HE Mr Yoshihiko Noda.

Subject matter of the annual meeting

- 2.10 The first plenary session – on the morning of 9 January – began with the introduction of delegates by delegation leaders.
- 2.11 The meeting adopted the agenda that was proposed by the Executive Committee as well as its other decisions. The agenda comprised three substantive subject areas (on the customary range of issues – regional cooperation, politics and security, and economic matters – considered by APPF meetings), as well as future work of the APPF. These four items were addressed in three plenary sessions. On this occasion, the item on the 'Future Work of the APPF' included a report by Japan on APPF reform and the New Tokyo Declaration. The meeting concluded with the adoption of: the joint communiqué, the New APPF Rules of Procedure, and the New Tokyo Declaration.
- 2.12 The Agenda's substantive subject areas comprised:
- 1. Regional Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific Region**
 - 1.1 Great East Japan Earthquake and Japan's efforts toward reconstruction: Report by Japan
 - 1.2 Cooperation in disaster prevention
 - 1.3 Cooperation in nuclear safety
 - 1.4 Climate Change
 - 1.5 Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals
 - 1.6 Promoting cultural, educational and personal exchanges
 - 2. Regional and International Situation: Politics and Security**
 - 2.1 Strengthening peace and security in the region
 - 2.2 Situation in the Korean Peninsula

2.3 Combating terrorism, illegal drug trafficking and organized crime

2.4 Situation in the Middle East and North Africa

3. Regional and International Situation: Economy

3.1 Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) 2011: Report by the U.S.A.

3.2 Global economic situation

- Imbalance in the world economy and sustainable economic growth
- Energy and food security

3.3 Promoting economic partnership and free trade

4. Future work of APPF

4.1 APPF reform and the New Tokyo Declaration: Report by Japan

4.2 Date and venue of the 21st APPF annual meeting

4.3 Others

Working through the agenda

2.13 Annual meetings of the APPF progress through the agenda as delegates make speeches on agenda items. There are also occasional interventions when formal debate on an item is complete and the floor is open to speakers who have not registered; they may speak for up to five minutes. Those countries that have proposed a draft resolution on a particular agenda item usually speak to it. Debate is open to speakers other than representatives from those countries that have proposed resolutions. Completion of debate in the plenary on an agenda item is usually followed by negotiation and debate on relevant draft resolution(s) in meetings of the Drafting Committee, and any working groups or sub-committees that it may establish.

2.14 For most of the agenda items at APPF20, more than one draft resolution had been proposed. Working groups were convened to negotiate to settle a single 'draft resolution' on a topic to bring before the Drafting Committee and then the plenary, for adoption. The working groups usually comprised representatives from delegations that had proposed the resolution(s) under consideration and representatives of any other delegations with an interest in participating in negotiations and drafting.

- 2.15 At APPF20 the work of the Drafting Committee was begun by a formal meeting of the full committee on 10 January. Subsequently it continued to meet all day on 11 January. The 13 'final' resolutions that were settled by the Drafting Committee were put to the plenary at the last session of the meeting on 12 January, and adopted by consensus, in accordance with APPF practice.¹ The Forum adopted a final resolution on each of the six topics for which Australia had proposed a draft resolution.

Australia's preparations for participation, debate and negotiation

- 2.16 With assistance from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), the Parliamentary Library and the delegation's secretariat, detailed briefing material on all agenda items was provided to the delegation in December 2011. The briefing material was accompanied by background material on Japan and all participating countries, which was provided by DFAT.
- 2.17 The delegation met in Canberra on 23 November 2011, the second last sitting day for the year. It was fortunate that the meeting was able to occur as delegation members had only just been nominated, the annual parliamentary delegation program being approved on a calendar year basis. At the meeting, the delegation received a briefing from DFAT and decided on the agenda items that delegates would address. The delegation agreed to provide draft resolutions for each agenda item spoken to in the plenary. The meeting was very helpful in the delegation's preparations for the meeting, particularly given the need to submit draft resolutions and register speakers in advance of the meeting.
- 2.18 On arrival in Tokyo on 8 January, the delegation was greeted by Mr Peter Roberts, Counsellor – Political at the Embassy in Tokyo. Mr Roberts was the liaison officer for the delegation with the embassy and his support, professionalism and advice were greatly appreciated. The delegation also records thanks to Ms Heather Chai, First Secretary, for her highly professional support.

1 <http://www.appf20.com/adopted/index.html> (viewed 14 February 2012). After May 2012, it is likely that the APPF20 website will no longer be supported (as is the custom when the annual meeting secretariat hands over to the secretariat for the next meeting) and the text of final resolutions and other key meeting documents will be available at: <http://www.appf.org.pe/> (Annual meetings page). A list of the resolutions and sponsoring countries is also at Appendix C of this report.

- 2.19 The Australian Ambassador to Japan, HE Mr Bruce Miller, hosted a breakfast briefing for the delegation on Monday 9 January, and a dinner in honour of the delegation on Tuesday 10 January. Guests at the dinner included Japanese parliamentarians and Australian business leaders in Japan. The delegation wishes to thank the Australian Ambassador for the quality of the briefing and also for the hospitality that was extended to it. The delegation considers Australia very well served by its Embassy in Tokyo.²
- 2.20 More broadly, the delegation wishes to express its sincere gratitude for the high level of support it continues to receive from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Canberra. The Parliamentary Library also provided valuable assistance. The delegation's secretariat provided background information on APPF procedures as well as additional background and drafting on some agenda items.
- 2.21 The quality of work that goes into preparatory briefings and materials makes a significant contribution to the delegation's capacity to represent the Parliament effectively and to participate fully at annual meetings of the APPF.

Draft resolutions proposed

- 2.22 Thirty-five draft resolutions were proposed by nine countries including six by Australia. (This number compares to 37 proposed at APPF19, 29 proposed at APPF18 and 33 at APPF17.) Most proposed resolutions were received in sufficient time to be published on the APPF20 website, allowing other delegations an opportunity to consider them before the meeting. All draft resolutions received were adopted for consultation in the Annual Meeting. These comprised:

- **Australia**
 - ⇒ Promoting Cultural, Education and Personal Exchanges in the Asia-Pacific Region
 - ⇒ Strengthening Peace and Security in the Region
 - ⇒ Global Economic Situation
 - ⇒ Food Security
 - ⇒ Energy Security
-

² The delegation notes that the Australian Embassy, Tokyo and the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami Emergency Response Team received a Silver Achievement Medallion for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in the Australia Day awards in January 2012, and extends its congratulations to the team.

⇒ Cooperation in Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Preparedness

■ **Chile**

- ⇒ The Global Economic Situation: Imbalances in the Work Economy and Sustainable Economic Growth
- ⇒ High Seas Fishing
- ⇒ Cooperation in the Prevention of Disasters
- ⇒ Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific Region on Climate Change

■ **Indonesia**

- ⇒ Reiterating Parliamentary Commitment to the Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals
- ⇒ Global Economic and Financial Situation
- ⇒ The Middle East Peace Process

■ **Japan**

- ⇒ Disaster Prevention and Nuclear Safety
- ⇒ Environment and Climate Change
- ⇒ The Situation of the Korean Peninsula
- ⇒ The Middle East Process
- ⇒ Economy and Trade
- ⇒ Promoting Cultural, Educational and Personal Exchanges

■ **Republic of Korea**

- ⇒ Promoting Free Trade through international Economic Cooperation
- ⇒ Denuclearization of the DPRK and Peace and Security on the Korean Peninsula
- ⇒ Environment and Climate Change

■ **Mexico**

- ⇒ Drug Trafficking and Organized Crime
- ⇒ Energy Security
- ⇒ Food Safety
- ⇒ Imbalance of the World Economy and Sustainable Economic Growth
- ⇒ Climate change
- ⇒ Bogor Goals

■ **New Zealand**

- ⇒ Disaster Prevention
- ⇒ Promoting Economic Partnership and Free Trade

■ **Russia**

- ⇒ Strengthening Peace and Security in Asia Pacific Region
- ⇒ Global Economic Situation and Cooperation in Asia Pacific Region
- ⇒ Combating Terrorism, Illicit Drug Trafficking and Organized Crime
- ⇒ Cooperation in Nuclear Safety

- **United States of America**

- ⇒ Appreciation of APPF Honorary President Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone for his contribution to the APPF

Australia's contribution to debate and settling resolutions

- 2.23 This section of the report outlines the work of the delegation as it spoke to and negotiated on selected agenda items and resolutions that had been proposed. The Australian delegation submitted six draft resolutions. A resolution was put forward for each of three agenda items spoken on, and three resolutions were submitted for the fourth agenda item spoken on, on the global economic situation, as it had two sub-topics (energy security and food security). Each delegation member spoke to an agenda item in the plenary and participated in the associated working group (s). Mr Forrest and Senator Bilyk were the delegation's principal representatives on the Drafting Committee. The detailed program for the Australian delegation, including official APPF engagements, is set out in Appendix A.
- 2.24 The delegation leader, Ms Janelle Saffin MP spoke to agenda item 2.1: strengthening peace and security in the region. Ms Saffin addressed peace and security primarily in the context of freedom from war and hostilities and danger and risk, and highlighted challenges facing the region and the regional architecture and cooperative arrangements to address them. She referred in particular to some of Australia's work in the ASEAN Regional Forum and to the recently established ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus. In commending Australia's proposed draft resolution on this topic to the meeting, Ms Saffin indicated her strong personal interest in developments in Myanmar, and drew the Forum's attention to the relevant clauses in particular. Ms Saffin represented the delegation in two working groups – Strengthening Peace and Security in the Region and the New Tokyo Declaration.
- 2.25 Agenda item 1.2 on cooperation in disaster prevention, was addressed by the delegation Deputy Leader, Mr John Forrest MP. Mr Forrest spoke on the topic 'Disaster risk reduction and disaster preparedness'. Mr Forrest referred to the number and scale of natural disasters – including the Christchurch and Great East Japan earthquakes in 2011 and flooding in Pakistan, Thailand, the Philippines and the Mekong region in recent months – and their increasing impact in recent years, and referred to work being done by Australia to reduce or mitigate the impact of natural disasters. On a personal note, Mr Forrest said that he was to speak to this topic in Ulaanbaatar the previous year, but was unable to attend the

APPF19 meeting because of flooding in his constituency. In commending Australia's draft resolution on this topic to the meeting, Mr Forrest stated that while it might not be possible to prevent disasters from occurring, we can reduce or mitigate their impact.

- 2.26 Mr Forrest represented the delegation at the working group on disaster management and nuclear safety. The working group chose not to combine draft resolutions on the two topics of cooperation in disaster prevention and cooperation in nuclear safety, and a separate resolution on each of these topics was adopted by the Forum. As mentioned, he and Senator Bilyk, represented the delegation at meetings of the Drafting Committee.
- 2.27 Senator Back's speech to the plenary on food security in the Asia-Pacific (item 3.2) referred to the significant challenges and opportunities confronting the region to achieve the reliable supply of safe high quality foodstuffs and potable water into the future. Senator Back said that to achieve the Millennium development goal of reducing hunger by half, there will need to be a doubling of food production by 2050. Australia has a critical role to play. Senator Back represented the delegation on three working groups for which Australia had proposed draft resolutions: on energy security, food security and economy and trade.
- 2.28 Senator Bilyk addressed the plenary on promoting cultural, educational and personal exchanges (item 1.6), providing an overview of Australia's work in the Asia-Pacific region in promoting cultural and educational exchanges. Senator Bilyk began her presentation noting that the topic was of particular significance to her because her son was now living and working in Japan under an exchange program funded by the Japanese Government. She also began by saying that the APPF meeting, and more generally the APPF and other parliamentary forums, provided the opportunity for valuable exchanges among national parliamentarians, which can help to foster regional and international dialogue and cooperation. Senator Bilyk participated in the working group on cultural, educational and personal exchanges, and, with Mr Forrest, represented the delegation at meetings of the Drafting Committee. Her participation in meetings of the Drafting Committee included discussions on behalf of the Australian delegation with Indonesian delegates in relation to the proposed resolution on the Middle East Peace Process.

Rules of Procedure

- 2.29 The draft new APPF Rules of Procedure that were sent to participants in December 2011 were debated in the Drafting Committee on 11 January. The proposed amendments to the rules related to the following:
- the APPF to be a forum of parliaments of the Asia-Pacific region (rather than a forum of parliamentarians), and membership to be open to all parliaments in the Asia-Pacific region (rather than parliamentarians)
 - the APPF objectives and principles, as set out in the 1993 Tokyo Declaration, to be inserted in the rules
 - a provision requiring the APPF to maintain close relations with regional institutions, and to endeavour to have APPF views reflected in these institutions
 - the role of the Honorary President
 - the process for identifying a country to host an annual meeting
 - time limits for the setting of the draft agenda for the annual meeting and for submission of draft resolutions; draft resolutions to be associated with agenda items; and draft resolutions to be discussed at the plenary before being considered by the Drafting Committee
 - 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 meeting³
 - a provision requiring a report to the next annual meeting on the implementation of resolutions from the previous annual meeting; and
 - provisions relating to Executive Committee membership, the Drafting Committee, and Working Groups.
- 2.30 In the Drafting Committee a number of amendments to the draft rules were negotiated. These included amending 'parliaments' to read 'national parliaments of sovereign states' and amendments proposed by Australia, including requiring draft resolutions to be 'relevant to' rather than 'associated with' agenda items, and editorial amendments to ensure the meaning was clear.

3 At APPF20, the Drafting Committee was unable to reach agreement on a resolution on the Korean peninsula. This attracted the wry comment from one delegate that it was ironic that the Forum was able to resolve on the Middle East, but not on an issue central to the Asia Pacific region.

Final plenary session

- 2.31 On 12 January 2012, at the final plenary session, the meeting considered and adopted the resolutions and Joint Communiqué prepared by the Drafting Committee after the working groups had undertaken the initial negotiations. The meeting also adopted the new Tokyo Declaration and the new Rules of Procedure proposed 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 Vladivostok in 2013. A copy of the Joint Communiqué is contained in Appendix D of this report.⁴
- 2.32 The 13 resolutions that were adopted at APPF20 covered the topics of: reiterating parliamentary commitment to the achievement of the Millennium development goals; high sea fishing; promoting cultural, education and personal exchanges in the Asia Pacific region; environment and climate change; strengthening peace and security in the region; combating terrorism, illicit drug trafficking and organized crime; cooperation in disaster prevention; nuclear safety; the Middle East Peace process; food security; economy and trade; energy security; appreciation of APPF Honorary President Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone for his contribution to the APPF. Australia was co-sponsor of six of these resolutions.
- 2.33 The closing address was made by the leader of the Russian Delegation who looked forward to welcoming delegates to Vladivostok in 2013. The meeting dates for APPF21 were agreed as 8-12 January.
- 2.34 On the evening prior to the final meeting on 12 January delegates were invited to a dinner hosted by the President of the House of Councillors, HE Mr Hirata Kenji. The dinner featured performers from areas of Japan affected by the Great East Japan earthquake. In his opening address to the Forum, the President had indicated that Japan had received lots of sympathy and support from all nations in the region following the earthquake. The featuring of local performers was to show delegates Japan's appreciation for the support it had received. Delegates at the dinner were impressed by the quality of the performance and the talent and resilience of the people that was on display.

⁴ <http://www.appf20.com/joint/index.html/> viewed 14 February 2012. After May 2012, it is likely that the APPF20 website will no longer be supported (as is the custom when the annual meeting secretariat hands over to the secretariat for the next meeting) and the text of final resolutions and other key meeting documents will be available at: <http://www.appf.org.pe/> (Annual meetings page).

Bilateral meetings

- 2.35 All delegation members took the 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.

Additional meetings and activities

- 2.36 Along with other delegation leaders, Ms Saffin made a courtesy call on the Prime Minister of Japan HE Mr Yoshihiko Noda. Also with other delegation leaders, Ms Saffin attended a lunch hosted by Mr Osamu Fujimura, Chief Cabinet Secretary of Japan

Outcomes

- 2.37 The Twentieth Annual Meeting comprised a full program of meetings and formal social activities. The Australian delegation contributed 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.
- 2.38 The delegation is satisfied that its representation of the Parliament at the meeting activities, both formal and informal, demonstrated the Australian Parliament's continuing commitment to the Forum. The delegation is also satisfied that it made the most of its time in Japan to gain some understanding of the Japanese economy and political system and the importance and strength of the bilateral relationship between our two countries.
- 2.39 The delegation notes that there are lead times for participation in the APPF annual meetings. Draft resolutions need to be provided two months in advance of the annual meeting, that is, by early to mid November, and delegates wishing to make statements in the plenary need to be registered also in advance. For APPF20, copies of speeches were requested in advance to facilitate translation and interpretation at the meeting. Accordingly, the delegation suggests that Australian delegation members be identified by October each year.

- 2.40 The delegation also suggests that it would also be helpful if members of the previous APPF delegation were able to attend an initial briefing meeting with members of the incoming Australian delegation to provide continuity. Australian Delegations to the APPF annual meetings have in previous years been led at Presiding Officer level, which has provided continuity.

Janelle Saffin MP
Delegation Leader

Figure 2



Australian Delegation in a plenary session
Ms Janelle Saffin MP (Delegation Leader) and Mr John Forrest MP (at desk)
Senator Chris Back and Senator Catryna Bilyk (at rear)

Figure 3



Delegation members Senator Bilyk and Mr Forrest MP in a meeting of the Drafting Committee.

Figure 4

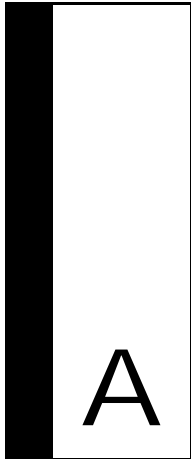


Senator Chris Back presenting in a plenary session with Ms Janelle Saffin MP
(Delegation Leader)

Figure 5



The Australian delegation signs the Joint Communiqué
Senator Chris Back, Senator Catryna Bilyk, Mr John Forrest MP, Mr Tara Aso,
Leader, Japanese Delegation and Ms Janelle Saffin MP (Delegation Leader)



Appendix A

Agenda (final) for the Twentieth Annual Meeting of the APPF

- **1. Regional Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific Region**
 - 1.1 Great East Japan Earthquake and Japan's efforts toward reconstruction: Report by Japan
 - 1.2 Cooperation in disaster prevention
 - 1.3 Cooperation in nuclear safety
 - 1.4 Climate Change
 - 1.5 Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals
 - 1.6 Promoting cultural, educational and personal exchanges

- **2. Regional and International Situation: Politics and Security**
 - 2.1 Strengthening peace and security in the region
 - 2.2 Situation in the Korean Peninsula
 - 2.3 Combating terrorism, illegal drug trafficking and organized crime
 - 2.4 Situation in the Middle East and North Africa

- **3. Regional and International Situation: Economy**
 - 3.1 Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) 2011: Report by the U.S.A.
 - 3.2 Global economic situation

- Imbalance in the world economy and sustainable economic growth
 - Energy and food security
- 3.3 Promoting economic partnership and free trade

■ **4. Future work of APPF**

- 4.1 APPF reform and the New Tokyo Declaration: Report by Japan
- 4.2 Date and venue of the 21st APPF Annual Meeting

Program for the Australian delegation to the Twentieth Annual Meeting—including official APPF engagements

SUNDAY 8 JANUARY 2012

1400 Briefing for Delegation Secretariat

Venue: G510

1600 Executive committee meeting

Venue: Hall D5, TIF

1830 Reception hosted by the APPF Honorary President, HE Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, and the delegation of the National Diet of Japan. Venue: Imperial Hotel, Tokyo

MONDAY, 9 JANUARY 2012

0730 Breakfast Briefing / Delegation Coordination Meeting hosted by Australian Ambassador, HE Mr Bruce Miller

0930 Group Photo (heads of delegation only)

1000 Opening Ceremony

Opening announcement by Co-President of the 20th APPF and Speaker of the House of Representatives of Japan HE Mr Takahiro Yokomichi

Greeting by Co-President of the 20th APPF and President of the House of Councillors of Japan HE Mr Hirata Kenji

Greeting by HE Mr Nyama Enkhbold, Vice-Chairman, The State Great Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia

Congratulatory Address by APPF Honorary President HE Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone

Greeting by Prime Minister of Japan HE Mr Yoshihiko Noda (delivered by Special Advisor to the Prime Minister Mr Akihisa Nagashima)

1120 First Plenary session

Item 1: Regional Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific Region

Venue: Hall D5, TIF

1300 Lunch. Venue: Hall D5, TIF

1400 First Plenary session (Continued)

Item 1: Regional Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific Region

Venue: Hall D5, TIF

1400 Working Group on New Tokyo Declaration

Venue: G510

1800 Dinner hosted the Speaker of the House of Representatives,
HE Mr Takahiro Yokomichi

Venue: Hotel New Otani Tokyo

TUESDAY, 10 JANUARY 2011

0900 Second Plenary session

Item 1: Regional Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific Region

Item 2: Regional and International Situation: Politics and Security

Venue: Hall B5, TIF

0900 Working Group on Environment and Climate Change

Venue: G504

0900 Working Group on Disaster Management and Nuclear Safety

Venue: G505

0900 Working Group on High Seas Fishing

Venue: G503

1100 Working Group on Cultural, Educational and Personal Exchanges

Venue: G503

1200 Lunch Venue: Hall D5, TIF

1230 Lunch hosted by Mr Osamu Fujimura, Chief of Cabinet Secretary of Japan
(heads of delegations only)

Venue: Iikura Kokan

1400 Second Plenary session (continued)

Item 2: Regional and International Situation: Politics and Security

Item 3: Regional and International Situation: Economy

Venue: Hall B5, TIF

1400 Drafting Committee meeting

Venue: G510, TIF

1400 Working Group on the Situation of the Korean Peninsula

Venue: G504

1400 Working Group on Strengthening Peace and Security in Asia Pacific Region

Venue: G505

1530 Working Group on Terrorism, Drug Trafficking and Organized Crime

Venue: G505

1900 Dinner hosted by Ambassador Miller in honour of Australia's Delegation to the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum

WEDNESDAY, 11 JANUARY 2012

0900 Third Plenary session

Item 3: Regional and International Situation: Economy

Venue: Hall B5, TIF

0900 Drafting Committee meeting

Venue: G510, TIF

1100 Working Group on New Tokyo Declaration

Venue: G504

1100 Working Group on Energy Security

Venue: G503

1100 Working Group on Food Security

Venue: G505

1230 Lunch: Venue Hall D5, TIF

1330 Working Group on Energy Security

Venue: G503

1400 Drafting Committee meeting

Venue: G510, TIF

1400 Working Group on Economy and Trade

Venue: G504

1415 Meeting with HE Mr Yoshihiko Noda, Prime Minister of Japan (heads of delegations only)

Venue: Prime Minister's Official Residence

1530 Third Plenary session (continued)

Item 4: Future Work of the APPF

Venue: Hall B5, TIF

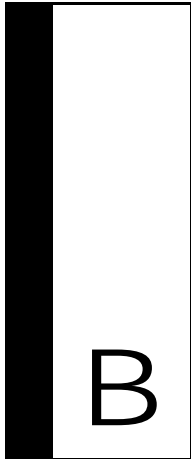
- 1630 Dinner** hosted by the President of the House of Councillors
HE Mr Hirata Kenji
Venue: The Ritz-Carlton, Tokyo

THURSDAY, 12 JANUARY 2012

- 0900 Fourth Plenary session**
Signing of Joint Communiqué
Closing Ceremony
Greeting by Ms Valentina Matvienko, Chairperson of the Council of Federation, Russia, the host country of the 21st APPF
Closing remarks by Co-President of the 20th APPF and President of the House of Councillors of Japan, HE Mr Hirata Kenji
Venue: Hall B5, TIF
- 1100 Press Conference**
Venue: G510, TIF
- 1330 Cultural Tour**

(TIF = Tokyo International Forum)

Departure of Delegates



Appendix B

Delegates to the Twentieth Annual Meeting¹⁸

AUSTRALIA

Ms Janelle Saffin MP Delegation Leader

Mr John Forrest MP

Senator Catryna Bilyk

Senator Christopher Back

Ms Robyn McClelland Delegation secretary

CAMBODIA

Mr Samdech Akka Moha
Ponhea Chakrei Samrin Head of Delegation, President of the National
Assembly

Heng

Dr Yeap Cheam MP

Mr Vun Chheang MP

Mrs Saphon Nin MP

Mr Chantara Nim MP

Mr Kim Yeat Chhit Senator

(+ 10 staff members and media)

¹⁸ A full list of participants and observers at APPF annual meetings can usually be obtained at <http://www.appf.org.pe/> at the Annual Meetings page

CANADA

Hon Mr Donald Plett	Senator, Head of Delegation
Hon Mr Joseph Day	Senator
Hon Mr Michael Lewis MacDonald	Senator
Mrs Nina Grewal	MP
Mr Dennis Bevington	MP
Mr Pierre Lemieux	MP
Mr Dave Van Kesteren	MP
Mr Mike Wallace	MP
Mr Marc-André Morin	MP
Mrs Wai Young	MP
Mr Roger Prefontaine	Delegation secretary

CHILE

Mr Felipe Salaberry	Head of Delegation, Chamber of Deputies
Mr Germán Becker	MP
Mr Marcelo Diaz	MP
Mr Marco Núñez	MP
Ms Alejandra Sepúlveda	MP
Mr Patricio Vallespin	MP
Ms Jacqueline Peillard	MP
Mr Pedro Muñoz	MP
Mr Alejandro Navarro	MP
Mr Andres Zaldivar	MP
Ms Jacqueline Peillard	Delegation Secretary

CHINA

H.E. Ms Wuyunqimuge	Vice Chairperson of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, Delegation leader
Hon Mr Wenpu Ma	Vice Chairman, Foreign Affairs Committee
Hon Mr Yifu Wang	Vice Chairman, Internal and Judicial Affairs C'ttee
Hon Mr Weizhou Cao	Deputy Secretary General of the SC of NPC
Hon Mr Qingkai Rui	Member, Financial and Economic Affairs C'ttee
Hon Mr Fusheng Zhang (+ 18 staff members)	Member, Foreign Affairs Committee of the NPC

INDONESIA

Hon Pramana Wibawa	Delegation leader, Deputy Speaker
Hon Sidharto Danusubroto	MP
Hon Albert Yaputra	MP
Hon Bokiratu Susanti	MP
Hon Azam Natawijana	MP
Hon Arsyadjuliandi Rachman	MP
Hon Meutya Hafid	MP
Hon Bukhori Yusuf	MP
Hon Okky Padmodimulio	MP
Hon Laode Ida	Deputy Speaker of DPD RI
Hon Emma Yohanna	Chairperson, Committee for International Relation of DPD RI
Hon Adhariani Adhariani	Vice Chairperson of Committee for International Relation of DPD RI
Hon Sultan Najamudin (+19 staff members and media)	Member of DPD RI

JAPAN

Mr Taro Aso	MP, Leader of Delegation
Mr Takeaki Matsumoto	MP
Mr Takuji Yanagimoto	MP
Mr Yoriyhis Matsuno	MP
Mr Kazunori Yamanoi	MP
Mr Koichi Kato	MP
Ms Chinami Nishimura	MP
Mr Takashi Nagayasu	MP
Mr Taizo Mikazuki	MP
Mr Daisuke Matsumoto	MP
Mr Kenta Izumi	MP
Mr Masahiro Imamura	MP
Mr Kenta Matsunami	MP
Mr Yuzuru Takeuchi	MP
Mr Kusuo Oshima	Member of House of Councillors
Mr Yoichi Kaneko	Member of House of Councillors
Mr Makoto Hirayama	Member of House of Councillors
Mr Hirofumi Nakasone	Member of House of Councillors
Mr Nobuo Kishi	Member of House of Councillors
Mr Shuichi Kato	Member of House of Councillors
Mr Kenji Nakanishi	Member of House of Councillors
Mr Ryoichi Hattori	MP

KOREA

H.E. Mr Hee Tae Park	Speaker, Delegation leader
Hon Mr Yong Gu Kim	MP
Hon Ms Young Hee Jung	MP
Mr Jong Heuk Lee	MP
Mr Jin Bok Lee	MP
(+ 20 staff members and media)	

LAO PDR

Dr Xaysomphone Phomvihane	Vice President of the National Assembly of Lao PDR, Leader of Delegation
Dr Koukeo Akhamountry (+ 4 staff members)	Chairman, Foreign Affairs Committee

MALAYSIA

Ms Doris Sophia Brodi	Senator, Leader of Delegation
Mr Abdul Rahim Abdul Rahman	Senator
Mr Mohd Khalid Ahmad	Senator
Ms Noria Mahat	Senator
Ms Mumtaz Md Nawawi	Senator
Ms Zainun A Bakar	Senator
Mr Zamrizam Samsuri	Delegation Secretary

MEXICO

Mr José González Morfin	President of the Senate, Leader of Delegation
Mr Carlos Martín Jiménez Macías	Senator
Mr Javier Castelo Parada	Senator
Mrs Claudia Sofía Corichi García	Senator
Mr Eugenio Guadalupe Govea Argos	Senator
Mr Vidal Llerenas Morales	Chamber of Deputies
Mr Herón Agustín Escobar García	Senator
Ms Nancy González Ulloa	Chamber of Deputies
Ms Susana Hurtado Vallejo (+ 4 staff members)	Chamber of Deputies

MICRONESIA

Mr Berney Martin	Vice-Speaker, Leader of Delegation
Mr Joseph Urusemal	Chairman, Committee on Education
Mr Roger Mori	Chairman, Committee on Resources & Development
Mr Yosiwo George	Vice-Chairman, Committees on R&D and Health and Social Affairs
Mr Tung Lam Dang	Delegation Secretary

MONGOLIA

HE Mr Nyamaa Enkhbold	Vice-Chairman, The State Great Hural, Leader of the Delegation
Mr Dorj Odbayar	MP
Mr Radnaasumberel Gonchigdorj	MP
Mr Dangaasuren Enkhbat (+ 4 staff members)	MP

NEW ZEALAND

Mr Lindsay Tisch	Assistant Speaker, House of Representatives, Delegation leader
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PHILIPPINES

Atty Franklin Drilon	Senator, Leader of Delegation
Atty Edgardo Angara	Senator
Atty Victor Ortega	MP
Mr Rene Lopez Relampagos (+3 staff members)	MP

RUSSIA

Ms Valentina Matvienko	Chairperson of the Council of Federation Leader of Delegation
Mr Iliyas Umakhanov	Vice-Chairman of the Council of Federation
Mr Vyacheslav Fetisov	Member, Council of Federation
Mr Vladimir Dzhubarov	Member, Council of Federation
Mr Vladimir Yakubovskiy	Member, Council of Federation
Mr Vladimir Kikot	Member, Council of Federation
Mr Irshat Fakhritdinov	MP
Mrs Marina Mukabenova (+48 staff and media)	MP

SINGAPORE

Mr Kian Peng Seah	Deputy Speaker, Leader of Delegation
Mr Yam Keng Baey	MP
Mr Hin Kee Ang	MP
Ms Lin Hwee Chua	Delegation Secretary

THAILAND

HE Gen Teeradej Meepien	President of the Senate and Leader of Delegation
Hon Mr Montree Panoion	MP
Hon Mr Chanin Roongsang	MP
Hon Pol Cap Nitipoom Navaratna	MP
Hon Mrs Kusumalavatee Sirikomut	MP
Hon Mr Sorawong Thienthong	MP
Hon Mr Thavorn Leenutaphong	Senator
Hon Mr Charin Hansuebsai	Senator
Hon Mrs Nareewan Chintakanond	Senator
Hon Gen Lertrit Wechsawarn	Senator
Hon Mrs Vichuda Rattanapian	Senator
(+ 10 staff member)	

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Mr James McDermott	House of Representatives, US Congress, Leader of Delegation
Mr Daniel Bob	Delegation Secretary

VIETNAM

Mrs Thi Phong Tong	Vice-President of the VNA, Leader of Delegation
Mr Van Hang Tran	Chairman, Foreign Affairs C'ttee
Ms Thi Mai Truong	Chairwoman, Social Affairs C'ttee
Mr Van Giau Nguyen	Chairman, Economic Committee
Mr Hai Ha Vu	Executive Member, Foreign Affairs C'ttee
Mr Xuan Hong Vu	Member, Foreign Affairs C'ttee
Mr Minh Hue Ha	Member, Foreign Affairs C'ttee
(+ 7 staff members)	

Observers of the Twentieth Annual Meeting

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

Hon Mr Pehin Dato Haji Zainal

Member of Legislative Council,
Leader of Delegation

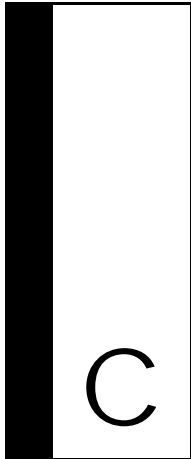
Hon Ms Haji Sulaiman
(+ 3 staff members)

Member of Legislative Council

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION

Mr Ryuhei Kawada

IPU, House of Councillors/Member



Appendix C

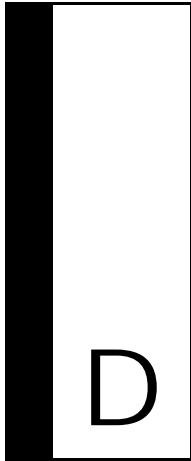
Resolutions of the Twentieth Annual Meeting

List of resolutions, subject, and sponsors¹

1. Resolution on Reiterating Parliamentary Commitment to the Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (sponsored by Indonesia)
2. Resolution on High Seas Fishing (sponsored by Chile)
3. Resolution on Promoting Cultural, Education and Personal Exchanges in the AsiaPacific Region (sponsored by Australia & Japan)
4. Resolution on Environment and Climate Change (sponsored by Chile, Japan, Korea & Mexico)
5. Resolution on Strengthening Peace and Security in the Region (sponsored by Australia & Russia)
6. Resolution on Combating Terrorism, Illicit Drug Trafficking and Organized Crime (sponsored by Mexico & Russia)
7. Resolution on Cooperation in Disaster Prevention (sponsored by Australia, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Micronesia, New Zealand & Russia)
8. Resolution on Nuclear Safety (sponsored by Japan & Russia)
9. Resolution on The Middle East Peace Process (sponsored by Indonesia & Japan)

¹ The text of the resolutions can be viewed at: <http://www.appf20.com/adopted/index.html/> viewed 13 February 2012. In May after each annual meeting it is customary for the annual meeting website to be closed. Key documents are then available at <http://www.appf.org.pe/> at the Annual Meetings Page.

10. Resolution on Food Security (sponsored by Australia & Mexico)
11. Resolution on Economy and Trade (sponsored by Australia, Canada, Chile, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Micronesia, New Zealand & Russia)
12. Resolution on Energy Security (sponsored by Australia & Mexico)
13. Resolution on Appreciation of APPF Honorary President Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone for his contribution to the APPF (sponsored by the United States of America)



Appendix D

Joint Communiqué of the Twentieth Annual Meeting

At the invitation of the National Diet of Japan, the Twentieth Annual Meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) was held in Tokyo, Japan on 8-12 January 2012, 326 delegates from 20 member countries of the APPF and 1 observer country attended the Annual Meeting. The full list of participants is attached in Appendix 1.¹

The APPF Executive Committee convened on 8 January 2012 to approve the Agenda and Program of Work for the Annual Meeting. The report of the Executive Committee meeting is attached in Appendix 2.

At the opening ceremony on 9 January 2012, Co-President of the 20th APPF Annual Meeting and Speaker of the House of Representatives of Japan, Mr Takahiro Yokomichi, accorded a warm welcome to all the participants and declared the Annual Meeting open. In his opening address, Mr Yokomichi expressed appreciation for the support extended to Japan following the Great East Japan Earthquake, and noted that over the last 20 years, the Asia-Pacific region has developed a strong framework for cooperation despite the various difficulties with which the region has been confronted. He suggested that the region's growing political and economic influence was bringing about a concomitant increase in the importance of the APPF. The other Co-President of the 20th APPF Annual Meeting and President of the House of Councillors of

¹ The full joint communiqué with appendixes 1 to 5 can be viewed at <http://www.appf20.com/joint/index.html/> viewed 13 February 2012. In May after each annual meeting it is customary for the annual meeting website to be closed. Key documents are then available at <http://www.appf.org.pe/> at the Annual Meetings page.

Japan, Mr Kenji Hirata, stressed that discussion among parliamentarians would be critical in resolving the challenges emerging from globalization, and looked forward to the realization of the APPF reforms as a means of further enhancing parliamentary diplomacy.

Mr Nyamaa Enkhbold, Vice-Chairman of the State Great Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia, host of the last APPF Annual Meeting, addressed the meeting. APPF Honorary President Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone offered his congratulations on the opening of the commemorative occasion of the 20th APPF Annual Meeting. Recalling the basic principles underlying the establishment of the APPF, he noted that, 20 years on, with the world standing at a major watershed, international cooperation was essential, and that the region needed to pursue a mutual creative evolution among the various different cultures. He also expressed his conviction that the APPF will become a cornerstone in the future construction of a multilateral “political dome” in the region. A message of congratulations was read out for Prime Minister of Japan, Mr Yoshihiko Noda.

The Leaders of the delegations paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister of Japan, Mr Yoshihiko Noda, on 11 January 2012.

At the opening plenary session, the report of the Executive Committee was adopted and approved by the Annual Meeting. On the agenda topic of regional cooperation in the Asia-Pacific, delegates discussed the report given by Japan on the Great East Japan Earthquake and steps toward recovery, cooperation in disaster prevention, cooperation in nuclear power safety, climate change, achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and the promotion of cultural, educational, and personal exchange, proposing a number of resolutions pertaining to these issues.

At the plenary session on regional and international political and security matters, delegates discussed and proposed resolutions on strengthening peace and security in the region, the situation in the Korean Peninsula, combating terrorism, illegal drug trafficking and organized crime, and the situation in the Middle East.

At the plenary session on regional and international economic matters, delegates discussed the global economic situation (imbalances in the global economy, sustainable economic growth, and energy and food security), and promoting economic partnership and free trade. National delegations proposed several restrictions on these issues.

At the plenary session on future APPF activities, delegates discussed the report from Japan on APPF reform and the New Tokyo Declaration.

At the final plenary session, the 20th APPF Annual Meeting adopted 13 resolutions based on the topics mentioned in the preceding paragraphs. The full list of resolutions adopted is attached in Appendix 3.

At the same session, delegates adopted the New APPF Rules of Procedure and the New Tokyo Declaration. These documents are attached in Appendixes 4 and 5.

Delegates also accepted Russia's kind offer to host the 21st Annual Meeting of the APPF in Vladivostok in 2013.

At the conclusion, the Annual Meeting thanked the Working Groups and the Drafting Committee for their tireless efforts on the Joint Communiqué and related resolutions, as well as the APPF Rules of Procedure revisions and the New Tokyo Declaration. These efforts contributed to the successful outcome of the Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting expressed heartfelt gratitude and sincere appreciation to the 20th APPF Annual Meeting Co-Presidents, House of Representatives Speaker Mr Takahiro Yokomichi and House of Councillors President Mr Kenji Hirata, for hosting the 20th Annual Meeting; to House of Representatives Vice-Speaker, Mr Seishiro Eto, and House of Councillors Vice-President, Mr. Hidehisa Otsuji, for managing the plenary sessions; to APPF Honorary President Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, Japanese delegation leader Mr Taro Aso and other members of the Japanese delegation for their hospitality; and to the staff for their hard work and excellent arrangements.

SIGNED

(for)

Australia

Canada

People's Republic of China

Japan

Laos

Mexico

Mongolia

Cambodia

Chile

Indonesia

Republic of Korea

Malaysia

Micronesia

New Zealand

Russian Federation

Singapore

United States of America

Viet Nam

Brunei Darussalam; observer]

President, APPF20