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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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
### Membership of the delegation

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<td>Hon Dr Sharman Stone MP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Members</td>
<td>Ms Anna Burke MP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr Luke Simpkins MP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>Ms Claressa Surtees</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Delegation Secretary</td>
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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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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. 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.

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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’, outlined the objectives and organisational aspects of the APPF. It provided for the APPF to be open to all national parliamentarians 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.

**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:

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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);
- Valparaíso 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.  

2.11 The 1993 Tokyo Declaration also provides that:

- all decisions of the APPF be made by consensus at an annual meeting; \(^6\)
- all delegates to the annual meetings be national parliamentarians; \(^7\)
- membership of the APPF be reviewed ‘when necessary’. \(^8\) 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:

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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:

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<td>2017</td>
<td>Papua New Guinea</td>
<td>Fiji</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Papua New Guinea</td>
<td>Fiji</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Fiji(^ {14})</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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12 New APPF Rules of Procedure, rule 44.
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.\textsuperscript{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 be the end of October.

\textsuperscript{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
Figure 1  Outline of annual meeting preparations and proceedings

September
Host country determines draft agenda for the annual meeting – four months in advance of the annual meeting.

October – November
Official invitations forwarded by end of October. Draft agenda posted on APPF website and member parliaments invited to submit draft resolutions on agenda items – two months in advance of the meeting.

November – December
from last meeting: Country that tabled resolution provides to next host written report on implementation. Host country reports at next meeting.
for next meeting: Draft resolutions posted on APPF website. Information about annual meeting circulated and delegates register. Delegations provide speaking lists for the plenary.

January
Annual Meeting
Proceedings are based on agenda and respective draft resolutions. If no draft resolution item dealt with only briefly.

Joint communiqué
Adopted resolutions are central part of joint communiqué, which is the major tangible product of the meeting.
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
### Saturday 16 January 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All day</th>
<th>Arrival of participants – Vancouver International Airport</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Greeting and transportation to the Official Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Venue:</em> The Westin Bayshore, Vancouver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1601 Bayshore Drive, Vancouver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Registration of delegates and participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Venue:</em> APPF registration and information desk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Westin Bayshore, Vancouver</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Private Program

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1 The meetings of the working groups are not included in this program.
Sunday 17 January 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All day</td>
<td>** All meetings take place at The Westin Bayshore, Vancouver **</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Arrival of participants – Vancouver International Airport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Greeting and transportation to the Official Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Venue: The Westin Bayshore, Vancouver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1601 Bayshore Drive, Vancouver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>APPF registration and information desk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bayshore Grand Foyer – The Westin Bayshore, Vancouver</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 9.00 – 12.00  | Meeting of Women Parliamentarians                                    |
|              | Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 1                                       |
|              | Welcoming Remarks by The Honourable Geoff Regan, P.C., M.P.          |
|              | Speaker of the House of Commons of Canada                            |
|              | Opening Address by The Honourable Hedy Fry, P.C., M.P.               |
|              | House of Commons of Canada                                           |

| 12.15 – 14.00 | Luncheon for Women Parliamentarians                                  |
|              | hosted by                                                           |
|              | The Honourable Mobina Jaffer, Q.C., Senator of Canada; and           |
|              | Dr. Nurhayati Ali Assegaf, M.P.,                                    |
|              | House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia                |
|              | Fairmont Pacific Rim Hotel, 1038 Canada Place, Vancouver            |
|              | [by invitation only]                                                |

| 12.00 – 13.30 | Luncheon for Members of the Executive Committee                     |
|              | International Suite, 5th floor, Main Building, The Westin Bayshore   |
|              | [by invitation only]                                                |

| 12.30 – 13.30 | Meeting of Advisors and Secretaries to delegations                   |
|              | Cypress                                                             |

| 14.00 – 17.00 | Meeting of the Executive Committee                                  |
|              | Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 1 and 2                                |
### Welcome Dinner Reception

**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

**Bayshore Grand Foyer, The Westin Bayshore**  
*Business Attire*  
*[for all participants]*

### Monday 18 January 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>Press conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.30 – 10.30</td>
<td>Official Opening Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Bayshore Grand Ballroom</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Welcoming to the Territory of the Coast Salish by Amanda Nahannee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Welcoming Remarks by</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ The Honourable Donald N. Plett, Senator and President of the APPF Executive Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ The Honourable George J. Furey, Q.C., Speaker of the Senate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ The Honourable Geoff Regan, P.C., M.P., Speaker of the House of Commons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ His Worship Gregor Robertson, Mayor of Vancouver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ The Honourable Takuji Yanagimoto, Member of the House of Councillors of Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Opening Address by</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Ms. Pamela Goldsmith-Jones, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.30 – 10.45</td>
<td>Health break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.45 – 12.00</td>
<td>First Plenary Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Bayshore Grand Ballroom</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Political and Security Matters</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Building the Tools of Democracy and Citizen Engagement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.00 – 12.00</td>
<td>Meeting of the Drafting Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.00 – 14.00</td>
<td>Luncheon for Speakers and Heads of Delegations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>hosted by</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Honourable George J. Furey, Q.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Speaker of the Senate of Canada; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Honourable Geoff Regan, P.C., M.P.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Speaker of the House of Commons of Canada</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>International Suite, 5th floor, Main Building, The Westin Bayshore</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[by invitation only]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.00 – 14.00</td>
<td>Buffet luncheon for all Delegates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Currents Restaurant</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>The Westin Bayshore</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.00 – 17.00</td>
<td>First Plenary Session (continued)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Bayshore Grand Ballroom</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Political and Security Matters</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Strengthening Peace and Security in the Asia-Pacific Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Addressing Transnational Crime and Human Trafficking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Combating Terrorism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.00 – 17.00</td>
<td>Meeting of the Drafting Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.00 – 17.00</td>
<td>Working Groups (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 2 and 3 Oak Cypress</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18:15</td>
<td>Assemble in the hotel lobby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18:20</td>
<td>Departure by bus for Stanley Park Pavillion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18:30 – 21.30</td>
<td>Dinner Reception – Naturally Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Stanley Park Pavilion</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>610 Pipeline Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Stanley Park, Vancouver</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Casual Dress</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>[for all participants]</em></td>
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</table>
## Tuesday 19 January 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 – 9:30</td>
<td>Keynote Address by Mr. Stewart Beck, President and CEO of the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bayshore Grand Ballroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 – 12:30</td>
<td>Meeting of the Drafting Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 – 12:30</td>
<td>Working Groups (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 2 and 3 Oak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cypress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.00 – 10.30</td>
<td>Second Plenary Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bayshore Grand Ballroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Economic and Trade Matters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.30 – 10.45</td>
<td>Health Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.45 – 12.00</td>
<td>Second Plenary Session (continued)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bayshore Grand Ballroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Economic and Trade Matters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fostering Innovation and Connectivity†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.00 – 14.00</td>
<td>Buffet Luncheon for all Delegates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Currents Restaurant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Westin Bayshore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.00 – 17.30</td>
<td>Meeting of the Drafting Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.30 – 17.30</td>
<td>Working Groups (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 2 and 3 Oak</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cypress</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Event</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:00 – 16:30</td>
<td>Second Plenary Session (continued)</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:30 – 17:30</td>
<td>Third Plenary Session</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Private Program**

**Wednesday 20 January 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.00 – 12.00</td>
<td>Third Plenary Session (continued)</td>
<td>Bayshore Grand Ballroom</td>
<td>Regional Cooperation in Asia-Pacific</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Building Resilience to Disasters and Crises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Protecting Wildlife and Advancing the Sustainable Management of Land and Marine Ecosystems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Implementing the Post-2015 Development Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.00 – 12.00</td>
<td>Meeting of the Drafting Committee</td>
<td>Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.00 – 14.00</td>
<td>Buffet Luncheon for all Delegates</td>
<td>Currents Restaurant</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The Westin Bayshore</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.00 – 14.00</td>
<td>Meeting of the Drafting Committee</td>
<td>Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.00 – 16.00</td>
<td>Final Plenary Session</td>
<td>Bayshore Grand Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Outcome of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Reports on Previous APPF Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Future Work and Hosts of APPF Annual Meetings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Event</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 16.30 – 17.00 | Final Press Conference  
*Stanley Park Ballroom, Salon 1*  
Private Program           |

**Thursday 21 January 2016**

| Time       | Departure of Delegates  
**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**

| Time       | Departure of delegations        |
Appendix B

Delegates to the 24th Annual Meeting of the APPF

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

Senator, Head of Delegation
MP
MP
Senator
MP
MP
Senator
MP
Senator
MP
Delegation Secretary

Chile

Hon. Ramón Farias  
Hon. Iván Flores  
Hon. Javier Hernández  
Hon. Jorge Rathgeb  
Hon. Karla Rubilar  
Hon. Raúl Saldivar  
H.E. Jacqueline Van Rysselberghe  
(+1 staff member)

MP, Head of Delegation
MP
MP
MP
MP
MP
Senator

China

H.E. Changzhi Chen

Vice-Chairman of the National People’s Congress, Head of Delegation
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  
Delegation Secretary  
(+ 11 staff members)

**Ecuador**

Hon. Fausto Cayambe  
Assembly Member, Head of Delegation

Hon. Gina Godoy  
Assembly Member  
(+ 1 embassy staff)

**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. Hadiah Alpha Indriani Delegation Secretary
Hon. Victor Pualillin Delegation Secretary
Hon. Wiryawan Narendro Putro Delegation Secretary
Ms. Anne Widyana 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 Delegation Secretary
(+ 3 staff members)

Lao P.D.R.
H.E. Boungnong 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 Omardin 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  
Acting Deputy Clerk
(+ 1 staff member)

**Russia**

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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**

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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
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

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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  
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Mr. Gang Huang  
Second Secretary, Embassy of the People's Republic of China

Ms. Ni Tian  
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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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title, Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Xioa Lei Zhang</td>
<td>Consul, Consulate of the People's Republic of China, Vancouver</td>
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<td>Ms. Xintao Zheng</td>
<td>Consul, Consulate General of the People's Republic of China, Vancouver</td>
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<td>Mr. Xuan Zheng</td>
<td>Consul, Consulate General of the People's Republic of China, Vancouver</td>
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<td>H.E Monica Pinzon</td>
<td>Consul General, Consulate General of Colombia, Vancouver</td>
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<td>Mr. Etienne Emile Vincent Walter</td>
<td>Consul General, Consulate General of the Republic of Ecuador</td>
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<td>Mr. Akuila Kamanalagi Vuira</td>
<td>First Secretary, Fiji High Commission</td>
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<td>H.E. Teuku Faizasyah</td>
<td>Ambassador of the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia to Canada</td>
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<td>Ms. Sri Wiludjeng</td>
<td>Consul General, Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia, Vancouver</td>
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<td>Mr. Mochamad Rizalu Akbar</td>
<td>Deputy Director, Consulate General of Indonesia, Vancouver</td>
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<td>Mr. Yudhono Irawan</td>
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<td>Mrs. Sri Mulatsih</td>
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<td>Mrs. Nina Kurnia Widhi</td>
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<td>Mr. Seiji Okada</td>
<td>Consul General, Consulate General of Japan, Vancouver</td>
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<td>Mr. Shigeru Matsuda</td>
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<td>Mr. Takashi Nakatsugawa</td>
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<td>Mr. Akira Uchida</td>
<td>Deputy Consul, Consulate General of Japan, Vancouver</td>
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<td>Mr. Kie Cheon Lee</td>
<td>Consul General, Consulate General of the Republic of Korea, Vancouver</td>
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<td>Mr. Hak You Kim</td>
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<td>Mr. Mohd Adli Abdullah</td>
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<td>Mr. Ahmad Shanizam bin Abdul Ghani</td>
<td>Consul, Consulate General of Malaysia, Toronto</td>
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<td>Mr. Deddy Faisal Ahmad Salleh</td>
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<td>Mr. Wan Nor Haimi Wan Mahmud</td>
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<td>Mrs. Claudia Franco Hijuelos</td>
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<td>Mr. Manuel Cacho-Sousa</td>
<td>Consul General, Consulate General of Peru, Vancouver</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hon. Neil Frank Ferrer</td>
<td>Consul General, Consulate General of the Philippines, Vancouver</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Ma. Charmaine Guevara</td>
<td>Vice Consul, Consulate General of the Philippines, Vancouver</td>
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Mr. Andrei Ledenev  First Secretary, Embassy of the Russian Federation to Canada
Mr. Sergey Strokov  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.”

■ 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 statistics\(^2\) 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](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 reforms\(^3\) 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

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 sponsors

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)

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

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.
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 these 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 attend 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.
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.