



Resolution on Collaboration on Health Equity in Asia

Resolution 201512

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We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA Resolutions, APA/Res/2013/07; APA/Res/2010/02; and APA/Res/2009/06;

Recalling the advises in the report of the Secretary-General on Achieving Health Equity in Asia, SG/Rep/2011/02 Dated 22 August 2011, submitted to the meeting of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran on 13-14 September, 2011;

Stressing the view that global net-working provides opportunities for Member Parliaments to engage in fruitful dialogue and exchange of best practices on health equity;

Reaffirming the significant role of parliaments both in advocating and promoting national policies and legislative measures for achieving health equity;

Welcoming the Sustainable Development Goals adopted on 25 September 2015 and reaffirming its pivotal role in enhancement of the health equity;

Welcoming the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the UN General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases, adopted on 19 September 2011, and reaffirming the political will to effectively implement the commitments contained therein;

Recalling United Nation General Assembly resolution 66/288 on “The future we want”, which recognized health as a precondition for and an outcome and indicator of all three dimensions of sustainable development;

Recalling the Rio Political Declaration on Social Determinants of Health endorsed by the Sixty-fifth World Health Assembly in resolution WHA65.8 in May 2012;

Recalling the importance of placing equity and human centered policies in the core of health agenda and noting central role of enabling Universal Health Coverage to provide equitable access to quality health services without financial hardship;

Recognizing that health inequities arise from social determinants of health, that is, the societal conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age, and that these determinants

include experiences in their early years, education, economic status, employment and decent work, housing and environment, and effective systems of preventing and treating ill health;

Stressing the need to ensure that health is central to the post-2015 UN development agenda and that consideration is given to including universal health coverage in the discussion on the post- 2015 development agenda in the context of global health challenges;

Emphasizing the need to comprehensively deal with social and health related problems emanating from the drug abuse;

Welcoming the report of High Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda and proposal of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, as health-related Millennium Development Goals' (MDG) deadline draws near;

Expressing concern about the existing socio-economic inequalities and their impact on the poor and disadvantaged groups, as well as the remote geographical areas;

Expressing concern on deteriorating health effects of wars and armed conflicts by hindering provision and quality of health service and causing deprivation from a fundamental human rights health, due to the inequalities in access and utilization of qualified health services.

Welcome the Report of the Secretary-General contained in SG/Rep/ 2014/02, dated 10 August, 2014;

Underline the report of the Commission on Social Determinants of Health for addressing the impact of socio-economic inequalities on health at global, regional and national levels;

Urge the APA Member Parliaments to incorporate the issue of Social Determinants of Health (SDH) more intensively in other APA themes and activities;

Urge the APA Member Parliaments to strengthen collaboration among themselves with a view to formulating a coherent approach with regard to social determinants of health in Asia, especially education, housing, and employment;

Invites the APA Member Parliaments to promote health equity in Asia through sharing experiences and best practices, and actively advocate the inclusion of social determinants of health in national policies and programs;

Urge the APA Member Parliaments to adopt policies and measures to improve service provision, and health financing system as well as health insurance plans for a more equitable resource distribution;

Call on Member Parliaments of APA to encourage their respective governments in order to establish networking among major governmental and non-governmental institutions dealing with health issues in Asia, and expand cooperation with academic institutions, non-governmental organizations, civil society groups and the media in order to identify the main social determinants of health;

Call upon APA Member Parliaments to persuade their respective governments to create and implement more updated tactical policies, activities, and programs to ensure a success in the MDGs achievements with regard to health policies;

Call on APA Member Parliaments to take necessary actions and to encourage their respective governments to ensure child nutrition needs in order to create better generation;

Determine to take active part on the discussion of post-2015 development agenda by delivering Asian views in the international arena to drive the global agenda;

Encourage the APA Member Parliaments to actively participate in the process of arriving at common objectives which could form the basis of national legislations promoting health equity in Asia, with due attention to social protection policies for health care, long term disability, and protection during unemployment and old age;

Request Member Parliaments to inform the Secretary-General on the progress made on the implementation of this resolution in their respective countries in order to share them with all Member Parliaments.

