AIPO

ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ORGANIZATION

27TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

10 - 15 SEPTEMBER 2006 ▲ CEBU CITY, PHILIPPINES

RESOLUTION

ON

THE ROLE OF WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS IN THE USE OF MASS MEDIA TO FOCUS ON ISSUES AFFECTING WOMEN AND CHILDREN

The Twenty-Seventh General Assembly of AIPO:

Recalling the Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing, China (1995) which adopted the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Bangkok Conference on Women Empowering Communication (1994), with both fora appealing to the mass media to promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective in policies and programs;

Aware that mass media and new technologies of communication are powerful tools of global communications network that have an impact on public policy, private attitudes and behavior, especially of children and young adults, and have the potential for the media to make a greater contribution to the advancement of women;

Emphasizing the need to focus on the increased participation and access of women to expression and decision-making, in and through the media, and to promote a non-stereotyped portrayal of women in the media;

Mindful of the continued projection of negative and degrading images of women in media communications, which tend to subject them to possible abuses, neglect and exploitation, prejudicial to their total development as a woman;

Resolves to:

> **Call on** all ASEAN and AIPO member countries to enact and implement appropriate legislations against pornography, gender stereotyping and the sensationalized projection of violence against women and children in the media;
>
> **Urge** all AIPO member countries to strengthen the role of women and ensure equal representation of women in all decision-making levels in national and international media organizations so that they can contribute to the development of appropriate policies towards a non-stereotyped, non-biased and non-discriminatory portrayal of women including rampant pornography, and portrayal of violence and other forms of abuse against children and women;

Reaffirm the commitment of ASEAN and AIPO member countries towards the development of every woman and child to their full potential for self-actualization and productivity.

Adopted this 14th day of September, 2006, in Cebu City, Philippines.