RESOLUTION II Eurasian Humanitarian Forum on Professional Education (Ufa, July 11-12, 2017)

We, participants of the II Eurasian Humanitarian Forum on Professional Education, that took place in Ufa, Republic of Bashkortostan, Russian Federation, July 11-12, 2017

Welcoming participation of representatives of ministries of education, National Institutes of Technical and Vocational Education, institutions of secondary professional education, National Commissions for UNESCO, statesmen, political and public figures, as well as education experts of the Italian Republic, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Republic of Moldova, the Republic of Turkey, the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Russian Federation and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam;

Recalling that vocational education and training (TVET) is an integral part of Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG4) "Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all" of the "Education 2030" Agenda;

Noting the importance of the SDG targets 4.3 (access to technical and vocational education), 4.4 (acquisition of technical and vocational skills) and 4.5 (ensuring gender equality in education and vocational training) for successful implementation of the SDG Agenda in whole;

Recalling also the Recommendations adopted at the Third International UNESCO Congress on TVET in 2012 – Shanghai Consensus;

Bearing in mind UNESCO Recommendation concerning Technical and Vocational Education and Training (2015) and specifically its goal concerning enhancing the rights and opportunities of people and fostering employment, decent work and lifelong learning; promoting inclusive and sustainable economic growth; enhancing social equality; supporting environmental sustainability;

Recognizing the importance of the Strategy for technical and vocational education and training (TVET) (2016-2021) approved by the 199th session of the Executive Board of UNESCO, and, particularly, its three priority areas: fostering youth employment and entrepreneurship; promoting equity and gender equality; facilitating transition to green economies and sustainable societies;

Welcoming Action plan for the implementation of the Strategy approved by the 200th Session of the Executive Board of UNESCO;

Supporting efforts of the countries participating in the II Eurasian Humanitarian Forum that promotes affordable quality vocational education for all;

Having considered and discussed the issues of cooperation in the field of vocational education across the Eurasian space, including in the framework of the UNESCO/UNEVOC Network, UNESCO Associated schools project network, UNESCO Chairs Programme, as well as the aspects of interaction in the field of training specialists, enhancement of quality, relevance and accessibility of TVET for all the citizens in the context of "green economy";

<u>State</u> that the subject of TVET is topical for the countries participating in the Forum and cooperation in this field favours substantially the strengthening of relations between the countries in the Eurasian space through the exchange of experience and discovering the best practices;

<u>Recognize</u> the importance of coordination of efforts between UNESCO, ministries of education, National Commissions for UNESCO, National Institutes for the development of Technical and Vocational Education, non-governmental organizations and industrial sector in promotion of efforts aimed at elaboration of effective mechanisms of capacity-building in the field of TVET;

<u>Encourage</u> the governments of the concerned states to promote the TVET dialogue in Eurasia and contribute to the development of joint projects and programmes aimed at quality improvement and increase in demand;

<u>Regard</u> the successful experience of cooperation between institutions of secondary education and labour market as an integral part of quality development of TVET;

<u>Consider to be important</u> to support the efforts of UNESCO aimed at recognizing at the international level skills and qualifications in the field of TVET;

<u>Note</u> the significant role of "WorldSkills" in the building of the systems of professional education and the development of vocational skills that meet international standards:

<u>Welcome</u> the celebration in 2017 of the 25th anniversary of UNITWIN-UNESCO Chairs Programme;

In the context of implementation of these targets we <u>consider to be important</u> <u>the following measures:</u>

- *Elaboration* of state programmes aimed at raising the level of qualifications of the heads of institutions of secondary vocational education with consideration of the international experience, as well as the programmes aimed at enhancing professional competence of the students;
- *Encouragement* of the projects attracting the investments of the employers into the staff training system;
- *Creation* of the conditions for the unimpeded access to TVET for disabled people;
- Conduct international events devoted to TVET issues with participation of heads and experts of the ministries of education, National Commissions for UNESCO, UNEVOC Centres, institutions of vocational education, National Institutes for development of Technical and Vocational Education, recruitment agencies, industrial sector in the countries of Eurasia;
- *Establishment* of the network of institutions of vocational education in the framework of the "UNESCO Associated schools" and under the auspices of UNESCO, highlighting specific aims, targets and project activity for a definite level of education with further release of certificates of participation that identify the membership of the institution to the TVET system;

In this regard,

<u>Affirm</u> the need to deliver the Declaration to the relevant department of UNESCO Headquarters as a contribution of participants of the II Eurasian Humanitarian Forum to the implementation of the UNESCO Strategy for TVET (2016-2021) and of its distribution during the 39th session of the General Conference of UNESCO.