## EMBRACING THE CONCEPT OF SUSTAINABILITY AS A STANDARD BUSINESS PRACTICE FOR PORTS AND THE ASSOCIATION

**WHEREAS**, Sustainability involves the simultaneous pursuit of economic prosperity, environmental quality and social responsibility; and

**WHEREAS**, Ports hold a unique role in transportation, logistics and infrastructure development; and

**WHEREAS**, Ports must be financially viable in order to achieve their missions and contribute to the economic prosperity of their regions and nations; and

**WHEREAS**, Ports recognize that their activities may impact the environment and natural resources; and

**WHEREAS**, Ports recognize that they have responsibilities as members of the communities in which they operate; and

WHEREAS, Ports recognize that a long-term balanced approach is required;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that AAPA embraces the concept of sustainability as a standard business practice for ports and the Association. For ports, sustainability means business strategies and activities that meet the current and future needs of the enterprise and its stakeholders, while protecting and sustaining human and natural resources; and further

Recognizing that each port operates within a unique business, political, environmental and social context, we further our sustainability resolve by putting forth guiding principles for consideration by member ports.

(Continued)

## **D-11** (continued)

## SUSTAINABILITY GUIDING PRINCIPLES

In accordance with Resolution D-11, ports should consider the following principles and implement them as appropriate:

- 1. Communicate the goals of sustainability across the organization and allocate resource requirements for implementation;
- 2. Integrate sustainability throughout port activities and in both near-term and long-term planning processes;
- 3. Build upon and share existing sustainability best practices, keys to success, lessons learned and approaches for implementation;
- 4. Communicate and engage with internal and external stakeholders to encourage open dialogue, accountability and collaboration;
- 5. To the extent possible, use appropriate data and metrics as part of the process for implementing sustainability;
- 6. Evaluate the total life cycle costs of projects and decisions;
- 7. Recognize that sustainability is a dynamic effort requiring flexibility and continuous improvement.

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