



Report of the Executive Council Meeting

**26-27 September 2016
Phnom Penh – Kingdom of Cambodia**

EC.1/Rep/2016/01
27 September 2016

1. The First Executive Council of Asian Parliamentary Assembly in 2016 held its meeting on 26 – 27 September 2016 in Phnom Penh – Kingdom of Cambodia. APA Delegations from Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lao PDR, Pakistan, Palestine, Russia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirate and Vietnam participated in this meeting. List of participants is attached (**Annex I**). The agenda of the meeting was adopted (**Annex II**).
2. Honorable Dr. NGOUN Nhel, the Second Vice-President of the National Assembly of Kingdom of Cambodia on behalf of the host Parliament welcomed all delegates and inaugurated the meeting. His Excellency delivered a key note speech highlighting chronic challenges facing Asian countries including the menace of terrorism, violence and insecurity and pointed out that financial turmoil and the global economic downturn had a major impact on many countries in Asia in terms of new forms of competition for global funds that reduce the scope of medium-term financing by developing partners in Asia. His Excellency observed that war and conflict not only drag countries into crises and affect their economies and development but also threaten security, humanity and peace, causing people to leave in fear. Text of Honorable Dr. NGOUN

Nhel is attached (**Annex III**)

3. His Excellency Dr. Masoud Islami, the APA Acting Secretary-General presented his opening Statement to the Executive Council meeting. He briefed the meeting of meetings of the three APA Standing Committees in Tehran, Amman and Islamabad (**Annex IV**). He pointed out that “we are gathered here to perform one of the most important organizational functions of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly. As you are well aware, in accordance with the APA Charter and the Rules of Procedure, one of the main responsibilities of the Executive Council is to consider the draft resolutions which have already been deliberated upon in the APA Standing Committees and make appropriate recommendations to the Plenary for its final decision. This important function has been devised with a view to assessing the most recent developments pertaining to each draft resolution and refreshing ideas and methods suitable for their implementation.

4. The 19 draft Resolutions which had been discussed and recommended by the APA four Standing Committees were presented to the Executive Council meeting for consideration and recommendation to the next Plenary for final approval. Dr. Islami referred to the important subject matters on the agenda of the Executive Council meeting and presented a brief background on each item.

No.	Subject	Symbol	Date
1	Draft Resolution on Measures to Promote Cultural Diversity and Protect Cultural Heritage in Asia	SC-Social & Cultural/Draft Res/2016/01	27/04/2016
2	Draft Resolution on Asian Integration through Information and Communication Technology	SC -Social & Cultural/Draft Res/2016/02	27/04/2016
3	Draft Resolution on Collaboration on Health Equity in Asia	SC-Social& Cultural/Draft Res/2016/03	27/04/2016
4	Draft Resolution on Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers in Asia	SC-Social & Cultural/Draft Res/2016/04	27/04/2016
5	Draft Resolution on Asian Parliamentarians	SC-Social &	27/04/2016

	against Corruption	Cultural/Draft Res/2016/05	
6	Draft Resolution on APA Women Parliamentarians	SC-Social & Cultural/Draft Res/2016/06	27/04/2016
7	Draft Resolution on Promoting Inter- Faith Dialogue and Harmony Among World Religions	SC-Social & Cultural/Draft Res/2016/07	27/04/2016
8	Draft Resolution on Legal and Legislative Cooperation in Combating the Smuggling of Cultural Items in Asia	SC-Social & Cultural/Draft Res/2016/08	27/04/2015
9	Draft Resolution on Effective Cooperation in Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking in Asia	SC-Social & Cultural/Draft Res/2016/09	27/04/2016
10	Draft Resolution on Building Prosperity in Asia Through Friendship and Cooperation	SC-Political/Draft Res/2016/10	2/06/2016
11	Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments and Governments Together for Prosperity in Asia	SC-Political/Draft Res/2016/11	2/06/2016
12	Resolution on United Against Terrorism and Violent Extremism	SC-Political/Draft Res/2016/12	2/06/2016
13	Draft Resolution on Significant Political Developments in Asia	SC-Political/Draft Res/2016/13	2/06/2016
14	Draft Resolution on Asian Integrated Energy Market	SC-Economic/Draft Res/2016/14	27/07/2016
15	Draft Resolution on Environmental Issues	SC-Economic/Draft Res/2016/15	27/07/2016
16	Draft Resolution on Financial Affairs: Ensuring Efforts for Economic Growth	SC-Economic/Draft Res/2016/16	27/07/2016
17	Draft Resolution on Poverty Eradication	SC-Economic/Draft Res/2016/17	27/07/2016
18	Draft Resolution on The Role of APA Parliaments to Adopt Legislation in Supporting the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals	SC-Economic/Draft Res/2016/18	27/07/2016
19	Draft Resolution on Water and Sanitation in Asia for All	SC-Economic/Draft Res/2016/19	27/07/2016

5. Many delegations participated in the debates on draft resolutions which were considered one by one. Delegations of Pakistan, Russian Federation, Bahrain, Kuwait, United Arab Emirate, Cambodia, Afghanistan and Palestine proposed certain amendments to draft resolutions which were discussed in full detail by the meeting. At the conclusion of the meeting, the following draft resolutions were recommended to the 9th Plenary for final approval (**Annex V**). Delegations of Bahrain, UAE, and Kuwait, indicated their desire to dissociate themselves from the resolution on Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers in Asia

mainly because their respective parliaments have not ratified the relevant ILO Conventions.

6. As it had been decided by the Standing Committee on Political Affairs in Amman, to merge scattered paragraphs in various resolutions pertaining to Palestine into a single separate resolution, the Executive Council endorsed the decision and mandated the Secretariat to draft a special resolution, in consultation with the Palestine delegate, containing the items and paragraphs which address political, economic, social and sustainable development concerns of Palestine and submit the draft to the second Executive Council meeting before the 9th Plenary Session.
7. The delegation of Pakistan, was given the floor to raise a written proposal suggested by Honorable Mian Reza Rabbani, the Chairman Senate of Pakistan to the effect that five sub-regional-groups be set up within the APA member parliaments to explore and ponder on the objectives, prerequisites, structure, and procedures of establishing an Asian Parliament and to hold meetings at the sidelines of the APA meetings in order to formulate a comprehensive document to be submitted to the APA Executive Council and the Plenary for consideration and appropriate decision.

The proposal was addressed by delegations of Kuwait and Cambodia who cautioned against the divisive effects and consequences of such sup grouping and the need for concentrated efforts at this stage of consideration of the creation of an Asian Parliament. The Head of Cambodian delegation and the Chair of the Executive Council both recalled the responsibility of the Senate of Pakistan as the APA Vice-President for Political Affairs in 2017 and suggested that such capacity shall provide ample time and opportunity for Pakistan to stimulate debates, organize meetings, and produce documents on the subject together with other APA Member Parliaments. Upon the request by the Pakistan delegation, the Chair accepted reconsideration of the proposal by the Special Committee on the Creation of Asian Parliament during the 9th Plenary Session.

8. His Excellency Dr. NGOUN Nhel informed the Executive Council that the Parliament of Turkey has indicated its willingness to be considered as the first nominee for the next APA Presidency for the period of 2018-2020. Honorable Burhan Kayaturk, the Head of Turkish delegation was given the floor and announced that the Parliament of Turkey is very enthusiastic to assume the honor and responsibility of the APA Presidency in 2018 and for two years. Honorable Nuzhat Sadiq, the Head of Pakistan delegation, was given the floor and announced that the senate of Pakistan appreciates the offer by the APA President and is determined to perform the responsibilities of the APA Vice-Presidency for Political Affairs in 2017. Honorable Jigme Zangpo, the Speaker of the Parliament of Bhutan, was also given the floor to declare his willingness to undertake the APA Vice-Presidency for Social and Cultural Affairs in 2017. The decision on the vice-presidency of the two other Standing Committees was postponed to the second meeting of the Executive Council for further consideration and consultation.

9. Underscoring that the idea of the creation of an Asian Parliament is a visionary, ideal, and long-term initiative which has been promoted by the APA Charter and all its Member Parliaments, the APA Executive Council took notice of the great interest of the Senate of Pakistan and its willingness to contribute to the progress of the idea. Thus the Chairman of the Executive Council held consultations with the delegation of the Senate of Pakistan and decided to recommend to the 9th APA Plenary that the Senate of Pakistan in its capacity as the Vice-President for Political Affairs would assume the following responsibilities:
 - a) Spare no effort to substantively promote the work of the APA Special Committee on the Creation of the Asian Parliament (SCCAP);
 - b) Organize as many meetings as needed in 2017 with the participation of APA Member Parliaments to study and discuss various aspects of the initiative;
 - c) Submit a workable road map and a plan of action to the meeting of the APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs in 2017 containing practical and feasible steps towards the realization of the idea of Asian Parliament;

- d) Produce substantive reports on the existing opportunities and obstacles facing the APA in its endeavor for the creation of an Asian Parliament as outlined in the substantive report prepared by the APA Secretariat in 2014 entitled *Foundations of An Asian Parliament*;
 - e) Perform all the tasks and activities pertaining to the work of SCCAP in full coordination with the APA Permanent Secretariat so that the APA Secretariat would be able to fulfil its responsibilities;
 - f) The Senate of Pakistan may, on its own prerogative, set up an internal administrative office within its own structure to coordinate and facilitate the fulfillment of its responsibilities as the APA Vice-President for Political Affairs.
10. Taking into consideration the decision made by the APA 8th Plenary to the effect that the Standing Committees of the APA are accountable for the activities of respective APA Special Committees, the Executive Council decided and recommended to the 9th APA Plenary that the Vice-President for Social-Cultural Affairs is expected to develop a plan of action for mobilizing the Special Committee on APA Women Parliamentarians in accordance with the mandates given to that Special Committee and making tangible progress in its activities. The Parliament of Bhutan may, on its own prerogative, set up an internal administrative office within its own structure to coordinate and facilitate the fulfillment of its responsibilities as the APA Vice-President for Social and Cultural Affairs.
11. The heads of participating delegations expressed their sincere appreciation to the National Assembly of Kingdom of Cambodia for its kind and generous hospitality hosting this meeting and to Honorable Dr. NGOUN Nhel, Second Vice President of National Assembly for his support and leadership.

Annex I



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) Standing Committee Meeting on Staff and Financial Regulation and 1st Executive Council Meeting



List of Participants

**25 – 28 September 2016
Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia**

No.	Countries	Name of Delegates	Position
APA Member Parliaments			
1	Afghanistan	1- Hon. Mr. IR Fanullash - IRFAN	Secretary of the House (Head of Delegation)
		2- Hon. Mr. Abdul AhadDorani	Member of Parliament
		3- Hon. Ms. RahelaSalim	Member of Parliament
		4- Hon. Mr. M. ArifTayeb	Member of Parliament
		5- Mr. SamiullahHussaini	Official
		6- Mr. ToobialayToorman	Official
2	Bahrain	1- Hon. Mr. Abbas Almadhi	Head of Committee on Services (Head of Delegation)
		2- Hon. Mr. Mohamed Alammadi	Member of the Council of Representatives
		3- Hon. Mr. Mohamed Alkhozai	Member of the Shura Council
		4- Hon. Mr. AbdulazizAbul	Member of the Shura Council
		5- Hon. Mr. Ahmed Qarata	Member of the Council of Representatives
		6- Mr. Ali Alaradi	Media Supervisor
		7- Mr. HamadAlkhalifa	Parliamentary Relations Development Specialist
3	Bangladesh	1- Hon. Mr. M.A Maleque	Member of Parliament (Head of Delegation)
		2- Hon. Mr. ChhabiBiswas	Member of Parliament
		3- Mr. NiharMandal	Assistant Director, Bangladesh Parliament Secretariat
4	Bhutan	1- Hon. Mr. JIGME ZANGPO	Speaker (Head of Delegation)
		2- Hon. Mr. KARMA RANGDOL	Member of Parliament
		3- Mr. SHERAB TENZIN	Assistant Director

5	Cambodia	1- Hon. Dr. NGOUN NHEL	2 nd Vice-President and Chairman of Organizing Committee
		2- Hon. Mr. CHHEANG VUN	MP
		3- Hon. Dr. PEN PANNHA	MP
		4- Hon. Post Dr. CHEAM YEAP	MP
		5- Hon. Mrs. KHUON SUDARY	MP
		6- Hon. Mr. YEM PONHEARITH	MP
		7- Hon. Mr. CHHIT KIMYEAT	Senator
		8- Hon. Mrs. NIN SAPHON	MP
		9- Hon. Mr. KEO PISETH	MP
		10- Hon. Mr. NHEM THAVY	MP
		11- Hon. Mr. HUN MANY	MP
		12- Hon. Mr. SUOS YARA	MP
6	China	1- Hon. Mr. WEIZHOU CAO	Vice-Chairman of Foreign Affairs Committee of the NPC of China (Head of Delegation)
		2- Mr. DEYU LIU	Director of the Foreign Affairs Bureau of the NPC of China
		3- Ms. YONGMEI JIA	Director of the Foreign Affairs Bureau of the NPC of China. Interpreter
		4- Mr. SHANRUI CHEN	Staff of the Foreign Affairs Bureau of the NPC of China
		5- Ms. YI ZHENG	Staff of the Foreign Affairs Bureau of the NPC of China. Interpreter
7	DPR Korea	1- Mr. Kim Ju Yong	Embassy of Democratic People Republic of Korea in Cambodia. (Representative)
8	Indonesia	1- Hon. Mr. Juliari Peter Batubara	Vice-Chairman of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation (Head of Delegation)
		2- Hon. Mr. Andi Iwan Darmawan Aras	Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation
		3- Hon. Mr. Jazuli Juwaini	Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation
		4- Ms. Endang Dwi Astuti	Secretary
		5- Mr. Panca Hendarto	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
		6- Ms. Sheila Teta Carina	Advisor
		7- Mr. Yanuar Arif Wibowo	Accompanying Person
9	Iran	1- Hon. Mr. ALI KAZIME BABAHEIDARI	Member of Parliament (Head of Delegation)

		2- Hon. Mr. JALIL RAHIMI JAHANABADI	Member of Parliament
		3- Mr. SEYED MORTEZA RAZAVIANI	Secretary
		4- Mr. SHAHRAM SALIMINAMIN	Adviser
10	Iraq	1- Hon. Ms. HananMohsin	Member of Parliament (Head of Delegation)
		2- Hon. Mr. Louis Bandar	Member of Parliament
		3- Mr. Mustafa Abbas	Secretary
11	Kazakhstan	1- Hon. Mr. YertargynAstayev	Senator, Member of the Committee on Finance and Budget (Head of Delegation)
		2- Hon. Mr. SerikBilyalov	Senator, Member of the Committee on Agrarian issue, Natural Exploitation and Development of rural areas
		3- Mr. Alexander Podvalov	Secretary
12	Kuwait	1- Hon. Mr. Hmood ALHAMDAN	Member of Parliament (Head of Delegation)
		2- Hon. Mr. Khalil ABDULLAH	Member of Parliament
		3- Mr. Meshal AL-ANEZI	Director of International Parliamentary Organizations
		4- Abdulaziz NASRALLAH	French Translation Specialist
		5- Mr. Meteb J M S Alosaimi	Official of Kuwait Embassy in Cambodia
		6- Mr. NaserFhaid B Alhajraf	Official of Kuwait Embassy in Cambodia
		7- Mr. SiatRorolfn	Official of Kuwait Embassy in Cambodia
		8- Mr. Sa Salem	Official of Kuwait Embassy in Cambodia
13	Lao PDR	1- Hon. SanyaPraseuth	Vice-President of the Committee on Economy, Technology and Environment. (Head of Delegation)
		2- Mr. SanexaySadettan	Head of Bilateral Relation Division. Secretary
14	Pakistan	1- Hon. Ms. NuzhatSadiq	Senator (Head of Delegation)
		2- Hon. Mr. Barrister Muhammad Ali Khan Saif	Senator
		3- Hon. Mr. Muhammad JavaidAbbasi	Senator
		4- Hon. Mr. Iftikhar Ahmad Cheema	Member of National Assembly
		5- Mr. Muhammad Arshad Jan Pathan	Joint Secretary
		6- Mr. Muhammad Adnan Azeem	Finance and Accounts Officer
15	Palestine	1- Hon. Mr. ZUHAIR SANDUQA	Member of National Council (Head of Delegation)
16	Russia	1- Hon. Mr. SaliyaMurzabaeva	Member of Parliament (Head of Delegation)

		2- Ms. YuliaGuskova	Adviser
17	Sri Lanka	1- Hon. Mr. Edward GunasekaraDehiwala Liyanage	Member of Parliament (Head of Delegation)
		2- Hon. Mr. Imran Maharroof	Member of Parliament
		3- Mr. JayalathPereraMahayagodage	Principle Officer
18	Turkey	1- H.E.BurhanKayaturk	Member of Parliamentary (Head of Delegation)
		2- H.E.BarisKaradeniz	Member of Parliamentary
		3- H.E. Ilhan Kemal Tug	Ambassador of Turkey Embassy in Cambodia
		4- Ms. ElifEsraOnal	Protocol Officer Assistant
		5- Mr. SerdarOzkan	Third Secretary of Turkey Embassy in Cambodia
19	Thailand	1- Hon. Gen. Utis SUNTHORN	Member of the National Legislative Assembly, Member of NLA in APA (Head of Delegation)
		2- Hon. Mrs. Suwannee SIRIVEJCHAPUN	Member of the National Legislative Assembly, Member of NLA in APA
		3- Ms. Krisanee MASRICHAN	Director of Association of Parliament and Association of Secretaries General of Parliament Division. Secretary
		4- Ms. Kanteera LEELANOND	Foreign Relations Officer, Senior Professional Level Association of Parliaments and Association of Secretaries General of Parliament Division. Assistant Secretary
		5- Ms. CharoenpornRaksapolmuang	Fist Secretary of Embassy of Kingdom of Thailand in Cambodia
		6- Mr. Sok Kim Sat	Official Embassy of Kingdome of Thailand in Cambodia. Interpreter
20	United Arab Emirates	1- Hon. Mr. Khalfan Al Ali	Member of Parliament (Head of Delegation)
		2- Hon. Ms. AfraAlbasti	Member of Parliament
		3- Mr. SaeedAlmheiri	Advisor
		4- Mr. Ibrahim Alzaabi	Advisor
21	Vietnam	1- Hon. Mr. Vu Hai Ha	(Head of Delegation)
		2- Mr. Ba DinhTruc	Secretary
APA Secretariat			
		1- H.E. Dr. MASOUD ISLAMI	Acting Secretary General
		2- H.E. Dr. ALI KHORRAM	Deputy Secretary General
		3- H.E. Dr. BIJAN MOSHIRVAZIRI	Deputy Secretary General
		4- H.E. Dr. SEYEDALI MAHMOUDI	Deputy Secretary General

Annex II

The Agenda of the Meeting



ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY



1st Executive Council Meeting
26-27 September 2016
Phnom Penh – Kingdom of Cambodia

Agenda

- Adoption of the Agenda and election of Bureau
- Remarks by the Chairman of the Executive Council
- Report of the APA Secretary-General
- Consideration and Recommendation of the Draft Resolutions proposed by:
 - Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs
 - Standing Committee on Political Affairs
 - * Consideration of proposal of the Senate of Pakistan on forming five sub-regional groups within the APA
 - Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development Affairs
 - Standing Committee on Staff and Financial Regulations
- Consideration of Proposals for Next Presidency and Vice – Presidency
- Adoption of the Report of the meeting
- Any other matter
- Closing

Annex III

Opening Address by **Hon Dr. Nguon Nhel**, Second Vice-President of
the National Assembly and Chairman of the
Organizing Committee for the Ninth Asian Parliamentary Assembly
First Executive Council Meeting of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly
26 September, 2016

*Honorable Members of Parliament,
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen*

1. On behalf of **Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei HENG SAMRIN**, President of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia, I would like to express my profound thanks to all honorable delegates and esteemed distinguished guests for your participation in the opening ceremony for this important gathering of the APA Standing Committee on Staff and Financial Regulations and the First Executive Council Meeting here in the Kingdom of Cambodia.

The valuable time you are spending to attend this meeting today is a reflection of your willingness and strong determination to achieve the APA vision. Your participation also demonstrates your strong support for the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia, which has the honor of hosting these meetings of the Standing Committee and Executive Council, which serve as a bridge to the Second Executive Council Meeting and the Ninth APA Plenary Session in the historical and cultural province of Siem Reap from 28 November to 1 December 2016.

2. Asian parliaments could not proceed without your indispensable participation through exchanges of views, experience and best practices enabling us to produce results. The First Executive Council Meeting offers a great opportunity for members of Asian parliaments to discuss and share views on the challenges we face today. Before the First Executive Council Meeting, we are required to organize a meeting of the Standing Committee on Staff and Financial Regulations, which is key to ensuring the sustainability of Asian parliaments and which was last hosted by the Kingdom of Cambodia on 25 June, 2014.

3. I wish to draw your kind attention to major challenges in Asia:

i. World Financial Crisis

Financial turmoil and the global economic downturn had a major impact on many countries in Asia in terms of financing, cooperation and new forms of competition for global funds that reduce the scope of medium-term financing by development partners in Asia.

ii. Climate Change and Natural Disasters

Climate change has become a huge global challenge. The recent G-20 Summit in Hangzhou, People's Republic of China, discussed the Paris U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The parliament of Cambodia congratulates His Excellency Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China, and His

Excellency Barack Obama, President of the United States, who ratified the Paris Agreement with other 26 countries. This shows that 20 big nations, including countries in Asia – namely China, Japan, Russia, the Republic of Korea, Australia, Indonesia and Saudi Arabia – are working together to tackle climate change.

The recent 28th and 29th ASEAN Summits in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, encouraged ASEAN member countries to ratify and implement regional and international multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and adopt the ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate Change. It should be emphasized that climate change has alarming pervasive effects, and poses a real threat to us all.

Natural disasters have also plagued some countries in Asia with events such as earthquakes, floods, droughts and typhoons causing serious problems for the livelihoods of Asian people while affecting the economy and development.

iii. Communicable Disease Outbreaks

On behalf of the Cambodian parliament, I would like to express our heartfelt sympathy to Singapore, which has been hit hard by the Zika virus. Some other Asian countries have also been affected. In addition to the Zika virus, there are communicable diseases, which have not yet been identified or have no vaccines or treatments. I hope scientists can identify, prevent and effectively treat these viruses and wipe out such deadly infectious diseases.

iv. Disputes

At the same time, countries in Asia face disputes that have not been jointly settled through peaceful means and reconciliation. Issues in the Middle East are an example. War and other disputes not only drag countries into crises that affect their economies and development but also threaten security, humanity and peace – with people living in fear of armed conflicts that are contemptible and completely unjustified as far as mankind is concerned.

Can we legislative bodies idly stand by and turn our backs as this catastrophe occurs?

We would like to encourage the peaceful settlement of differences in an acceptable manner for all sides.

V. Terrorism

We see that terrorism today poses a grave threat to human security, democracy and individual rights. In some parts of the world, especially in Asia, peace is threatened by conflicts, wars and terrorism, which cause so much loss of life and property damage. In August last year, there was a bomb attack in central Bangkok. In January, attacks took place in central Jakarta in Indonesia. A bomb explosion has since rocked the Philippines and a cafe in Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh, has come under attack. The question facing us is whether we do more to

protect ourselves and to prevent and eliminate such acts of terror in our capacity as representatives of the people.

On behalf of the Cambodian parliament, it is a great pleasure to extend my sincere thanks to Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe for pledging \$440 million to help Asian countries strengthen their counter-terrorism measures.

4. The ideas raised are to draw attention to the challenges facing Asian countries to help address these issues. As legislative bodies, we need to bolster bilateral and multilateral cooperation further and ensure full implementation of related agreements, memoranda of understanding and other instruments with the aim of preserving world peace, stability, progress and development.

At the same time, we need to collaborate more with timely and effective responses to the threat of transnational crime and other challenges.

5. Regarding efforts to strengthen cooperation among nations, the legislative branch of each country plays a crucial and indispensable role in establishing legal frameworks and consenting to the ratification of legal instruments that provide support and policy-orientation to the executive branch so governments can accelerate development programs and implement foreign policy. We all understand that parliaments have an institutional role to play in connecting the executive branch with the people. Close interactions between

governments and legislative bodies provide opportunities for the executive branch to seek better understanding of the aspirations and needs of our people, and we should take appropriate measures to fulfill those needs.

6. Apart from adopting and amending laws, representing people and overseeing government operations, we legislators perform other duties in taking people's problems and requests to parliament for discussion – and in asking governments to find appropriate solutions to people's concerns.

The crucial participation in promoting solidarity, national unity and social harmony and strengthening international cooperation are key to peace, stability, security, progress and development.

7. In this sense, I urge all honorable members to share their recommendations, best practices, experience, challenges and solutions to amend the 19 resolutions on important current issues. Such international instruments put issues facing Asian countries on the table to find solutions as a basis for parliaments to strengthen legislative processes, policies and national strategic goals in full compliance with international standards.

8. Finally, I would like to express my firm belief that our meeting will proceed smoothly in a friendly, fraternal and cooperative environment with a host of issues for consultation and discussion based on the common spirit of Asian nations. I would like to offer my encouragement to the representatives of APA

member parliaments for being here to express views and exchange experiences which are key to achieving the supreme common objectives of our nations in Asia.

I hereby declare the First Executive Council Meeting open.

Thank you very much.

Annex IV

The Statement of Acting Secretary- General of APA



**Report of His Excellency
Dr. Masoud Islami**

**Acting Secretary-General
of The Asian Parliamentary Assembly
at The APA Executive Council Meeting**

26 September 2016
Phnom Penh- Kingdom of Cambodia

Honorable Dr. Ngoun Nhel,
Distinguished Delegates of the APA Member Parliaments,
Dignitaries,
Ladies and Gentlemen

Allow me to express my pleasure and gratitude to address all distinguished delegates participating in the APA Executive Council meeting in the beautiful and historic city of Phnom Penh. May I also express my special appreciation to the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia for organizing this important meeting. My special thanks go to Honorable Dr. Ngoun Nhel, the distinguished Second Vice-Speaker of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and the Chairman of the APA Executive Council, for his support and leadership in making this event successfully organized here today. I also thank all distinguished delegates who have attended and are expected to actively participate in its discussions.

Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished Delegates

We have gathered here to perform one of the most important organizational functions of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly. As you are well aware, in accordance with the APA Charter and the Rules of Procedure, one of the main responsibilities of the Executive Council is to consider the draft resolutions which have already been deliberated upon in the APA Standing Committees and make appropriate recommendations to the Plenary for its final decision. This important function has been devised with a view to assessing the most recent developments pertaining to each draft resolution and refreshing ideas and methods suitable for their implementation. Besides, the APA Executive Council is authorized to consider and make appropriate decisions on organizational matters of the APA, including the APA budget and finances as well as the reports and documents developed by the APA Secretariat.

Before us today, there are 20 important draft resolutions on political; economic; social and cultural; as well as financial and administrative issues. In the following parts of my report, the activities of the APA Standing Committees

and the draft resolutions provided for consideration by this Executive Council are briefly reviewed:

1. The APA Standing Committee meeting was held in Tehran, the Islamic Republic of Iran, on 26-27 April, 2016. The Committee considered and deliberated on a range of important issues and recommended the following nine draft resolutions:

- ✓ Draft Resolution on Measures to Promote Cultural Diversity and Protect Cultural Heritage in Asia
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Asian Integration Through Information and Communication Technology
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Collaboration on Health Equity in Asia
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers in Asia
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Asian Parliamentarians Against Corruption
- ✓ Draft Resolution on APA Women Parliamentarians
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Promoting Inter- Faith Dialogue and Harmony Among World Religions
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Legal and Legislative Cooperation in Combating the Smuggling of Cultural Items in Asia
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Effective Cooperation in Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking in Asia

2. The APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs held its meeting on 1-2 June 2016, in Amman, the Kingdom of Jordan. The Committee considered and deliberated on a range of important issues and recommended the following five draft resolutions:

- ✓ Draft Resolution on Building Prosperity in Asia Through Friendship and Cooperation

- ✓ Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments and Governments Together for Prosperity in Asia
- ✓ Draft Resolution on United Against Terrorism and Violent Extremism
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Significant Political Developments in Asia
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments Unwavering Support For Palestinian People

3. The APA Standing Committee on Economic and Environmental Affairs held its meeting on 26-27 July 2016 in Islamabad, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. The Committee considered and deliberated on a range of important issues and recommended the following five draft resolutions:

- ✓ Draft Resolution on Asian Integrated Energy Market
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Environmental Issues
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Financial Affairs: Ensuring Efforts for Economic Growth
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Poverty Eradication
- ✓ Draft Resolution on The Role of APA Parliaments to Adopt Legislation in Supporting the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Water and Sanitation in Asia for All

4. The APA Standing Committee on Financial and Staff Regulations was supposed to be held its meeting in Kabul, Afghanistan. Unfortunately, the Parliament of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan was not in a position to fulfil its commitment which had insistentlly undertaken by its representatives in the 8th APA Plenary. The Committee was expected to consider and deliberate on a single draft resolution on the APA Financial and Budget for 2017. Under the circumstances, The APA Secretariat, in consultation with the APA President, suggested the holding of the meeting of the Standing Committee on Financial and Staff Regulations at the side-lines of this Executive Council. With the approval of the APA President, the missed meeting will be held today here in Phnom Penh to discuss the APA budgetary issues and consider the pertinent draft resolution.

Mr. Chairman
Distinguished Delegates

As you are all aware, over the past eight years H.E. Dr. Mohammad-Hadi Nejad-Hosseinian has been serving as the first APA Secretary General. Relying on his high-level leadership caliber and outstanding qualifications, he has created an efficient Permanent Secretariat comparable to those of similar inter-parliamentary organizations with high standards of performance and capability. Now, after a long period of hard work and successful performance, he has indicated to the APA President that due to his persistent illness, he is not in a position to continue his job and suggested that the APA may proceed with a new Secretary-General.

According to Rule No, 45 of the APA Rules of Procedure, it is for the APA Executive Council to consider the election of the APA Secretary General and recommend a qualified person to the APA Plenary for its final decision. While doing this, the Executive Council and the APA Member Parliaments may take into consideration the fact that the APA Financial and Staff Regulations, including the voluntary and compulsory contributions on the basis of scaled assessments still await effective implementation. The financial and logistical resources available to the APA Secretariat ought to be considered in conjunction with the level of expectations of the new Secretary-General.

Mr. Chairman,

Allow me to respectfully reiterate my sincere gratitude to all distinguished delegates participating in this important event. I am positive that thoughtful deliberation and constructive discussions of this meeting will further pave the path towards the realization of the APA goals and objectives.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.



**Draft Resolution on
Measures to Promote Cultural Diversity
and Protect Cultural Heritage in Asia**

EC1/Draft Res/2016/01
27 September 2016

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA Resolutions, APA/Res/2013/05; APA/Res/2010/05; APA/Res/2009/05; APA/Res/2008/17; and APA/Res/2007/02; on Protecting and Respecting Cultural Diversity in Asia;

Recognizing the significant role of parliaments both in safeguarding their respective national cultural heritage and in harmonizing Asian approach in respect of cultural diversity;

Emphasizing that cultural diversity is dependent on protection of cultural heritage, and the existence of common grounds among Asian ancient civilizations provide solid grounds for co-existence and co-operation among nations in the region;

Recognizing that tolerance is one of the fundamental values of humanity, which entails promotion of cultural diversity, culture of peace, and dialogue among civilizations;

Recognizing the increasing importance of culture, as an integral part of development plans of all nations in Asia and beyond;

Promoting greater understanding and respect among civilizations, cultures and religions by means of concrete projects in the priority areas of youth, education, and media, in collaboration with governments, international and regional organizations, in line with the outcome of the first World Cultural Forum, in Bali, Indonesia in November 2013 and document entitled “Bali Declaration on the Alliance of Civilizations”, held in Bali, Indonesia, in 29 and 30 August 2014;

Reiterating that multicultural dynamism in Asia provides as an indispensable asset for making a strong Asian community based on mutual respect and recognition of all Asian cultures and civilizations;

Noting the opportunities offered by globalization for greater interaction among cultures and civilizations, as well as challenges brought about by its trends to preserving and celebrating the rich intellectual and cultural diversity in Asia;

Considering the smuggling of cultural objects from Asia a threat to the richness of Asian cultural heritage, and underline the important role of parliaments to both raise public awareness about this challenge and to strengthen, where necessary;

Deploring the unrepairable damage brought to cultural and religious heritage by terrorism and organized crimes, especially damages to Muslim and Christian historical sites and holy shrines and mosques by indiscriminate aerial bombing and shelling in Syria and Iraq by ISIS and other terrorist groups;

Expressing grave concerns regarding theft, damage, or destruction to any place of worship of any religion, any cultural, religious, or historical heritage in Asia especially to Muslim, Christian and Buddhist historical sites by any person, group, or organization;

1. **Determine** to encourage and promote further intercultural dialogue and inter-religious exchanges throughout Asia;
2. **Resolve** to appreciate and promote the benefits of diversity in Asian nations, and encourage values such as justice, human rights, non-discrimination, democracy and respect within and among communities and nations;
3. **Reject** all manifestations of discrimination that are based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance;
4. **Remain Committed** to the protection of the rights of indigenous and ethnic communities so as to ensure the fulfillment of indigenous community rights in line with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
5. **Urge** relevant governmental agencies to further facilitate consular services as appropriate for citizens of Asian countries to allow for greater people-to-people interaction;
6. **Decide** to remain cognizant of damages to Muslim and Christian holy places and historical sites, by ISIS terrorist organization in Iraq and Syria;
7. **Urge** Member Parliaments to consider ratifying the International Convention for the Safeguarding of World Natural and Cultural Heritage and the International Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage;
8. **Call Upon** APA Member Parliaments to consider drafting common legislations on the basis of principles endorsed by APA, as annexed to APA/Res/2013/05, with a view to developing a model legislation to combat smuggling of cultural objects in Asia;
9. **Call Upon** all Member Parliaments to promote tolerance and empathy among Asian nations with a view to diminish distrust, misunderstanding, and conflict among religious communities;
10. **Call Upon** APA Member Parliaments to support establishing an award to be presented annually to outstanding Asian artists; authors, poets, film makers, painters, etc, who best convey the APA's commitment to cultural diversity in Asia;

11. **Condemn** all forms of contemptuous actions against religions, holy books, religious places and personalities and religious rituals;
12. **Request** the APA Secretary General to uphold cooperation between APA and international and regional organizations such as UNESCO, United Nations Alliance of Civilizations(UNAOC), ISESCO and relevant Asian NGOs active in promoting cultural diversity and dialogue among civilizations;
13. **Request** the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member Parliaments on their efforts to implement this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the next meeting of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs.



Draft Resolution on Asian Integration through Information and Communication Technology

EC1/Draft Res/2016/02
27 September 2016

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling para.5 of article 3 of the Charter of the APA;

Recalling APA Resolution, APA/ Res/ 2014/11, and APA/Res/2014/13;

Underlining that Asian integration can be achieved through further dialogue, interaction, and communication among Asian people, parliamentarians, government officials, academic and educational institutions, and media for the promotion of peace, liberty, equality, human rights, and welfare in Asia;

Concerned with negative impact of globalization on widening the gap between the rich and poor in Asia, and the further marginalization of developing countries in the world;

Recognizing the fact that today Asia encompasses the biggest market in the world, the highest number of population; the largest amount of foreign currency reserves; and dynamic economic growth;

Emphasizing the principle of free flow of information, easy communication, and access to new technologies at the national, regional and global levels;

Underlining the fundamental role of information technology as an indispensable factor in all areas of national; regional, and global development;

Stressing the view that global networking provides opportunities for APA Member Parliaments to share experiences and engage in fruitful dialogue on significant issues in Asia and facilitates further cooperation and coordination, on the way of Asian integration process;

Underlining that the Asian Virtual Parliament will pave the way for sharing information, harmonizing legislation and raising people's awareness about the activities of the legislative body and ensure a more profound feedback between society, power and individuals, and thus contribute to strengthening peace in Asia;

Emphasizing that, the role of parties, civil society, non- governmental organizations (NGOs) and other democratic structures in public sphere, provide opportunities in Asian countries for exchange of views, interactions and synergy to promote regional and global cooperation in order to reinforce the long term process for Asian Integration.

1. **Call Upon** APA Member Parliaments to volunteer for providing knowledge and know-how, technical assistance, financial support, human resources; and other form of assistance in creating a “Virtual Asian Parliament” based on the report by the APA Secretary General on the subject matter in order to enhance collaboration and interaction among parliaments and parliamentarians in Asia and as a prelude to establishing a model Asian parliament;
2. **Call Upon** APA Member Parliaments to support vocational and knowledge-based education in Asia in order to enhance people’s life-skills and competitiveness in coping with the challenges of globalization;
3. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to share best practices and exchange experiences with a view to inspiring a common approach toward Asian integration through holding special workshops and forums among Asian Parliaments;
4. **Underline** the necessity to work out the legal status of the materials and documents which will be circulated in Virtual Parliaments;
5. **Request** the secretariat to conduct a pilot project of VAP and share the result with the APA member parliaments;
6. **Request** the Secretary-General to seek possible technical and financial assistance from Member Parliaments and other institutions to facilitate the implementation of this resolution and prepare a report with comprehensive approach to accelerate the process of Asian Integration.



Draft Resolution on Collaboration on Health Equity in Asia

**EC1/Draft Res/2016/03
27 September 2016**

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 centred 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;

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

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.

1. **Welcome** the Report of the Secretary-General contained in SG/Rep/ 2014/02 dated 10 August, 2014;
2. **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;
3. **Urge** the APA Member Parliaments to incorporate the issue of Social Determinants of Health (SDH) more intensively in other APA themes and activities;
4. **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;
5. **Invite** 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;
6. **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;
7. **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;
8. **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 SDGs achievements with regard to health policies;
9. **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;

10. **Determine** to take active part on the discussion of post-2030 development agenda by delivering Asian views in the international arena to drive the global agenda;
11. **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;
12. **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.



Draft Resolution on Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers in Asia*

EC1/Draft Res/2016/04
27 September 2016

We, members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Acknowledging that the development of migrant workers and the protection of their rights are in line with the principles of human rights and contribute to the development and promotion of friendly relations among countries;

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other relevant international instruments;

Noting that the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families, the International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention 97 on Migration for Employment, ILO Convention 143 on Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provision), established a broad legal framework for the protection of migrant workers;

Emphasizing the importance of ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and the Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers;

Acknowledging the significance of ILO Conventions concerning the protection of the rights of migrant workers as well as UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking In Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime – 2000 in promoting human rights of Asian migrant workers without prejudice to their sex, race, language, religion, nationality, or ethnic origin;

Welcoming the adoption of ILO Convention Concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers at the 100th International Labour Organization (ILO) Conference in Geneva, 2011 as a global recognition on the existence of domestic workers where many of them are migrants;

Underlining the importance of establishing a national legal framework as well as a broad legal framework for the protection of migrant workers and noting the legal and illegal status of different cases;

Deeply concerned with the precarious conditions faced by migrant workers such as human rights abuse, harassment and violence, discrimination, low pay and low status jobs, unpaid jobs, ignored labour and overwork;

Underlining the challenges that women migrant workers are facing such as forced confinement, low paying, non-payment, excessive working hours, physical limitations, and sexual harassment and abuse which can be the target of human trafficking and prostitution;

Recognizing that unsettled status of immigrants prevents the establishment of conditions for full scale and comprehensive protection of their right by governments of sending and receiving countries;

Emphasizing that adaptation of labour immigrants to local conditions and working activity in destination states as well as integration into recipient society are important factors which contribute to more effective exercise of the rights of labour immigrants;

Acknowledging the contribution of migrant workers to the society and economy of both receiving and sending states and their share to the development and prosperity of the region;

Bearing in mind the importance of friendly relationships and cooperation among governments, parliaments and the peoples of Asia insolving the problems relating to Asian migrant workers; and in particular, providing repatriation assistance services such as coordination with families, airport assistance, domestic transport, temporary shelter, medical and rehabilitation services;

Recognizing the significant role of parliaments both in strengthening social and human rights policies, and in harmonizing an Asian approach for respecting fundamental human rights, and protecting the rights of migrant workers in Asia;

Confirming that providing enough measures on the protection and promotion of the rights of migrant workers in Asia is part of a shared responsibility among Asian Countries toward a common vision for security and prosperity which focused on the improvement of the quality of life of its people;

Concerned with the mass exodus of people who have tried to flee from their homelands in Asia to some European countries, due to lack or deficiency of security, food, health service, accommodation, employment and so forth; many of whom are young migrant workers;

1. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to consider accession to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families to stress Asian commitment on the protection of the rights of migrant workers and humanitarian issues in Asia;
2. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to enhance and harmonize their actions towards a better protection of migrant workers, especially women and children;
3. **Request** APA sending countries to provide migrant workers with adequate skills and knowledge in order to be able to fulfil their task and understand the culture, prevailing laws and regulation in the receiving countries;

4. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to ensure that their domestic laws shall be fair and just, equally applicable to both migrant workers and citizens who violate the laws;
5. **Encourage** the promotion of bilateral and regional cooperation among countries in all areas and issues of migrant workers to maximize the potential benefits and minimize the negative impacts of migration;
6. **Urge** the respective States of the APA Member Parliaments to conduct bilateral, or regional agreements including Mandatory Consular Notification Agreement under the spirit of Vienna Convention on Consular Relations; whereby the sending countries are well informed on the legal problems faced by their migrant workers;
7. **Emphasize** the importance of involving civil society, non-government organizations, and increasing their opportunity for participation and interaction with stakeholders to develop better policies and supervise the implementation of regulations on migrant workers issues;
8. **Recommend** APA Member Parliaments to provide adequate information on regulation, legislation and policies related to migrant workers in their respective countries, and to share information and best practices as well as opportunities and challenges encountered by Asian countries in relation to the protection and promotion of migrant workers' rights and welfare;
9. **Encourage** all relevant governmental and non-governmental organizations especially EU countries to provide support to refugees and migrants suffering from uncertain situations behind the European borders.
10. **Request** the Secretary-General to coordinate with APA Member Parliaments on the progress to implement this resolution and submit a report thereon to the meeting of the Standing committee on Social and Cultural Affairs.

*Delegations from the parliaments of Bahrain, Kuwait and United Arab Emirates decided to dissociate their respective parliaments from endorsing this draft resolution.



Draft Resolution on Asian Parliamentarians Against Corruption

EC1/Draft Res/2016/05
27 September 2016

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA Resolutions on Combating Corruption contained in APA/Res/2013/09, December 2013; APA/Res/2010/01; APA/Res/2009/03; APA/Res/2008/18; as well as the APA Plan of Action on Combating Corruption contained in APA/Res/2007/05/Annex;

Taking note of the importance of the UN Convention against Corruption adopted by the General Assembly on October 31, 2003 and other anti-corruption conventions and relevant binding legal instruments;

Recognizing that fighting corruption at all levels is a priority and that corruption is a serious barrier to effective resource mobilization and allocation and diverts resources away from activities that are vital for poverty eradication and sustainable development;

Reaffirming the importance of respect for human rights, the rule of law, good governance, and democracy in the fight against corruption;

Recognizing the important role of parliaments to promote transparency, participation, accountability and integrity as the four key principles of anti-corruption strategy;

Acknowledging that the fight against all forms of corruption requires comprehensive anti-corruption frameworks and strong institutions at all levels;

Expressing concern about the laundering and transfer of stolen assets and proceeds of corruption, and stressing the need to address this concern in accordance with the UN Convention against Corruption;

1. **Condemn** corruption at all levels and in all its forms, including bribery; money laundering; and abuse of power;
2. **Express** determination to prevent and combat corrupt practices in all forms and collaborate on facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to their legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption;
3. **Welcome** the significant number of Member States that have already ratified or acceded to the Convention, and in this regard urges all APA Member Parliaments that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations

Convention against Corruption as a matter of priority, and urges all States parties to the Convention to take appropriate measures ensuring its full and effective implementation;

4. **Decide** to set up a working group under the auspices of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs to further consider the APA Plan of Action on Combating Corruption contained in APA/Res/2007/05/ Annex with a view to taking effective measures for enhancing synergy and interactions among Asian Parliamentarians in fighting corruption.
5. **Decide** to improve and expand working relations with important Asian organizations such as ARPAC, SEAPAC, SAPAC, and GOPAC Chapter in order to enhance synergy and areas for cooperation and joint initiatives;
6. **Urges** States parties to United Nations Convention against Corruption that have not already done so to designate a central authority for international cooperation in accordance with the Convention and, where appropriate; focal points for asset recovery;
7. **Request** the Secretary-General to prepare in consultation with interested APA Delegations, particularly APA delegates with interest and experience in anti-corruption efforts, the required draft documents for consideration by the working group set up in this respect;
8. **Request** also the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member Parliaments on implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the next meeting of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs.



Draft Resolution on APA Women Parliamentarians

EC1/Draft Res/2016/06
27 September 2016

We, members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling the APA Plenary Resolution (APA/Res/2010/06, 30 November, 2010) on the establishment of the Coordinating Meeting of APA Women Parliamentarians;

Mindful of the fact that despite all efforts made for the promotion of women's rights, injustice still persists between women and men both in the extent of power at decision-making and in mechanisms to promote the advancement of women;

Aware of the importance of promoting the participation of women in scientific, social, political, cultural and economic affairs, and peace dialogue;

Reaffirming that inclusion women in positions of power and elected bodies, and also their involvement in the decision making process, strengthens the development of democratic principles in public life and increases the economic development;

Recognizing that the main obstacles women face in entering Parliaments in Asia include political, socio-economic, cultural, and extremism;

Mindful of the necessity to put on the agenda of APA meetings matters of importance to women such as combating violence against women, empowerment of women in society, participation of women in political life, and prevention of sexual violence against women and girls, including in situation of armed conflicts;

Stressing our resolve to participate and contribute actively in the deliberation of issues relating to women's empowerment and women's participation in APA meetings;

Underlining the need to facilitate networking between women parliamentarians of Asia;

1. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to ensure the inclusion and effective participation of women in social, cultural, economic, political, and sustainable development affairs in Asia, at national, regional, and international levels.
2. **Encourage** Member Parliaments to adopt legislative regulations to facilitate women's representations in Asian Parliaments;

3. **Recommend** the inclusion of at least one woman parliamentarian in APA delegations;
4. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to recognize the concerns of women, and to effectively implement the relevant provisions of United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) which promote gender equality and empowerment, sustainable and inclusive economic growth, full and productive employment, and building accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.
5. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to recognize that gender equality and empowerment of women must be established as a standing-alone goal and must be achieved simultaneously with gender mainstreaming across all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG);
6. **Determine** to enhance the activities of the Coordinating Meeting of APA Women Parliamentarian through more effective exchange of views and close interaction;
7. **Require** the Special Committee of APA Women Parliamentarians to expand the scope of its activities under the auspices of Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs and to take appropriate measures to facilitate networking among women parliamentarians in Asia;
8. **Request** the APA Secretariat to assign one part of the website of the Assembly to facilitate networking among women parliamentarians of Asia covering updated information on the activities of the APA Women Parliamentarians;
9. **Express** concern at the dire situation of millions of women in all war-torn and conflict-ridden such as Syria, Iraq, and Kashmir who are in danger of violence, killing, rape, and captivity;
10. **Request** the Secretary-General seek the views of Member parliaments on this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next meeting of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs.



Draft Resolution on Promoting Inter- Faith Dialogue and Harmony among World Religions

EC1/Draft Res/2016/07
27 September 2016

We the members of Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling with appreciation various global, regional and sub-regional initiatives on mutual understanding and interfaith harmony including the United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/65/PV.34, and also resolution 57/6 of 4 November 2002 concerning the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, the International Conference on Environment, Peace and the Dialogue among Civilizations and Cultures, held in Tehran on 9 and 10 May 2005, the Asia-Europe Meeting Interfaith Dialogue on the theme "Building Interfaith Harmony within the International Community", held in Bali, Indonesia, on 21 and 22 July 2005, the High Level Conference on International and Inter-Religious Dialogue, held in Saint Petersburg, Russia on 3 and 4 July 2014, and the sixth global Forum of the United Nations alliance of Civilizations, held in Bali, Indonesia on 29 and 30 August 2014;

Mindful of the fact that, Inter-Faith Harmony between the different religions of the world in general and Asia in particular is of utmost importance for the survival of mankind and the promotion of the culture of peace, security and tolerance;

Recognizing the essential role of dialogue among different faiths and religions in enhancing mutual collaboration, harmony and cooperation among nations of the world;

Expressing the need to explore ways and means to intensify Inter- Faith Harmony and resultant cooperation to strengthen the international peace and security to make the world a better place to live;

Admitting that the moral imperatives of all religions, convictions and beliefs call for peace, tolerance and mutual understanding;

1. **Urge** all parliaments to support and spread the message of interfaith harmony and goodwill, as such mutual understanding constitutes important dimensions of the dialogue among civilizations and of the culture of peace;
2. **Maintain** that a regular dialogue between the parliaments of APA could become an effective supplement for addressing the challenges of international ongoing conflicts based on religious differences and discrepancies;
3. **Denounce** stereotyping of any religious, national or ethnic group and condemn any intentional and unintentional activity that leads towards the division between the followers of different faiths;

4. **Urge** all Member Parliaments to harmonize their efforts in promulgating laws and legislations in Asia for improved standards of cooperation between the nations to enhance the patience for contradictory religious beliefs;
5. **Declare** that terrorism, extremism and violence have no religion nor any borders, as these are common enemy of all humanity;
6. **Consider** Islamophobia, Christianophobia, Anti-Semitism and any other form of xenophobia based on belief, faith or ethnic adherence contrary to the merits of inter-faith dialogue which has no place in the community of civilized nations;
7. **Deplore**, in the strongest terms, all atrocities and acts of violence, committed by extremist and terrorist groups under the guise of Islam which hold no authentic reference to Islamic principles and no legitimacy among Muslims all around the world, and call upon all states to refrain from providing any support to such groups;
8. **Condemn** the misuse and distortion of religious beliefs, by leaders of extremist groups and their followers, which inflame intra-faith as well as inter-faith hatred and hold them accountable for instigation of ill-judgment, violence, and brutality against other faithful people;
9. **Call Upon** the international community to be cognizant of humanitarian situations in Asia that involve violations of rights of religious communities;
10. **Urge** all Member Parliaments to intensify their efforts in utilizing parliamentary diplomacy for the development of international and regional frameworks to promote best practices which leads towards the inter faith harmony and collaboration;
11. **Request** the Secretary-General to seek the views as well as measures taken by APA Member Parliaments to implement this resolution and to report thereon to the next meeting of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs.



Draft Resolution on Legal and Legislative Cooperation in Combating the Smuggling of Cultural Items in Asia

EC1/Draft Res/2016/08
27 September 2016

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA/Resolution/2013/05 of 9 December 2013 on Protecting and Respecting Cultural Diversity in Asia;

Expressing support for the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2199 prohibiting the smuggling of cultural items by terrorist groups, including from Iraq and Syria;

Expressing deep concern about the growing problem of smuggling of cultural items in Asia;

Affirming the important role of parliaments to develop a national strategy including a legal framework to combat smuggling of cultural items;

Considering the smuggling of cultural objects from Asia a threat to the richness of Asian cultural heritage;

Recognizing the role of parliaments to enhance public awareness about the threat to national identity and heritage of states from which cultural items are smuggled abroad;

Recognizing also the need to enhance national capacities, including parliamentary capacity to reinforce national strategy to combat smuggling of cultural items;

1. **Urge** all APA Member Parliaments to utilize their legislative powers to prevent and punish the smuggling of cultural objects in Asia and facilitate concerted efforts to return the stolen items back to their original locations without any cost to the original owner country;
2. **Call on** all APA member parliaments that have not yet done so to consider ratifying the International Convention for the Safeguarding of World Natural and Cultural Heritage, and the International Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage;
3. **Request** all APA Member Parliaments to consider and contribute to drafting of a common legislation on protecting and safeguarding cultural objects and combating all forms and aspects of trafficking cultural property and related offences to be enacted on the basis of the principles prepared by APA Secretariat

and annexed to this resolution, and in accordance with their own internal legislative procedures;

4. **Request** the Secretary-general to follow up preparation of a common legislation on combating the smuggling of cultural items in Asia by APA Member Parliaments and submit a report thereon to the next meeting of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs.

Annex

Principles for Drafting Common Legislation by Asian Parliaments Concerning the Smuggling of Cultural Items

1. Lawful exchange of cultural and historical properties enriches cultural and social existence of nations; strengthens mutual respect and leads to amity and friendship among them;
2. Movable cultural heritage of every nation is considered as fundamental elements of culture and civilization of that nation, and an integral part of regional and human culture and civilization and thus necessitates regional cooperation to fight theft and smuggling of cultural properties.
3. Protection and safeguarding of historical cultural properties from the perils of unlawful excavations, theft and smuggling, is inter alia the duty of the governments.
4. Clandestine excavations in archeological sites, theft, illicit import and export of cultural properties constitutes as one of the main reasons for the cultural impoverishment of the countries of the origin of these objects.
5. Establishment and strengthening of a proper system of management to protect immovable cultural heritage and reinforce coordination and cooperation among concerned institutions for combating theft and smuggling of cultural properties.
6. Documentation, preparation and completion of an inventory of national cultural properties.
7. Proper supervision over archeological excavations, standardization of the means to protect cultural items at the site of discovery.
8. Taking educational steps to enhance public awareness on the necessity of protecting cultural objects.
9. Encouraging and developing the educational, scientific and technical institutions required for protecting cultural items, expanding museums, supporting cooperation and exchanging cultural objects among museums in Asian countries.
10. Issuing special permit for those cultural objects the export of which is authorized; and thwarting illicit import and export of cultural items with no permit, and restitution thereof to the country of origin.
11. Promoting international cooperation to combat smuggling of cultural items with the countries of origin on restitution of cultural properties as well as extradition of those charged with theft and smuggling of cultural items.
12. Stress on the inalienable right of every country concerning classification and declaring as non-transferable certain cultural properties and preventing entry into the national territory of those items.



Draft Resolution on Effective Cooperation in Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking in Asia

EC1/Draft Res/2016/09
27 September 2016

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling the report of the Standing Committee meeting on Social and Cultural Affairs held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, on 13-14 September 2011;

Mindful of the fact that illicit drug trafficking and its negative impact on health, safety, public order, governance, economic development and social health constitutes a prime concern in Asia and deserves a comprehensive consideration by the APA;

Stressing the need to continue to take concentrated measures within the framework of the Paris Pact in order to strengthen cross-border cooperation and information exchanged with a view to countering illicit cultivation, production and trafficking of narcotic drugs in Asia;

Emphasizing that the danger of illicit drug trafficking is so pervasive that may undermine international peace and security, and there is an urgent need to mobilize efforts of all countries to curb the production of opium and heroin in Afghanistan and to dismantle networks of illicit drug trafficking from that country;

Recognizing that production and illicit trafficking of narcotics drugs can be utilized for financing of other organized crimes, including terrorism;

Expressing the need to explore ways and means to intensify regional coordination among legislators to combat drug trafficking and make anti-drugs policy a priority in programs of co-operation with, and of assistance to, the Asian countries which are affected by illicit drug trafficking;

Recognizing the interconnected challenges facing Asian countries, including continued illegal cultivation, production and trafficking of narcotic drugs that pose a serious threat to the region;

Expressing the need to increase international and regional support for the capacity building of law-enforcement agencies in Afghanistan, and to intensify training programs for Afghan law-enforcement staff;

Stressing the need to enhance joint operations with the relevant Afghan law-enforcement agencies focusing on clandestine heroin-producing laboratories and organized criminal groups involved in the drugs trade, and to combine them with increased efforts aimed at integrated rural development, building infrastructure and supporting farmers engaged in alternative production;

Recognizing the need for more cooperation with a result-oriented approach between the law enforcement agencies of the Member States including customs and border authorities in order to better tackle smuggling of narcotics and psychotropic substances within the region and beyond;

Call upon Asian Parliaments to adopt laws on extradition of convicted persons on terrorism and illicit drug trafficking to their original countries for fair trial on the bases of their laws and regulations;

Supporting regional and international efforts to improve law enforcement and combat the production and trafficking of narcotic drugs and curtailing drug related financial activities;

Emphasizing the need to assist Afghanistan in developing its economy and diversifying agriculture so as to reduce dependence on revenues from the illicit drugs trafficking, in line with the Lima Declaration and International Guiding Principles on Alternative Development (November 2012);

Stressing the need to take adequate measures in preventing, treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts;

Expressing the need for more active and efficient international cooperation in combating illicit drug trafficking in Asia;

Attaching great importance to the efforts made by international and regional organizations including the United Nations (UN), and the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) to combat the threats of international terrorism, illicit drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and legalization of income derived from criminal activity;

1. **Call upon** Asian Parliaments to coordinate among themselves to review relevant legislation to address different aspects of combating illicit drug trafficking;
2. **Stress** the need to exchange information and best practices within APA Member Parliaments on combating illicit drug trafficking;
3. **Reiterate** the need to coordinate and improve law enforcement activities to combat the production and trafficking of narcotic drugs and curtailing the flow of illicit drug more effectively;
4. **Underline** the importance of effectively using international financial assistance for the creation of alternative economic opportunities in order to ensure a sustainable anti-drug policy;
5. **Call upon** APA Asian Parliaments to enable civil society as an effective partner of parliaments and to enhance the role of mass media in combating drug trafficking in Asia;
6. **Encourage** all APA member Parliaments to support their respective governments in order to coordinate with international and regional organizations including the United Nations (UN) to combat the threats of international terrorism, illicit drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and legalization of income derived from criminal activity;

7. **Believe** that a regular dialogue on supporting joint actions of Asian governments against abovementioned threats within APA could become an effective supplement for addressing the challenges of international illicit drug trafficking and transnational organized crime in the region;
8. **Express** our commitment to encourage and enhance cooperation with all relevant states and international and regional organizations, on matters of common interest in the spirit of this resolution on rendering assistance to combat illicit drug trafficking;
9. **Encourage** networking of the relevant national agencies or organizations in Asia dealing with transnational crimes to further enhance information exchange and dissemination;
10. **Request** the Secretary General to seek the views of all Member parliaments on ways and means for effective implementation of this resolution and prepare a report thereon to be considered by the next meeting of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs.



Draft Resolution on Building Prosperity in Asia Through Friendship and Cooperation

EC1/Draft Res/2016/10
27 September 2016

We the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly

Recalling relevant APA resolutions on Advancing the Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia (APA/Res/2015/01—11 December 2015); Resolution on Measures and Methods of Materialization of Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia (APA/Res/2014/01— 3 December 2014); Resolution on Consolidation of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia (APA/Res/2013/01-- 9 December 2013); Resolution on Reinforcing the Declaration on Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia (APA/Res/2010/09—30 November 2010); Resolution on Pursuing Implementation of the Declaration on the Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia (APA/Res/2008/09, 29 November 2008) and Resolution on the Friendship Pact in Asia; (APA/Res/2007/06, dated 19 November 2007); Text of the Declaration on Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia (APA/Res/2007/06/Annex, 19 November 2007);

Relying on deep-rooted ties of history, geography, culture, economy, politics, and civilization which bind Asian nations together;

Recognizing the amity and the friendly relations among the Asian Nations, Parliaments, and States as an indispensable asset which need to be further strengthened by all kinds of inter-governmental; inter-parliamentary as well as inter-national interaction and cooperation;

Deploring the current widespread war and violence in West Asia which undermine peace and security and entail massive killing and indiscriminate targeting of innocent people;

Offering in Good Faith all our capacities and capabilities in parliamentary diplomacy for mediation, reconciliation, and supporting dialogue with a view to promoting friendship and cooperation and contribute to peaceful resolution of conflicts in Asia;

Emphasizing the fundamental role of democracy and human rights in the promotion of friendship and cooperation in Asia and calling upon all Member Parliaments and their respective Governments to ensure equal and non-discriminatory access of their citizens to civil rights;

Reiterating the importance of the Declaration on the Principles of Friendly Relations in Asia as a proper framework for promoting peace and prosperity in Asia;

Encouraging further expansion of friendly relations including cultural, diplomatic, scientific, and commercial relations among all Asian States and further interaction among Asian Parliaments and Nations in pursuance of the purposes of the Declaration;

1. **Urge** collective and concentrated efforts by all Asian States whose parliaments are APA Members to provide humanitarian assistance of all kinds to the vulnerable people in war- torn countries;
2. **Call Upon** all Asian States to direct their diplomatic efforts at reducing political tensions and utilize all ways and means within their power to avoid and the de-escalate controversies which have potential to undermine principles of friendship and cooperation in Asia;
3. **Urge** Asian Parliaments to disseminate information about the APA Declaration on the Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia by all available means including parliamentary and state publications, parliamentary friendship groups, public programs, etc.
4. **Decide** that every Member Parliament would motivate public and private media networks, websites and the like at local and national levels to engage in promoting and spreading the word about the content, importance and positive results of the adoption and implementation of the APA Declaration on the Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia;
5. **Encourage** Asian academic institutions, think-tanks and research centers, universities and educational schools, as well as professional associations throughout Asia to take part in promoting and adhering to the tenets and guidelines enshrined in the APA Declaration on the Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia,
6. **Call upon** all APA Member Parliaments to inform the APA Secretariat of measures they have taken in promoting the APA Declaration on Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia
7. **Request** the Secretary-General to continue its consultations and coordination with the APA Member Parliaments as well as interested Asian organizations and academic institutions for promoting further activities and joint initiatives pertaining to Friendship and Cooperation in Asia.



Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments and Governments Together for Prosperity in Asia

EC1/Draft Res/2016/11
27 September 2016

We the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA),

Recalling APA resolutions on Mobilizing Interactions Between APA and Asian Governments (APA/Res/2015/02—11 December 2015); Engaging APA with Asian Governments and Inter-Governmental Organizations (APA/Res/2014/02); Asian Parliaments and Governments: Together for Solidarity and Prosperity in Asia (APA/Res/2013/02 –9 December 2013); Measures for Enhancing Cooperation Between APA and Asian Governments (APA/Res/2010/11, 30 November 2010) and resolution on Enhancing Cooperation Between Asian Parliamentary Assembly Member Parliaments and Their Governments for Implementation of APA Decisions (APA/Res/2008/10, 29 November 2008);

Emphasizing the need to foster closer coordination and cooperation between APA and Governments of APA Member Parliaments;

Encouraging Member Parliaments to consider endorsing and adopting common legislations on issues of mutual interest to both APA and Asian Governments;

- 1. Urge** all Member Parliaments to inform relevant high-ranking officials of their respective governments of the great potentials, activities, and achievements of the APA as the largest inter-parliamentary organization in Asia and report thereon to the Secretariat for circulation;
- 2. Decide** to form APA parliamentary groups comprising nominated delegates from volunteer Member Parliaments under the supervision of the APA Vice-President for Political Affairs, and in full coordination with the APA Secretariat, to hold contacts and meetings with relevant inter-parliamentary and inter-governmental organizations, with a view to converging points of view and considering possible joint initiatives pertaining to regional and global issues, including the creation of an Asian Parliament;
- 3. Encourage** Member Parliaments to seek the views of their respective Governments on the subject of Asian Parliament and to contribute to the work of the APA Special Committee on the Creation of Asian Parliament (SCCAP) by providing their points of views and analyses of the subject matter;
- 4. Request** APA Member Parliaments to identify and describe their priority

desirable topics for receiving training, as well their capabilities to offer training and best practices, and share them with other Parliaments through the APA Secretariat, in order to organize training programs on exchanging best practices and learning from each other;

5. **Request** the Vice-President for Political Affairs to report to the Executive Council and the Plenary Sessions on his/her activities pertaining to the formation of working groups from interested Member Parliaments to focus on the implementation of APA decisions on political affairs;
6. **Request** the Secretary-General to expand the scope of its contacts and communications with inter-governmental as well as inter-parliamentary organizations who work on issues relevant to the items on the APA agenda in order to facilitate further interaction and joint efforts on common grounds with a view to enhancing cooperation between Asian Parliaments and Governments and report thereon to the next session of the APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs and the Executive Council.



Draft Resolution on United Against Terrorism and Violent Extremism

**EC1/Draft Res/2016/12
27 September 2016**

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA Resolutions on Deploring Acts of Terrorism and Violent Extremism (APA/Res/2015/03—11 December 2015); Denunciation of Terrorism and Violent Extremism (APA/Res/2014/03—3 December 2014); Supporting Palestinian State and Protecting the Rights of Palestinian People (APA/Res/2013/08—3 December 2013); Comprehensive Counter-Terrorism and Counter-Occupation Strategies (APA/Res/2010/07, 30 November, 2010); Supporting the Rights of Palestinian People (APA/Res/2010/08-- 30 November 2010); Violations of International Humanitarian Law in Palestine and the War Crimes Committed by the Zionist Regime in Gaza (APA/Res/2009/02--10 December 2009); Humanitarian Crisis in Palestine in Particular in the Gaza Strip (APA/Res/2008/08-- 29 November 2008);

Reaffirming APA commitment to the promotion of peace and security at regional and global levels on the basis of justice and the rule of law;

Encouraging all Member Parliaments as well as governmental and non-governmental organizations in Asia to generate public awareness of the dangers of intolerance and sectarian violence and the importance of inter-cultural and inter-religious dialogue;

Condemning any and all kinds of support for, or advocacy of, national, racial or religious hatred that would constitute incitement to terrorism, extremism, discrimination, or sectarian violence;

Remaining concerned that terrorism and violent extremism continue to threaten peace and security in many areas of Asia as well as the social and economic development of international community;

Deploring the acts of terrorism carried out by Daesh and Jabhat-al-Nosra (recently dubbed as Fateh al-Sham) against innocent people in Iraq and Syria and holding certain Western states who originally sponsored and supported these terrorist organizations accountable for undermining regional peace and stability;

Recognizing that acts of “terrorism and horrorism” by Daesh, al-Qaeda, and their offshoots and affiliates have no basis in the teachings of true Islam which is a Divine peaceful religion, as there is no ground in the teachings of true Judaism justifying acts of terror and atrocities by Israel and reject stereotyping of any religious, national, or ethnic group as supporting terrorism;

Acknowledging that atrocities committed by Daesh in Iraq and Syria and crimes committed by Israeli regime in the occupied Palestinian territories have led to disastrous humanitarian, economic, social and cultural consequences and continue to undermine international efforts towards achieving a just and lasting peace in the region;

Considering foreign occupation as a violation of independence of the occupied countries that constitutes a real threat to peace and international security thus according the people under foreign occupation the right to resist occupation and exercise self-determination in accordance with international law is not, in any way, an act of terrorism;

1. **Invite** all parliaments and parliamentarians of the world to utilize all means available to support regional and global efforts aimed at stopping acts of violence and addressing conditions conducive to spread of terrorism and violent extremism;
2. **Call Upon** all APA Member Parliaments to focus on improving capacity building in their own respective countries, and collectively across Asia, for combating terrorism and violent extremism;
3. **Encourage** Member Parliaments and their respective governments to exchange their best practices in fighting terrorism and extremism including through the promotion of interfaith dialogue;
4. **Call Upon** the international community to stand united in the global fight against terrorism and spare no efforts to combat all terrorist and extremist entities who violate international law;
5. **Urge** all Member Parliaments to harmonize their efforts in promulgating counter-terrorism legislations in Asia with a view to facilitating more effective cooperation among Asian governments in combating terrorism;
6. **Condemn** all and any kind of support including political, financial, military, logistical, commercial, technological assistance provided to Daesh and Israeli regime through making oil-deals with them and purchasing smuggled cultural items, as well as granting them financial aids and lethal weapons;
7. **Decide** to keep this item on its agenda and monitor the developments related to atrocities by Al-Qaida and Daesh and other terrorist organizations in order to take all possible measures to curb the effects and consequences of terrorism and extremism in Iraq, Syria, and other countries.



Draft Resolution on Significant Political Developments in Asia

EC1/Draft Res/2016/13
27 September 2016

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Inspired by the principles and values enshrined in the Charter of the APA;

Reaffirming its commitment to the promotion of freedom, democracy, peace and security at regional and global levels;

Promoting, as an APA principal policy, the resort to political means and diplomatic solutions, including parliamentary diplomacy, for resolving internal and international conflicts, instead of violent and military course of actions;

Considering terrorism and violent extremism as serious common concerns for all Member Parliaments, threatening the security and well-being of human societies;

Being Concerned with the situation in Yemen, call for national and political solutions to the crisis and warns against the escalation of tensions by terrorist groups like al- Qaeda which could swirl the country into chronic violence and instability;

- 1. Deplore** massive destruction and indiscriminate killing of innocent civilians in Syria and Iraq and urge the international community to help Syrian and Iraqi peoples to confront the menace of terrorism;
- 2. Urge** the governmental authorities as well as all civilian opposition fronts and entities in Syria to expedite their engagement in constructive dialogue and mutual compromise with a view to achieving political solutions to their disputes; putting an end to internal armed conflicts; safeguarding independence, national sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Syria; and guaranteeing civil rights and freedoms including fair and free elections;
- 3. Criticize** Israel's continuation of building settlements defying applicable international law; disregarding the legitimate rights of the Palestinian People including their right to resist and protest against foreign occupation of their lands; and hampering international efforts towards achieving a just and lasting peace in the region;
- 4. Call Upon** all relevant parties to establish effective mechanisms to ensure peace and stability in the Korean Peninsula, adhere to principles of international law including the principle of peaceful settlement of disputes, and avoid any action that might provoke tension and destabilize regional and international peace

and security;

5. **Express** concerns on the growing potentials for conflict in Kashmir and urge the concerned states to observe utmost restraints and abide by the respective resolutions of the United Nations concerning the situation in Kashmir.
6. **Support** the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) between the Islamic Republic of Iran and E3/EU+3 (Germany, England, France/European Union+ United States, China, Russia) as endorsed by the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231 and acknowledge the fulfillment of undertakings by the Islamic Republic of Iran under the plan as verified by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and urge other parties to fully implement their commitments under the JCPOA. which include the complete removal of all sanctions of the United Nations Security Council, as well as multilateral and national sanctions related to Iran's nuclear program and in upholding its rights under the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT);
7. **Decide** to offer APA Good Offices for peaceful settlement of disputes through mediation; conciliation; and negotiation in Asia utilizing its unparalleled capacities in parliamentary diplomacy, through its Troika-Plus mechanism or otherwise, whenever requested by parties.



Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support For The Palestinian People

EC1/Draft Res/2016/14
27 September 2016

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA Resolutions on Supporting Palestinian State and Protecting Rights of Palestinian People, (APA/Res/2013/03, 9 December 2013); Violations of International Humanitarian Law in the Palestine and the War Crimes Committed By the Zionist Regime in Gaza (APA/Res/2009/01, 8 December 2009); and Humanitarian Crisis in Palestine Particularly in the Gaza Strip (APA/Res/2008/08, 29 November 2008);

Inspired by the Principles and objectives enshrined in the APA Charter and the relevant APA resolutions;

Committed to contribute to the promotion of peace and security at regional and global levels on the basis of justice and the rule of law;

Affirming the responsibility of the international community to support implementation of resolutions and recommendations of the United Nations Security Council; the UN General Assembly; the Human Rights Council; and the APA pertinent to the situation in Palestine, particularly Al-Quds Al-Sharif;

Supporting the establishment of an independent Palestinian State with al-Quds al-Sharif as its capital;

Reaffirming the applicability of the fourth Geneva Convention relative to the protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the occupied Palestinian territories, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif;

Expressing serious concerns on Israel's lack of commitment to abide by resolutions and recommendations of the UN Security Council, the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and the APA regarding the human rights situation in the occupied Palestinian territories, particularly in Al-Quds Al-Sharif;

Recognizing that Israel's severe violations of international humanitarian law and of the human rights of Palestinian people undermine international efforts towards achieving a just and lasting peace in the region;

1. **Urge** all Members of the APA to support and treat the State of Palestine as a full member of the United Nations
2. **Denounce** all violations of international law which threaten international peace and security including all acts of terrorism and organized crimes; and violations of human rights committed by the Israeli occupying forces in Palestine.
3. **Encourage** all members of the international community to put pressure on Israel to immediately release all the Palestinian prisoners including the Members of the Palestinian Parliament; dismantle all illegal settlements as well as the entire separating wall and put an end to confiscating Palestinian lands.
4. **Declare** all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, including expropriation of land and properties which tend to change the legal status of Jerusalem as invalid and bearing no legal effect on their original status.
5. **Express** grave concerns on the suppression and injustice, as well as continuing violence practiced against people, particularly women and children, in the occupied Palestinian territories under the Israeli occupation including East Jerusalem, and in the Syrian Golan occupied by Israel;
6. **Call Upon** all members of the APA and the United Nations as well as all regional and international organizations concerned, particularly the United Nations Security Council and the International Criminal Court to address, under the UN Charter and the Rome Statute, the crimes against humanity and the war crimes committed by Israel in Palestine which threaten the international peace and security;
7. **Praise** the decision taken by the European Union not to purchase any products produced in the settlements based in the occupied territories and call on states of the APA Member Parliaments to act in a similar way;
8. **Demand** Israel to stop the systematic destruction of the Palestinian cultural heritage as well as the destruction of public and private properties, as laid down in the Fourth Geneva Convention;
9. **Reject** the unlawful resolutions adopted by the Israeli Knesset such as Judaisation of the Jerusalem and the Citizenship Loyalty Law, denying the State of Palestine and the rights of Palestinian People in the occupied territories;
10. **Call Upon** the international community to fulfill its pledges to rebuild infrastructure and rehabilitate people in Gaza which have been destroyed by Israeli forces.



Draft Resolution on Asian Integrated Energy Market

**EC1/Draft Res/2016/15
27 September 2016**

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA Resolution on Integrated Energy Market in Asia (APA/Res/2015/05) adopted at the 8th APA Plenary in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, December 2015 and other relevant APA.

Welcoming the Report of the Secretary-General on the Asian Integrated Energy Market (AIEM), to the meeting of the Energy Sub-Committee held in Islamabad, Pakistan, on 27 July 2016;

Considering the role of energy market integration between We stand East Asia that will be even more important in the future due to high rate of energy consumption in the East and South of Asia.

Concerning about the political turbulence in the West Asia in recent years as a real obstacle for the realization of Asian Integrated Energy Market;

Recognizing that “Integrated Asian Energy Market” can help the Asian countries to Maximize the interests of both producers and consumers and minimize the risks and costs of energy in Asia;

Welcoming the strong support of North-East, East and South-East Asia for “Integrated Asian Energy Market”

Emphasizing the need to develop multilateral co-operation among Asian countries and the work of APA to develop an Integrated Energy Market in Asia as efforts to provide a sustainable, green and clean energy as they are crucial for the climate change mitigation and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals;

Reaffirming the importance of adoption and implementation of environmentally sound energy policies and projects throughout Asia;

Welcoming the decreasing trend of energy intensity in the most regions of the world and in particular in Asia;

Welcoming the Asian governments’ commitments to reduce carbon emissions affecting global warming and environmental cleanness;

Supporting a wider use of Natural gas an economically efficient and ecologically clean fuel to promote sustainable development as well as to reduce the greenhouse emissions in accordance with the Paris Agreement on the climate change;

1. **Decide** to expand the mandate of the Advisory Group on Energy not only to link the demand and the supply for energy in Asia but also to promote the sustainable use of energy, in line with the spirit enshrined in the UN Summit 2015 Declaration in order to secure our planet for present and future generations;
2. **Call up on** APA Member Parliaments to encourage the respective governments to scale up bilateral and multilateral cooperation among Asian countries on energy-related issues to further develop energy cooperation and its sustainability and to be linked such efforts with those existing international commitments such as the SDGs and the UN Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC);
3. **Call up** APA Member States in South and West Asia to respond positively and urgently to the appeal of “Integrated Asian Energy Market” in North-East, East and South-East Asia
4. **Urge** all Members of APA Parliaments to report to the Secretary-General on their national experiences in the field of increasing energy efficiency and their energy policies for the betterment of the information of the Advisory Group;
5. **Request** the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member Parliaments on the implementation of this resolution and to report thereon to the next meeting of the Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development Affairs.



Draft Resolution on Environmental Issues

**EC1/Draft Res/2016/16
27 September 2016**

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA Resolution on Environmental Issues, Global Warming, Climate Change, and Planting Billions of Trees Throughout Asia (APA/Res/2015/07) adopted at the 8th APA Plenary in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, December 2015 and other relevant APA resolutions;

Welcoming the Report of the Secretary-General on Environmental Issues, Global Warming, and Planting Billions of Trees throughout Asia, contained in document SG/Rep/2016/03-2 dated 20 July 2016;

Recognizing the need to pursue the component so sustainable development namely the economic growth, social development and environmental protection in a balanced and mutually supportive manner;

Highlighting the link between sustainable development and other relevant ongoing processes such as the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and UN Convention Biological Diversity (UNCBD), UN Convention to Combat Desertification and the International Conference on Financing for Development among others;

Recognizing that climate change represents an urgent and potentially irreversible threat to human societies and the planet and thus requires the widest possible cooperation by all countries, and their participation in an effective and appropriate international response, with a view to accelerating the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions,

Underlining the necessity of a comprehensive and long-term strategy to combat desertification and marine life deterioration, thus improving the living conditions of the people living in arid, semi-arid and coastal areas;

Recognizing the significance of exchanging information on environmental issues among Asian countries and transfer of environmental technology, in particular scientific and technical assistance, from those countries with high capabilities in the area of sustainable development to less developed countries in Asia;

Recognizing the urgent need to enhance the provision of finance, technology and capacity-building support by developed country Parties, in a predictable manner, to enable enhanced pre-2020 action by developing country Parties,

Concerning about the negative environmental impact of unbridled energy consumption on a global scale and particularly in Asia;

Encouraging Asian parliaments to speed up their acceptance of these cond commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, in order to provide further momentum for global climate action for the years leading up to 2020;

Supporting the global reduction of greenhouse gas emissions of at least 50 percent by 2050 compared with the levels in 1990, in the context of equitable access to sustainable development, so as to limit global warming in this century to below 2°C or 1.5 °C.

Calling up on developed countries and international institutions to assist Asian developing countries, in their efforts to deal with negative consequences of environmental degradation effectively and *reiterating* the importance of devising a proper mechanism for technology transfer and financing environmentally sound technology from developed to developing countries;

Emphasizing that substantive involvement of APA in the latest state of affairs as regards the ongoing negotiations with in the context of UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol, exchange of views among Member Parliaments and striving for bringing as much coordination and collaboration as possible in relevant negotiating for a with a view to serving and improving the common regional interest of Asia is a compelling imperative;

Acknowledging the importance of enhancing the role of civil society, NGOs, policy think tanks, business and academia in the protection of environment through their inputs to the environmental policy formulation as well as implementation at the local, national and regional levels;

Emphasizing the importance of cooperation among Member Parliaments with regard to efforts to combat desertification;

Recognizing the success by Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development's (UNCSD) in raising global awareness and international collaboration in the economic and environmental fields and the promotion of transparency;

Recalling the role of United Nations Development Fund (UNDP) in strengthening and building national capacity to further the sustainable management of the environment and the implementation of programs that take into account environmental considerations without interfering with development;

Agreeing to uphold and promote regional and international cooperation in order to mobilize stronger and more ambitious climate action by all Parties and non-Party stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector, financial institutions, cities and other sub-national authorities, local communities and indigenous peoples,

Stressing the central role of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in providing for collective international response to the challenge of the global climate change;

1. **Welcome** the adoption of Paris Agreement at the 21th session of the Conference of the Parties of UNFCCC in December 2015; -

2. **Invite** APA developed members to assess how loss and damage due to climate change affects the world particularly vulnerable developing countries in Asia;
3. **Call Upon** all Member Parliaments to facilitate coordinating organs such as the UNDP to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness in targeted development programs
4. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to facilitate the conclusion of an agreement among Asian States in order to collaborate, in a balanced manner, on holding the increase in global average temperature below 2 °C or 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels;
5. **Urge** APA Parliaments to support Sustainable Development Goals with regard to environmental issues by adopting appropriate legislation;
6. **Invite** the APA Member Parliaments to proceed with legislation and other legal actions deemed appropriate and facilitative to encouraging the governments to formulate and implement legislations, policies and measures with regard to the following:
 - Integrating climate policies in broader development policies with a view to making implementation and overcoming barriers easier;
 - Financing and encouraging R&D for low carbon or cleaner technologies with a view to stimulating technological advances, reduce costs, and enable progress toward stabilization;
 - Legalizing then ecessity of observing the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) as a step towards bringing a balance between the three pillars of sustainable development namely: economic growth, social development and environmental protection;
 - Encouraging the maximum possible interaction, coordination, integrity and solidarity among Asian delegations involved in climate change negotiations with a view to providing for a collective wisdom by Asia as their common interests which in turn shall strengthen Asian regionalism and contribute to the cause of an Asian integration;
 - Interacting with and make collective attempts with other Asian States Parties for pushing the environmental priorities and urgencies of the Asia within the agenda of financial and technological mechanisms of environment related instruments such as Global Environmental Facility(GEF), those operating within UNEP and the established technological and financial mechanisms in Durban in 2011;
7. **Invite** APA Member Parliaments to exchange experiences and best practices on environmental issues and provide, on a voluntary basis, the data and information concerning issues related to sustainable development, climate change and other environment related major issues to the Secretariat to be compiled in a data base for the reference and use by all Member Parliaments;

8. **Invite** *also* APA Member Parliaments, who are in a position to do so, to provide material and technical support to APA members in their efforts to combat desertification;
9. **Call on** parliamentarians from APA to urge their respective governments to publish Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) before COP-22;
10. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to support the endeavor done in COP21 in Paris to control and reduce the greenhouse gasses;
11. **Note** with concern that the estimated aggregate greenhouse gas emission levels in 2025 and 2030 resulting from the intended nationally determined contributions do not fall within least-cost 2°C scenarios but rather lead to a projected level of 55 giga tonnes in 2030;
12. **Note Also** that much greater emission reduction efforts will be required than those associated with the intended nationally determined contributions in order to hold the increase in the global average temperature to below 2° C above pre-industrial levels by reducing emissions to 40 giga tonnes or to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels
13. **Recommend** action be taken by the International Climate Fund (ICF) within existing framework to assist the Asian region and especially its developing nations with mitigating the effects of climate change and protecting natural resources in order to ensure a healthy environment for future generations focused on aiding developing countries to adapt to the increasing effects of climate change and the protection of natural resources;
14. **Call upon** APA developed Member Parliaments to provide aid to the developing Asian countries in support for national policy programs with regards to sustainable Information and Communication Technology (ICT);
15. **Request** developed APA Member Parliaments to offer advice to the other members on how to acquire and effectively utilize the tools to combat economic shocks resulting from climate change, such as damage to property and infrastructure, lost productivity, mass migration, and coping costs through the preparation of sustainable policies pertaining to disaster preparation programs with special attention given to the needs of the rural population; rain water harvesting; green roofs; river embankment strengthening; food silos; early warning systems; and information and communication technology to facilitate information sharing.
16. **Request** the Secretary General to seek the views of APA Member Parliaments on the implementation of the present resolution and report there on to the next session of the Standing-Committee in 2017;



Draft Resolution on Financial Affairs: Ensuring Efforts for Economic Growth

EC1/Draft Res/2016/17
27 September 2016

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA resolution on the Ramification of International Financial Crisis for the Economies of Countries of APA Member Parliaments, APA/Res/2015/13 and other relevant APA resolutions;

Expressing concern with the following repercussions of the sovereign defaults and financial markets volatility to the economic growth in APA countries;

Appreciating the measures that have already been taken by Asian Parliaments and their governments to contain the negative impacts of economic crisis in their economies, and expect them to take further steps to stimulate their respective economies;

Being Concerned that Britain's exit from the EU is likely to cause uncertainty in the world economy;

Noting that the economic growth in Asian Economies has not been shared equally in the society where by the Gini Coefficient, as reported by the Asian Development Bank, had grown significantly over the last decades and that regional cooperation which have already existed in Asia could serve as a platform for enhancing cooperation among sub regional economic organization that would improve welfare for all in Asia;

Noting that peace and stability in the region is an important contriut or to economic growth and that violence and politic alinst ability act as in hibitors for economic development and that maintaining regional collaboration on political stability is crucial;

Recognizing also the necessity to effectively reform the current global financial architecture so as to achieve a more balanced world economic and financial order;

1. **Call upon** Asian governments to take new policy approaches to develop a more comprehensive and innovative growth strategies needed to sustain a more resilient, balanced and sustain able economic growth as a sole means to create decent jobs and reduce inequalities.
2. **Call upon** APA member parliaments to support the development of Asian-led multilateral bank sand its capacity to promote quit able economic growth, improve nation a land trans-boundary connectivity and to seek possible

establishment of a regional stabilization fund in times of economic crisis;

3. **Encourage** APA member governments to create a protocol to enhance resilience to economic crisis which regulates the allocation for some budget reserves for economic crisis mitigation;
4. **Also encourage** governments in Asia to promote cross-border private investments while ensuring an institutional capacity and prudent regulatory framework to enable countries to absorb large capital flows, while at the same time using bilateral swap arrangements to promote the role of local currency in financing cross-border trade;
5. **Recommend** APA member parliaments to promote the adoption of Base III to improve supervision on financial sector governance;
6. **Encourage** parliaments in APA member countries to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and focus on policies that alleviate poverty, including improving access to health, education and social protection to help close income inequality;
7. **Call On** APA member parliaments to consider reviewing their respective legislations, where appropriate, to give more support to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) by giving access to low interest credit loans and to provide capacity building and regional networking to integrate SMEs into regional and global value chains;
8. **Encourage** parliaments to support financial inclusion for the poor in each respective country and to share best practices of financial inclusion in the region;
9. **Stress** the importance to invest in human development and to provide sufficient public funding for education and health for everyone, without gender bias, to face the future global economy demands;
10. **Request** the government in respective countries to channel more funds in joint research and development (R&D) activities as a means to spur innovation and viable economic growth strategies to sustain a more resilient economic growth;
11. **Also request** the government in respective Asian countries to promote the implementation of a low carbon economy despite the global economy deceleration;
12. **Call up** the APA Member Parliaments to continuously promote the need for reform in global financial institutions and architecture, with the view for a balanced world economic and financial order;
13. **Call upon** APA member countries to strive to create an enabling institutional and business environment that can promote financial stability, financial inclusion, and efficient mobilization and utilization of the available resources;
14. **Call Upon** APA member countries to facilitate investing their sovereign funds and encourage their private investors to invest in Asia rather than other parts of the world.



Draft Resolution on Poverty Eradication

**EC1/Draft Res/2016/18
27 September 2016**

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA Resolution on Alleviating Poverty in Asia (APA/Res/2015/08) adopted at the 8th APA Plenary in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, December 2015 and other relevant APA resolutions;

Underlining the significance of the role of Parliaments both in advocating and overseeing to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially on Poverty Eradication;

Welcoming the High-level Plenary meeting of the U.N. General-Assembly on the Sustainable Development Goals in September 2015 and its outcome; entitled as “Transforming our world: the 2030 agenda for sustainable development”, in particular referring to goal 2 of sustainable development to eradicate hunger, enhance food insecurity and improve nutrition by promoting sustainable agriculture

Reaffirming that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and strategies cannot be overemphasized in the poverty eradication;

Noting that poverty alleviation is important to combat international terrorism, women & children abuse and drug trafficking, arms smuggling, human trafficking, sea piracy and transnational crimes;

Mindful of the fact that the sustainable development recognizes that poverty eradication, fighting inequality, preserving the planet and creating inclusive economic growth are linked to each other and interdependent and that the SDGs balance all the three crucial sustainable development dimensions: the economic, the social and the environmental;

Reaffirming that poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development;

Supporting also a publicity campaign to raise awareness in the society about SDG's goals utilizing the potentials of mass media;

Emphasizing that achieving food security requires efforts and coordination at both national and international level

Recognizing the important role of agriculture in meeting needs of increasing world population, underlining that sustainable agriculture practices and rural development are key approaches to increase food security

We therefore,

1. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to work closely with their governments in the formulation and implementation of the measures which are outlined in the 2030 Agenda for the Sustainable Development;
2. **Determine** to be more ambitious in our efforts to eradicate poverty, reduce inequality, ensure food security, access to healthcare and education;
3. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to redouble their efforts in supporting activities of poverty eradication and encourage their respective governments to facilitate the implementation of effective policies to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all;
4. **Urge** Member Parliaments to create awareness among general public about the importance of food and take possible steps to prevent its wastage.
1. **5. Invite** Member Parliaments to adopt necessary legislation to a) improve labour market regulations, b) support the informal sector and offering increased security to it, c) establish legal savings and loan associations that can help to reduce the reliance on moneylenders, d) promote modern agriculture which contributes essentially to reduction of poverty in urban and rural areas, e) empower the poor to improve their living conditions and participate in decision-making which affects their lives, f) help to upgrade the infrastructure and services in areas where the poor live and work and to provide better education for poor particularly for girls and g) improve disaster preparedness, disaster relief as well as post-disaster economic recovery;
5. **Encourage** Member Parliaments to support investment in climate resilient agriculture and to adopt a unified approach to combat hunger by promoting public and private investments, increased access to inputs, lands and technologies;
6. **Invite** APA Member Parliaments to take appropriate legislative measures for poverty alleviation including providing financial assistance to domestic producers through,
 - a) Government grants to support sustainable farming activities
 - b) Microfinance loans for small scale farmers
7. **Recommend** Member Parliaments to support and strengthen the capacities of government and communities to prepare for and respond to acute hunger arising from disasters through community based on social protection or safety nets;
8. **Encourage** Member Parliaments to take joint action to organize aid campaigns, on a voluntary basis upon the request of a Member Parliament, for assistance in the context of alleviating poverty including to enhance domestic production of

food by participating in agricultural technologies and training programs;

9. **Urge APA** Member States to give significance to development of sustainable agriculture practices while making national policies, to achieve Sustainable Development Goals;
10. **Call for** increased cooperation between developed and developing member countries for improving food security by means of multilateral information sharing, especially in an area of sustainable agricultural technology;
11. **Stressing** the significance of women participation and contribution in agriculture sector for improving productivity food security and eliminating poverty;
12. **Request** the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member Parliaments on their efforts to implement this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the next meeting of the Standing-Committee in 2017.



Draft Resolution on The Role of APA Parliaments in Supporting the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals

EC1/Draft Res/2016/19
27 September 2016

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Acknowledging the outcome document for the United Nations Summit for the adoption of Post-2015 Development Agenda entitled “*Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*,” adopted in September 2015;

Referring to the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Hanoi Declaration on The Sustainable Development Goals: Turning Words in to Action, adopted at its 132nd Assembly, held in Hanoi, Vietnam, March 2015; and other relevant inter-parliamentary organizations resolutions;

Being convinced that the SDGs are integrated and indivisible, global in nature and universally applicable, upholding the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, taking in to account different national capacities, levels of development, and respecting national policies and priorities;

Underlining that strong political will and leadership of the parliament are essential for the achievement of the SDGs,

Emphasizing the need for a consensus between governments, parliaments and the people to recognize the importance of the development particularly in the areas of health, education, housing, food security, nutrition and environmental sustainability;

Welcoming the establishment of the Sustainable Development Goals Commission in the Indonesian Parliament as a best practice to pursue the objectives at the national level;

1. **Endorse** the outcome document of the UN Summit for the adoption Post-2015 Development Agenda which adopted the SDGs as the new development framework for 2015- 2030. The list of the SDGs is annexed;
2. **Determine** to be actively involved in the formulation of national policies to support the main streaming and implementation of SDGs;
3. **Urge** the Asian Parliaments to contribute to the national efforts towards achieving the SDGs including through the establishment of the appropriate mechanisms to monitor the implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development

Agenda at national level;

4. **Recommend** to Asian Governments to consider establishing an Asian information centre in order to provide independent, scientific and reliable data and analytical information in reference to sustainable development indicators;
5. **Call up on** APA Members to provide adequate budgetary resources and adopt legislations which are relevant to support and monitor the successful implementation of the SDGs;
6. **Resolve** to strengthen the role of national parliaments in the advocacy of SDGs so that people understand that the SDGs are relevant to their lives;
7. **Request** the Standing Committees of APA to deliberate in a comprehensive manner issues of SDGs which are relevant to the work of their committees;
8. **Stress** the importance to develop data and indicators to setup a proper follow-up mechanism on the implementation of SDGs and the need to strengthen statistical capacities of all countries to support the progress;
9. **Request** all APA Member Parliaments to report their achievements in the implementation of the SDGs to the APA Secretariat in order to provide information for further discussion in the next Economic and Sustainable Development Standing Committee.

Sustainable Development Goals¹

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|---------|--|
| Goal 1 | End poverty in all its forms every where |
| Goal 2 | End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promotes sustainable agriculture |
| Goal 3 | Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all a tall ages |
| Goal 4 | Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all |
| Goal 5 | Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls |
| Goal 6 | Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all |
| Goal 7 | Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all |
| Goal 8 | Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all |
| Goal 9 | Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation |
| Goal 10 | Reduce in equality within and among countries |
| Goal 11 | Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable |
| Goal 12 | Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns |
| Goal 13 | Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts* |
| Goal 14 | Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development |
| Goal 15 | Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss |
| Goal 16 | Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institution sat all levels |
| Goal 17 | Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development |

*acknowledging that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the primary international, inter governmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change

¹ Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, finalized text for adoption (1 August), page 12, <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld>, retrieved by 14August 2015.



Draft Resolution on Water and Sanitation in Asia for All

EC1/Draft Res/2016/20
27 September 2016

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recognizing the outcome document for the United Nations Summit for the adoption of Post-2015 Development Agenda entitled “*Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*,” adopted in September 2015;

Recalling United Nations’ General Assembly resolution (A/64/292) adopted on 28th July 2010, which formally recognized water and sanitation as human rights and UN Human Rights Council resolution (A/HRC/RES/18/1) adopted on the 28 September 2011, recognizing that the right to water and sanitation are part of the right to an adequate standard of living;

Welcoming the SDG goal 6 on ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, including universal and equitable access to drinking water, sustainable water resources management and wastewater treatment, providing a further anchor for sustainability in the water governance field;

Noting with interest relevant commitments and initiatives promoting the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation, including the Abuja Declaration, adopted at the first Africa-South America Summit, in 2006, the Delhi Declaration, adopted at the third South Asian Conference on Sanitation, in 2008, the Sharm el-Sheikh Final Document, adopted at the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, in 2009, and the Colombo Declaration, adopted at the fourth South Asian Conference on Sanitation, in 2011;

Deeply concerned that approximately one billion people across Asia could face severe water shortage by 2050;

Stress upon the need for Asian Governments to focus in national policies on water and sanitation issues and contribute towards international efforts in resolving these issues;

1. **Welcome** the inclusion of water and sanitation in Post-2015 Development Agenda and the acceptance of human right to safe drinking water and sanitation by the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council;
2. **Consider** the role of Parliamentarian critical in the implementation of human rights approach to water and sanitation in Asia, including particularly the adoption of legislative measures in the implementation of their human rights

obligations;

3. **Reaffirm** that APA Member States have the primary responsibility to ensure the full realization of SDGs including Goal 6, and must take steps, nationally and through international assistance and cooperation, especially economic and technical, to the sanitation by all appropriate means;
4. **Request** Member Parliaments to urge their respective governments to cooperate with their regions to discuss the water scarcity challenge all over Asian countries and to study in depth the causes of the water crisis and to provide appropriate solutions and strategies to overcome this crisis;
5. **Request** the APA Member States to ensure financing according to the available resources for the provision of affordable water and sanitation, and to develop indicators and data collection mechanisms to monitor progress and to identify shortcomings;
6. **Encourage** integrated water resource planning and management¹ for reducing widespread scarcity and pollution of freshwater resources in many regions and priority should be given to the fulfilment of basic needs and safeguarding of ecosystems in developing and using water resources;
7. **Urge** APA Parliamentarians to vigorously engage with executives on building inclusive frameworks between States for reduction of climate change impacts. These climate change impacts have severe consequences in the shape of water scarcity and flooding;
8. **Ask** APA Members to support advance technology transfers from developed countries to the developing countries of Asia and sharing of good practices for efficient allocation of water;
9. **Underline** the important role of the international cooperation provided by the United Nations, international development partners, as well as by donor agencies, in the achievement of the SDGs, and urges development partners to harmonize their strategies with the national initiatives and plans of APA Members related to safe drinking water and sanitation;
10. **Request** the Secretary-General to report, the achievement of APA Member Parliaments on this resolution, to the next Standing Committee on Sustainable Development.

¹ **Integrated water resources management (IWRM)** has been defined by the Global Water Partnership (GWP) as "a process which promotes the coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources, in order to maximize the resultant economic and social welfare in an equitable manner without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems".



Draft Resolution on Planning APA Budget

EC1/Draft Res/2016/21
27 September 2016

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA/Res/2008/04 and APA/ Res/2014/09 and other relevant APA documents;

Determined to enhance the efficiency and organizational capacity of the APA to achieve its goals and objectives enshrined in its Charter;

Underscoring the importance of participation by all Member Parliaments in sharing the financial needs of the APA and its Secretariat;

Emphasizing the principles of transparency, accountability, and efficient management of financial resources in APA budgeting and spending;

1. **Request** all APA Member Parliaments to take required measures, according to their respective internal budget planning procedures, to secure budgetary resources required for the payment of their assessed contributions in accordance with the APA Staff and Financial Regulations and the schedule of assessed contributions approved by the 7th APA Plenary;
2. **Encourage** all APA Member Parliaments, particularly those with stronger economies to make voluntary financial contributions to the APA for the implementation of its resolutions.
3. **Appreciate** the provision of financial and logistical support to the APA Secretariat by the Islamic Parliament of Iran since 2007, and request the generous continuation of its supports pending the full implementation of Financial Regulations and until the regular payments of assessed contributions by all Member Parliaments are securely made;
4. **Acknowledge** the generosity of the APA President and Vice-Presidents in contributing to the APA expenses by hosting the events and complying with the APA Decision on Modalities for Effective Organization of the APA Meetings adopted by the 7th Plenary on 10 December 2013.
5. **Request** Member Parliaments to provide technical and expert assistance to the Secretariat for planning the APA budget for 2018 and include capable and experienced experts in their delegations to the next meeting of the APA Standing Committee on Staff and Financial Regulations in 2017 where the budget plan will be determined;

6. **Request** the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the proposals to be submitted to the Secretariat by the Member Parliaments on the best practices, guideline, and suitable patterns for planning and allocating budget, useful for planning the APA budget prior to the meeting of the Standing Committee of Staff and Financial Regulations in 2017.