



Report of the Executive Council Meeting

**3 November 2015
Tehran-Islamic Republic of Iran**

EC.1/Rep/2015/01
3 November 2015

The First Executive Council of Asian Parliamentary Assembly in 2015 held its meeting on 3 November 2015 in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran. APA Delegations from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Kyrgyz Republic, Lebanon, Pakistan, Palestine, The Philippines, Russia, Sri Lanka, Syria, and Thailand participated in this meeting. List of participants is attached (**Annex I**).

The meeting started at 9:00 a.m. The agenda of the meeting was adopted (**Annex II**). Honorable Mr. M.H. Abotorabi Fard, the First Vice Speaker of the Islamic Parliament of Iran on behalf of the host Parliament welcomed all delegates and inaugurated the meeting and delivered a key note speech in which he highlighted chronic challenges facing Asian countries including the menace of terrorism, violence and insecurity; increasingly diminishing provision of natural resources. He also referred to political issues in the Asian countries especially in Palestine, Iraq and Syria, encouraged Member Parliaments to actively contribute to the main objective of APA which is Asian integrity.

Honorable Senator Chaudhry Tanvir Ahmad Khan, representative of the APA President preside over the meeting and made a statement focusing on the spirit of cooperation in Asia and the leading role of the APA and Asian Parliaments in addressing poverty, health, inequality as well as sustainable development and human rights. He expressed his appreciation to the Islamic Parliament of Iran

for hosting this event and pointed out that Senate of Pakistan has made all preparation to host four APA meetings but due to lack of quorum they were forced to cancel it. He also pointed out the importance of Parliamentary cooperation in Asia and referred to the economic situation in some of Asian countries. Honorable Ms. Baige Zhao of National People's Congress of China was elected as the Vice-Chairperson and Honorable Mr. Mozammel Hossain of Bangladesh was elected as Rapporteur.

His Excellency Dr. Masoud Islami, Under Secretary-General on behalf of H. E. Dr. Nejad Hossienian, the Secretary-General of APA presented his opening Statement to the Executive Council meeting. He briefed the meeting of meetings of the three APA Standing Committees in Ankara, Jakarta, and Tehran. **(Annex III)**

He pointed out that the draft Resolutions proposed by these Standing Committee meetings are available for the consideration and recommendation to the next Plenary for final approval. He also confirmed that National Assembly of Cambodia will assume APA Presidency for 2016-2017 as adopted by the 5th APA Plenary and the 8th APA Plenary will be held on 7-12 December 2015 in Phnom Penh. Senator Chhit, head of Cambodian delegation, suggested that he had consulted the heads of delegations from China, Kuwait and Iran to assume the responsibility of Vice President under Cambodian presidency and hosting the inter-sessional meetings of APA Standing Committees for Economic; Political; and Cultural Affairs respectively.

He also said the Ad hoc Committee meeting of APA Staff & Financial Affairs which was supposed to be hosted by State Duma of Russian Federation could not be realized.

Dr. Islami referred to the important subject matters on the agenda of the Executive Council meeting and presented a brief background on each item. He has also appreciated the positive response and active participation of APA Member Parliaments in this important meeting.

Many delegations participated in the debates on Draft Resolutions and emphasized on the importance of constructive cooperation among APA Members to materialize and translate the contents of resolutions to practical

steps and common legislatives by Member Parliaments. Some delegates expressed concern on political and security situation in the Middle East countries and its humanitarian consequences which needs urgent attention and assistance from international community.

The drafts of 18 Resolutions of 2015 were considered one by one. Delegations of Pakistan, Russian Federation, Thailand, Kuwait and Palestine proposed certain amendments to draft resolutions which were discussed in the meeting. The Secretariat was delegated the authority to work on the appropriate wording of the amendments.

The following draft resolutions were recommended to the 8th Plenary for final approval:

1. Draft Resolution on Advancing Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia;
2. Draft Resolution on Mobilizing Interactions Between APA and Asian Governments;
3. Draft Resolution on Deploring Acts of Terrorism and Violent Extremism;
4. Draft Resolution on Significant Political Developments in Asia;
5. Draft Resolution on Financial Affairs: Ensuring Efforts for Economic Growth;
6. Draft Resolution on The Role of APA Parliaments to Adopt Legislation in Supporting the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;
7. Draft Resolution on Asian Integrated Energy Market;
8. Draft Resolution on Environmental Issues, Global Warming, Climate Change, and Planting Billions of Trees throughout Asia;
9. Draft Resolution on Poverty Eradication;
10. Draft Resolution on Measures to Promote Cultural Diversity and Protect Cultural Heritage in Asia;
11. Draft Resolution on Asian Integration through Information and Communication Technology;
12. Draft Resolution on Collaboration on Health Equity in Asia;
13. Draft Resolution on Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers in Asia;

14. Draft Resolution on Asian Parliamentarians against Corruption;
15. Draft Resolution on Special Committee of APA Women Parliamentarians;
16. Draft Resolution on Promoting Inter- Faith Dialogue and Harmony Among World Religions;
17. Draft Resolution on Legal and Legislative Cooperation in Combating the Smuggling of Cultural Items in Asia;
18. Draft Resolution on Effective Cooperation in Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking in Asia;

Under the agenda item of “Any other matters” H.E. Dr. Islami, raised some important issues that would need to be discussed and decided upon by the Executive Council namely:

- a) Quorum for APA Meetings: APA has 42 Member Parliaments. According to the APA Rules of Procedure, the quorum for decision-making in the Executive Council and the Plenary is half plus one of the total membership which amounts to 22. The records show that certain Members usually do not take part in the APA meetings and do not respond to letters of invitation. While the APA has not decided on the status of their membership, this situation negatively affects the quorum required for decision-making. The APA Secretariat proposed to reduce the quorum to one- third plus one in order to avoid unwanted consequences. The proposal was discussed and accepted by all delegates.
- b) Organization of Special Committees: In line with APA Resolution on the Streamlining of the Work of Organization, APA/Res/2009/01 of 8 December 2009, and considering that the assigned meetings for special and ad-hoc committees have not been duly realized in the past three years, it was decided that the missed events of the past three years will be compensated by a meeting of each Special Committees at the sidelines of the 8th Plenary Session in Phnom Penh and the following meetings of each will be organized as follows:
 - 1- the Special Committee on Women Parliamentarians will be held under the auspices of the APA Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs;

2 - the Special Committee on Creation of the Asian Parliament will be held under the auspices of the APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs;

3 – the Ad hoc Committee on APA Financial and Staff Regulations will be held under the auspices of the APA Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development Affairs.

The heads of Palestine and Syrian delegations offered their appreciation to the Islamic Parliament of Iran for hosting this meeting and expressed sincere thanks to His Excellency Dr. Nejad Hossienian, APA Secretary-General who due to health problem was hospitalized during the meeting. Palestine delegate admired his works and contributions to the APA since its establishment and wished him good health and prosperity. He also proposed if His Excellency Dr. Nejad Hossienian is unable to remain at the post, Islamic Parliament of Iran which has supported APA Secretariat practically, logistically and financially is expected immediately introduce a new Secretary-General to replace Dr. Nejad Hossienia .

The meeting also expressed gratitude to the Islamic Parliament of Iran for its generous hospitality and voluntarily hosting the meetings of Executive Council as well as the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs.

Annex I

List of participants 1st Executive Council, Tehran – Islamic Republic of Iran 3 November 2015

Country	Title	Name	Surname
Afghanistan	Mr.	Mohammad	Tayeb Ata
	Mr.	Lutfullah	Baba
	Mr.	Omid	Hussaini
Bangladesh	Mr.	Md Mozammel	Hossain
	Mr.	M.A	Awal
	Mr.	Md.	Wahiduzzaman
CAMBODIA	Mr.	CHHIT	Kim Yeat
	Mr.	SRUN	Dara
	Mr.	UY	Visal
	Mr.	HEANG	Thul
	Mr.	NGUON	Raksmey
	Mr.	HOK	Bunly
	Mr.	KUNG	Phoak
China	Ms.	Baige	Zhao
	Ms.	Lijuan	Pang
	Ms.	Aihua	Wang
	Ms.	Dan	Wang
	Mr.	Linlin	Jin
	Ms.	Yuyu	Wang
Cyprus	Mr.	Nicos	Tornaritis
	Mrs.	stella	Mishiaouli-Demetriou
Iran	Mr.	Seyed Mohammad Hassan	Aboutorabi Fard
	Mr.	Hossein	Nejabat
	Mr.	Esmaeel	Jalili
	Mr.	Mehrdad	Bazr Pash
	Mr.	Avaz	Heidarpour
	Mr.	Mohammad Javad	Nazari Mehr
	Mr.	Hossein	Sheikhol Eslami
	Mr.	Morteza	Razaviani
Iraq	Mr.	Abdulbari	Alzebary
	Mr.	Hilal	Hussin
Jordan	Mr.	Yahia	Alsoud
	Mr.	Omar	Al Ghuwairin
	Mr.	Shehadah	Abuhdaib
	Mr.	Akram	Al-amoush
KUWAIT	Dr.	Odah	Alrowaie
	Dr.	Khalil	Abdullah
	Mr.	Meshal	Alanezi
	Mr.	Bader	Aljuma
Kyrgyzstan	Mr.	Soburova	Zhyldyz

		Kanchyrbekovna
Lebanon	Mr. Hassan	Fadlallah
	Mr. Abdelmajid	Saleh
Pakistan	Mr. Chaudhry Tanvir	Khan
	Mr. Hilal	Ur Rehman
	Mr. Syed Mussarrat Abbas Shah	Naqvi
	Mr. Nasirruddin	
Palestine	Mr. Zuhair	Sandliqa
	Mr. Omar	Hamed
	Mr. Qunstantine	Karmash
	Mr. Salah	Alzawawi
Phillippines	Mr. Rodolfo	Farinas
Russian	Mr. Anvar	Makhmutov
	Mrs. Yulia	Guskova
Sri Lanka	Mr. Abdul Haleem	Mohamed Hashim
Syria	Mr. Adnan	Suleyman
	Mr. MHD. Husain	Al Husain
	Mr. Saji	To'meh
	Mr. MHD.	Bakhit
	Mr. Husain	Jasim Hamad
	Mr. Asaad	Al Mohammad
	Mr. Majd	Saoud
Thailand	Mrs. Suwannee	Sirivejchpun
	Gen. Nipat	Thonglek
	Mrs. Neeranan	Sungto
	Mrs. Phinissorn	Sikkhabandit

Annex II



ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY



1st Executive Council Meeting 3 November 2015 **Tehran – Islamic Republic of Iran**

Agenda

- Welcome remarks by the Honorable Mr. M.H. Abotorabi Fard 1st Vice Speaker of the Islamic Parliament of Iran
- Adoption of the Agenda
- Remarks by the Chairman of the Executive Council
- Report by the APA Secretary-General
- Consideration and Recommendation of the Draft Resolutions proposed by:
 - Standing Committee on Political Affairs
 - Standing Committee on Economic Affairs and Sustainable Development
 - Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs
 - Budget and Financial Affairs of APA Secretariat
- Adoption of the Report of the meeting
- Any other matter
- Closing

Annex III



Report of His Excellency Dr. Nejad Hossienian Secretary-General of Asian Parliamentary Assembly at the APA Executive Council Meeting

3 November 2015

Tehran – Islamic Republic of Iran

Mr. Chairman,
Honorable Delegates,

It is a pleasure for me to welcome all distinguished members of Parliaments to this meeting of the Executive Council. I would like to express my special appreciation to the Islamic Parliament of Iran for organizing this important meeting. My special thanks go to Honorable Mr. Abotorabi Fard, the distinguished first Vice Speaker of Islamic Parliament of Iran for his personal support and leadership in making this event 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

This is the first Executive Council meeting of our organization in 2015. As you are well aware, the function of this meeting, according to the APA Charter and the Rules of Procedure, is to review the draft resolutions which have already been deliberated upon in the three APA Standing Committees with a view to

assessing current situations and formulating new policies to address these issues and to further capitalise on the best ways and means for implementation of the resolutions. The APA Executive Council has the authority to provisionally adopt these draft resolutions and recommend them to the next APA Plenary for their final adoption.

Before us today, there are 19 important draft resolutions on political; economic; social and cultural; as well as financial and administrative issues:

1. The APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs held its meeting on 20th and 21st of March 2015 in Ankara. The Committee considered and deliberated a range of important issues and recommended the following four draft resolutions:

- ✓ Draft Resolution on Advancing Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Mobilizing Interactions Between APA and Asian Governments
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Deploring Acts of Terrorism and Violent Extremism
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Significant Political Developments in Asia

2. The APA Standing Committee on Economic and Environmental Affairs held its meeting on 19 - 20 August 2015 in Jakarta. The Committee considered and deliberated a range of important issues and recommended the following five draft resolutions:

- ✓ Draft Resolution on Asian Integrated Energy Market
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Environmental Issues, Global Warming, Climate Change, and Planting Billions of Trees throughout Asia
- ✓ 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

3. Based on the APA 7th Plenary decision in Lahore, the meeting of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs were supposed to be held in Kuwait. However, the Parliament of Kuwait failed to host the meeting. Despite numerous communications and follow ups by the APA Secretariat, no response was provided by the Parliament of Kuwait justifying its inaction to fulfil the commitment. Upon consultation with the APA President, it was decided to hold the meeting of the said Standing Committee later at the side-lines of other APA meetings which were to be held in Islamabad in September 2015. This effort proved to be unsuccessful again because Islamabad meetings were also cancelled by the host due to the lack of sufficient number of Member Parliaments registered to attend the meetings by the specified deadline. Based on a proposal made by the Secretariat, in consultation with the APA President, all Member Parliaments were asked to provide assistance to hold and host the required meetings. The Islamic Parliament of Iran was the first to generously offer its hospitality and the APA Standing Committee meeting was successfully held in Tehran yesterday on 2 November 2015.

The Committee considered and deliberated a range of important issues incorporated in the following 19 recommended draft resolutions:

- ✓ Draft Resolution on Measures to Promote Cultural Diversity and Protect Cultural Heritage in Asia
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Coping with Globalization in Asia
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Collaboration on Health Equity in Asia
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Information and Communication Technology “ICT”
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers in Asia
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Asian Parliamentarians against Corruption

- ✓ Draft Resolution on Special Committee of 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

4. The APA Ad Hoc Committee on Financial and Staff Regulations was supposed to be held its meeting at August 2015 in Moscow. Unfortunately, the Russian Duma did not fulfil its commitment which had undertaken by its representatives in the 7th APA Plenary in Lahore. They have proposed to arrange a gathering at the side of another parliamentary event in Moscow, but the timing and the arrangements could undermine the situation and status of APA as an independent Asian entity. The Committee was expected to consider and deliberate on a single draft resolution on the APA Financial and Budget for 2016. Under the circumstances, this Executive Council is expected to consider the situation and make an appropriate decision in this respect.

5. The APA 7th Plenary decided to continue, under the auspices of the APA President, organizing APA Troika Plus meetings throughout 2015. Despite crucial political, economic, and environmental developments in Asia demanding robust and extraordinary attention, unfortunately no Troika Plus meeting was held by the APA so far in 2015. Perhaps an explanation by the President would shed some light on the grounds leading to this situation.

6. In early 2014, the APA Secretariat prepared a special and substantive report on the idea of the Asian Parliament entitled: *The Foundations of an Asian Parliament*. The report was most welcomed by the Plenary and many aspects of the idea were deliberated upon. It was decided by the 7th Plenary that the report should be given further consideration by all APA Member Parliaments and certain measures should be taken for taking the initiative steps further.

The APA 7th Plenary thus decided to set up a Special Committee on the Creation of Asian Parliament (SCCAP) to further consider the notion of Asian Parliament and develop ways and means for its promotion and creation. The SCAPP, which was supposed to convene in Islamabad under the auspices of the APA President, was mandated to develop strategies, to move the initiative forward by submitting result-oriented and time-bound reports and report its achievements to the APA Executive Council for consideration.

Unfortunately, the Senate of Pakistan has not fulfilled its commitment yet to organize the SCCAP meeting and no activity has been reported to the APA Secretariat in this regard. Perhaps an explanation by the distinguished delegation of the Senate of Pakistan would shed some light on the grounds leading to this situation. Under the circumstances, this Executive Council is expected to consider the situation and make an appropriate decision in this respect.

7. There are some other pending issues that should be addressed by this meeting and recommended to the 8th Plenary for final decision. I will attract your attention to these issues when we reach the item of any other matters in our today's agenda.

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 Advancing Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia

Resolution 201501

Page 1 of 2

We the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly

Recalling relevant APA Resolutions including 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);

Upholding deep-rooted ties of history, geography, culture, economy, politics, and civilization which bind Asian peoples together;

Recognizing the amity and the friendly relations among the Asian Nations, Parliaments, and States as an indispensable political asset which need to be further strengthened by all kinds of cross-national cooperation in general, and APA parliamentarians and inter-parliamentary cooperation in particular;

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** 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.
- 2. Decide** that every Member Parliament would motivate public and private media, press, actual and cyber 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;

- 3. 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,
- 4. 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
- 5. 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 Mobilizing Interactions Between APA and Asian Governments

Resolution 201502

Page 1 of 2

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

Recalling APA resolutions on 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;
- 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 contribute to the work of the APA Special Committee on Creation of Asian Parliament (SCCAP) which is mandated to generate substantive and result oriented reports for consideration by the next APA Executive Council and Plenary sessions by providing their respective 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 non-governmental 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 Deploring Acts of Terrorism and Violent Extremism

Resolution 201503

Page 1 of 3

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA Resolutions on 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;

Being Concerned that terrorism and violent extremism continue to threaten peace and security in many areas of Asia and are menace to social and economic development of international community;

Expressing anxiety as to the formidable threat posed by Daesh in Iraq and Syria who carry out large-scale terrorist activities and defy the security and territorial integrity of sovereign states originally sponsored and supported by certain western states who used these terrorist organizations as illegitimate instruments to undermine regional peace and stability;

Warning that recurrent direct military operations by Israeli forces targeting residential areas, schools, mosques, and hospitals in the Palestinian occupied territories have endangered peace and security and caused gross violations of human rights tantamount to war crimes and crimes against humanity which warrant making a case before the United Nations Security Council and the International Criminal Court;

Expressing grave concerns over the continuing threat of Daesh and its associates with capabilities of launching large-scale terrorist activities and defying the security and territorial integrity of sovereign states;

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 as a Divine peaceful religion, as there is no ground in the teachings of true Judaism justifying acts of terror and atrocity by Israel;

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;

Identifying as racist, criminal, violent and extremist actions the Israel’s persistence in continuing illegal and illegitimate confiscation of Palestinian properties and lands to build settlement and the separation wall as well as the collective and disproportionate punishments exerted against Palestinian families including demolishing their houses and depriving them of social rights, as well as imprisonment of parliamentarians and other Palestinian citizens without due process;

1. **Invite** all parliaments and parliamentarians in the world to utilize all means available to support regional and global campaigns against terrorism and violent extremism which are conducive to political instability; economic deterioration; cultural catastrophes; and environmental degradation;
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;
4. **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;
5. **Identify** Daesh; al-Qaeda; Jabhat-al-Nosrah; Taleban; Boko Haram; as well as the Zionist regime, as terrorist and extremist entities who violate international law; undermine territorial integrity of states of Iraq, Syria, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nigeria and Palestine; illegally occupy parts of their respective territories; target civilian populations; directly and deliberately attack public places like schools, hospitals and mosques; thus committing war crimes and crimes against humanity;
6. **Call Upon** the international community to fulfill their pledges and promises to rebuild infrastructure and rehabilitate people in Gaza which were destroyed by Israeli forces and request the Government of Egypt to put pressure on the occupying power to remove obstacles hindering the transfer of essential needs for helping the people of Gaza;
7. **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;

8. **Decide** to keep this item on its agenda and monitor the developments related to atrocities by Daesh and Israeli regime in order to take all possible measures to curb the effects and consequences of terrorism and extremism in Iraq, Syria, and Palestine.



Draft Resolution on Significant Political Developments in Asia

Resolution 201504

Page 1 of 2

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;

Mindful of grave potential and actual ramifications of the critical situation in Ukraine and the Crimea for regional and international stability, peace and security;

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. Deplore** explosion of mosques and religious shrines, and deliberate destruction of archeological and cultural sites and museums, by Daesh in Iraq and Syria; as well as unauthorized and illegal excavations under Masjid al-Aqsa in al-Quds al-Sharif by Israeli regime;
- 3. Condemn** in the strongest terms the Israel's continuation of building settlements defying applicable international law; disregarding the legitimate rights of the Palestinian People; and hampering international efforts towards achieving a just and lasting peace in the region;
- 4. Reject** irresponsible statements made by Israel's officials to the effect that they would repudiate their obligations under international law and United Nations resolutions by denying the State of Palestine and the rights of Palestinian People in the occupied territories
- 5. 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 national sovereignty and territorial integrity of Syria; and guaranteeing civil rights and freedoms including fair and free elections;

6. **Call Upon** the governments of European Union, Russian Federation, and Ukraine to de-escalate tensions in the region by seeking reconciliation and peaceful solutions to the crisis through inclusive political negotiations and refraining from all sorts of provocative actions with a view to alleviating tensions;
7. **Call Upon** all relevant parties to exert self-restraint and ensure peace and stability in the Korean Peninsula, and avoid any action that might provoke tension and destabilize regional and international peace and security;
8. **Welcome** the conclusion of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) between the Islamic Republic of Iran and EU+3 as endorsed by the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231 to address the Iranian nuclear program and urge all parties to fully implement the JCPOA which would ensure the peaceful nature of the program while at the same time confirm the removal of all sanctions exerted against Iran and its rights under the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT);
9. **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 Financial Affairs: Ensuring Efforts for Economic Growth

Resolution 201505

Page 1 of 2

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/2013/13, APA/Res/2013/06 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;

Taking note on the deliberations at the UN, G-20, IMF, WTO, WB, ADB and other international organizations and their recommendations towards a global economic slowdown to redress the situation;

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;

Noting that the economic growth in Asian Economies has not been shared equally in the society whereby 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 contributor to economic growth and that violence and political instability act as inhibitors 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;

We therefore,

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 sustainable 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 banks and its capacity to promote equitable economic growth, improve national and 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 arrangement to promote the role of local currency in financing cross-border trade;
5. **Recommend** parliaments in APA member countries to improve the fiscal policies, especially the tax system in order to expand tax collection;
6. **Also recommend** government in APA member countries to promote the adoption of Basel III to improve supervision on financial sector governance;
7. **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;
8. **Call for** parliaments in respective countries to review its legislations, where appropriate, to give more support to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) by giving access to low interest credit loan and to provide capacity building and regional networking to integrate SMEs into regional and global value chains;
9. **Encourage** parliaments to support financial inclusion for the poor in each respective country and to share best practices of financial inclusion in the region;
10. **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;
11. **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;
12. **Also request** the government in respective Asian countries to promote the implementation of low carbon economy despite the global economy deceleration;
13. **Call upon** 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;
14. **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;
15. **Call upon** APA member countries to facilitate and promote investing their sovereign funds and encourage their private investors to invest in Asia rather than other parts of the world.



3 November 2015

**Draft Resolution on
The Role of APA Parliaments to Adopt Legislation
in Supporting the Implementation of the
Sustainable Development Goals**

Resolution 201506

Page 1 of 3

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 into Action, adopted at its 132nd Assembly, held in Hanoi, Vietnam, March 2015; the Surabaya Declaration adopted at the Parliamentary Event on MDGs Acceleration and Post-2015 Development Agenda held in Surabaya, Indonesia on 12-13 November 2014; 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 into account different national capacities, levels of development, and respecting national policies and priorities;

Underlining the strong political will, leadership and national ownership of the parliament to meet the international commitment of the SDGs and that the role of parliament is essential in improving economical, social, cultural and ecological to improve the human development and promote the Human development Index as an index for the sustainable development goals.¹ Set up the consensus for the government, parliament and people to recognize the efficiency of the development particularly in the areas of health, education, housing, food security, nutrition and environmental sustainability;

We, therefore:

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
2. **Determine** to be actively involved in the formulation of national policies to support the mainstreaming and implementation of SDGs;

¹ Thailand also proposed " Sufficiency Economy Philosophy", a project apparently with similar content

² The list of the SDGs needs to be updated with the adopted version of SDGs (September 2015). The present list of SDGs is attached from the *zero draft of the outcome document for the UN Summit to adopt the Post-2015 Development Agenda*.

3. ***Call upon*** APA Members to provide adequate budgetary resources and adopt legislations which are relevant to support and monitor the successful implementation of the SDGs;
4. ***Strengthen*** the national ownership of SDGs by actively involved in the advocacy of SDGs so that the people understand that SDGs are relevant to their lives;
5. ***Request*** the Standing Committees of APA to deliberate in a comprehensive manner issues of SDGs which are relevant to the work of their committees;
6. ***Stress*** the importance to develop data and indicators to set up a proper follow-up mechanism on the implementation of SDGs and the need to strengthen statistical capacities of all countries to support the progress;
7. ***Request*** the Asian Parliament to report the achievement of the implementation of the SDGs to the APA Secretary General for the information and discussion in the next Economic and Sustainable Development Standing Committee.

Sustainable Development Goals³

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Goal 1 | End poverty in all its forms everywhere |
| Goal 2 | End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture |
| Goal 3 | Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all 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 inequality 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 institutions at 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, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change

³ 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 14 August 2015.



Draft Resolution on Asian Integrated Energy Market

Resolution 201507

Page 1 of 2

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA Resolution on Integrated Energy Market in Asia (APA/Res/2014/05) adopted at the 7th APA Plenary in Lahore, Pakistan, December 2014 and other relevant APA resolutions;

Welcoming the Report of the Secretary-General on the Asian Integrated Energy Market (AIEM), to the meeting of the Energy Sub-Committee held in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 20 August 2015;

Considering the role of energy market integration between West and 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 turbulence in the West Asia in recent years as a real obstacle in front 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;

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;

We, therefore;

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 upon** APA Member Parliaments to encourage their 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. **Urge** again all Members of Parliaments to report to the Secretary-General on their national experiences in the field of increasing energy efficiency as outlined in Paragraph 33 of the Secretary-General's Report contained in SG/Rep/2008/01/Rev.1 dated 10 May 2008;
4. **Request** also 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;
5. **Decide** to extend the mandate of the Sub-Committee to promote the development of the Asian Integrated Energy Market.



Draft Resolution on Environmental Issues, Global Warming, Climate Change, and Planting Billions of Trees throughout Asia

3 November 2015

Resolution 201508

Page 1 of 3

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/2014/07) adopted at the 7th APA Plenary in Lahore, Pakistan, December 2014 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/2011/03-2 dated 31 July 2015;

Recognizing the need to pursue the components of 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), the Convention on Biological Diversity and the International Conference on Financing for Development among others;

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

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 the second 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 per cent 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 upon 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 within 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 fora with a view to serving and improving the common regional interest of Asia is a compelling imperative;

Encouraging the inclusion of Asian parliamentarians in the national delegations participating in the climate change negotiations in Paris in December 2015;

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

1. **Invite** APA developed members to assess how loss and damage due to climate change affects the world particularly vulnerable developing countries in Asia;
2. **Ask** APA Member Parliaments to facilitate the conclusion of an agreement that addresses in a balanced manner to hold the increase in global average temperature below 2 °C or 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels;
3. **Urge** APA Parliaments to support Sustainable Development Goals with regard to environmental issues by adopting appropriate legislation;
4. **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 the necessity 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 newly established technological and financial mechanisms in Durban in 2011;

5. **Recommend** the holding of APA coordination meetings of Member Parliaments in the sidelines of Paris event to enable the Members interact, assess the possibilities of better coordination and better understanding the legislation challenges and opportunities as regards the draft agreements under negotiation and also as concerns the collective efforts within the APA;

6. **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 database for the reference and use by all Member Parliaments;

7. **Invite also** APA Member Parliaments, in a position to do so, to provide material and technical support to APA members in their efforts to combat desertification;

8. **Request** the Secretary General to seek the views of APA Member Parliaments on the implementation of the present resolution and report thereon to the next session of the Standing-Committee in 2016.

9. **Call on** parliamentarians from APA to urge their respective government to publish Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) before COP-21.



Draft Resolution on Poverty Eradication

Resolution 201509

Page 1 of 2

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA Resolution on Alleviating Poverty in Asia (APA/Res/2014/08) adopted at the 7th APA Plenary in Lahore, Pakistan, December 2014 and other relevant APA resolutions;

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on Alleviating Poverty in Asia, SG/Rep/2015/03-1 dated 31 July 2015;

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;

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 and drug trafficking, arms smuggling, human trafficking, sea piracy and transnational crimes;

Taking note of the positive progresses attained by countries through the global acknowledged development framework of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and that MDGs have raised awareness of ending global poverty as an urgent challenge and a priority for global action while at the same time, the MDGs shortcomings need to be addressed in a fully manner under the definition of the post-2015 framework;

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;

Acknowledging any act of aggression and injustice that hinder development and any efforts aiming at promoting poverty which have been implemented by any party including Israel as occupying power are against the United Nations Charter and Sustainable Development Goals.

1. **Call on** APA Member Parliaments to participate actively in the achievement of SDGs and urge Member Parliaments to encourage their governments to facilitate adoption of pro-poor economic growth policy;

2. **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;

3. **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;

4. **Determine** to be more ambitious in our efforts to eradicate poverty, reduce inequality, ensure food security, access to healthcare and education;

5. **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;

6. **Call on** Member Parliaments to submit a report on their best practices and those of their executive branches to the APA Secretariat to be placed on the APA website;

7. **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;

8. **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 2016.



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

Resolution 201510

Page 1 of 3

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;

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on Protecting and Respecting Cultural Diversity, submitted to the meeting of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran on 11-12 August 2014;

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 depended on protection of cultural heritage, and the existence of common grounds among Asian ancient civilizations provide platforms 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; promotion of 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 Civilisations”, held in Bali, Indonesia, in 29 and 30 August 2014;

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

Emphasizing of the importance of inter and intra state respect for various Asian communities.

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;

Remaining Concerned about smuggling of cultural items, particularly those that are in areas under foreign occupation and in zones of conflicts;

Expressing great concerns regarding the damage brought to cultural and religious heritage by terrorism and, crimes, and organized crimes, especially damages to Moslem and Christian historical sites and holy shrines and mosques by indiscriminate aerial bombing and shelling in Yemen, and also in Syria by ISIS and other terrorist groups; and condemning the grave violations of Israel against the sanctity of the AL Aqsa Mosque, particularly the intrusions of the Israeli settlers and far right extremists under the protection of the Israeli occupation forces into the AL-Haram AL- Sharif rightly leading to reaction and resistance on the part of Palestinians and resulting in increased tension;

Express great concern with regard to the Israeli plans to spatially and temporally divide AL-Haram AL- Sharif, threatening the historical status quo at this holy place;

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;

Determine to encourage and promote further intercultural dialogue and inter-religious exchanges throughout Asia;

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;

Reject all manifestations of exclusion and arrogance that are based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance;

Remain Committed to the protection of the rights of indigenous peoples and ethnic communities so as to ensure the fulfillment their rights in line with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

Urge relevant government agencies to increase facilitation, consular services as appropriate for citizens of Asian countries to allow for greater people-to-people interaction;

Decide to remain cognizant of damages to Moslem and Christian holy places and historical sites, by ISIS terrorist organization in Iraq and Syria, as well as destruction of cultural and educational premises brought about by Israeli invasion of the Gaza Strip;

Urge Member Parliaments to ratify international conventions such as the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage and also the International Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage;

Call Upon APA Member Parliaments to consider drafting common legislation on the basis of principles endorsed by APA, as annexed to APA/Res/2013/05, with a view to develop a model legislation to combat smuggling of cultural objects in Asia;

Urge all APA Member Parliaments to actively participate in an open-ended ad-hoc working group under the auspices of the APA Standing Committee of Social and Cultural Affairs to prepare draft common legislation for combating the smuggling of cultural objects in Asia;

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;

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;

Condemn all forms of contemptuous actions against religions, holy books, religious places and personalities and religious rituals;

Condemn Israeli attempts to alter the religious and cultural heritage in the Palestinian occupied territories, particularly in Jerusalem, including the provocative practices violating the sanctity and historical status quo of Haram AL- Sharif and Al-Aqsa Mosque; the dangerous excavations under Al-Aqsa Mosque and its surroundings; imposing changes in the educational curricula; changing the original names of places into Jewish names by referring to so-called "list of Jewish heritage" and disrespecting Islamic and Christian holy and historical sites;

Request the APA Secretary General to uphold cooperation between APA and international and regional organizations such as UNESCO, ISESCO and relevant Asian NGOs active in promoting cultural diversity and dialogue among civilizations;

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

Resolution 201511

Page 1 of 2

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 dialogue, contemplation, and interaction in order to promote 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.

Call Upon APA Member Parliaments to volunteer for providing knowledge and know-how, technical assistance, financial support, human resources; and other sorts 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;

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;

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;

Underline the necessity to work out the legal status of the materials and documents which will be circulated in Virtual Parliaments;

Request the secretariat to conduct a pilot project of VAP and share the result with the APA member parliaments;

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 on how Asian Parliaments should coordinate to accelerate the process of Asian Integration.



Draft Resolution on Collaboration on Health Equity in Asia

Resolution 201512

Page 1 of 3

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 advise 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 networking 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 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 Nations 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;

Recognizing that health inequities arise from social determinants of health, that is, the societal conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age, and that these determinants include experiences in their early years, education, economic status, employment and decent work, housing and environment, and effective systems of preventing and treating ill health;

Stressing the need to ensure that health is central to the implementation of post-2015 development agenda and welcoming universal health coverage in the outcome document of the United Nations Summit for the adoption of the post- 2015 development agenda;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

Resolution 201513

Page 1 of 3

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;

Noted 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 that the ratification of 8 ILO conventions, namely: Convention No 29, Convention No 87, Convention No 98, Convention No 100, Convention No 105, Convention No 111, Convention No 138, and Convention No 182 shall promote the protection of human rights of Asian Migrant Workers in various aspects, including the rights to work for migrants without distinction of any kind such as sex, race, colour, language, religion or conviction, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, nationality, age, economic position, property, marital status, birth or other status;

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 destination 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 in solving 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;

Call upon APA Member Parliaments to advise their respective governments, who have not yet done so, 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;

Advise APA Member Parliaments to engage in the ratification process of the ILO Convention Concerning Decent Work in order to promote equal treatment and equal opportunity, and to protect the rights of domestic workers, where many of them are also migrants;

Call upon APA Member Parliaments to promote comprehensive legislative review and parliamentary role to enhance the protection of the rights of migrant workers as well as to harmonize actions to a better protection of migrant workers, especially women, made at the global and regional level into national legislation;

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;

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;

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;

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;

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;

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;

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.



Draft Resolution on Asian Parliamentarians against Corruption

Resolution 201514

Page 1 of 3

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; and APA/Res/2007/05;

Recalling also APA Plan of Action on Combating Corruption contained in APA/Res/2007/05/ Annex;

Expressing determination to strengthen parliamentary initiatives to implement the APA Plan of Action and resolutions on Combating Corruption

Taking note of the UN Convention against Corruption, and other anti-corruption conventions and relevant binding legal instruments;

Bearing in mind the importance of the UN Convention against Corruption adopted by the General Assembly on October 31, 2003;

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;

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;

Supporting the establishment of Asian Parliamentarians against Corruption (APAC) as an APA institutional framework to strengthen parliamentary capacity to implement APA Plan of Action and to explore other areas of cooperation in fighting corruption in Asia;

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

Determine to strengthen our parliamentary capacities to develop a strong and comprehensive anti-corruption strategy, by taking practical measures to implement APA Plan of Action and APA resolutions against corruption;

Consider the APA decision to establish the Asian Parliamentarians Against Corruption (APAC) to have been a major step to enhance the synergy of Asian parliaments to effectively fight corruption;

Consider all APAC delegates attending the 7th Plenary to be the founding members of APAC¹;

Decide to hold the initiation and the first meeting of APAC in 2015 in... at a time to be coordinated by the Secretariat when at least 10 APAC founding members participate, and to report thereon to the 2015 meeting of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs; APAC will consider and adopt its constitution, other necessary documents and priorities of its work, including the study of the need for an Asia-specific convention against corruption at its initiation meeting in 2015;

Build synergy with other related GOPAC Chapter which has been established in Asia namely: ARPAC, SEAPAC, SAPAC to further study the establishment of APAC;

Condemn corruption at all levels and in all its forms, including bribery, as well as the laundering of proceeds of corruption and other forms of economic crime;

Express determination to preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption as well as the laundering of proceeds of corruption;

Welcome the significant number of Member States that have already ratified or acceded to the Convention, and in this regard urge all Member States and competent regional economic integration organizations, within the limits of their competence, that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, and urge all State parties to take appropriate measures to ensure its full and effective implementation;

Urge State parties to the Convention 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, and also call upon States parties to give timely consideration to the requests for assistance made by such authorities;

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 the initiation meeting of APAC in 2015;

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.

¹ Founding Members of APAC are requested to fill out the attached form and submit it to the APA Secretariat.

**Asian Parliamentary Assembly
Membership Form
Founding Members, Asian parliamentarians Against Corruption (APAC)
Personal Information**

Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. <input type="checkbox"/>		
Name:		
Address:		
Work:	Home:	
Email:		
Telephone:		
Work:	Home:	Mobile:
Fax:		
Work:	Home:	
Preferred Language: English <input type="checkbox"/> Arabic <input type="checkbox"/>		

Professional Background

Professional Expertise:
Specify which parliament are you a member?
Terms/Years as member of parliament:
parliamentary Committees Served in:
Previous anti-corruption involvement and experience:



Draft Resolution on Special Committee of APA Women Parliamentarians

Resolution 201515

Page 1 of 2

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 enhanced participation of women in scientific, social, political, cultural and economic affairs and peace dialogue;

Reaffirming that to include 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;

Welcome the Report of APA Executive Council Meeting held in Jakarta 12-13 October 2010 contained in document EC.1/Rep/2010/01 which stated the proposal of the Indonesian delegation to establish the Coordinating Meeting of APA Women Parliamentarians;

Support the decision to establish the Coordinating Meeting of APA Women Parliamentarians to meet annually at the time of APA Plenary Session in order to enhance the participation and representation of women within APA to concentrate on matters of specific concern to women;

Encourage Member Parliaments to adopt legislative regulations to facilitate women's representations in Asian Parliaments;

Urge active and effective participation of women parliamentarians in political, economic, social and cultural affairs;

Urge the including at least one woman parliamentarian in APA delegations;

Affirm the need of APA Member Parliaments to provide inputs on ways to promote the implementation of the enhanced and effective participation of women in political, economic, social and cultural affairs;

Determine to enhance the activities of the Coordinating Meeting of APA Women Parliamentarian through more effective exchange of views and close interaction;

Decide to supersede the establishment of the Special Committee of APA Women Parliamentarians under the auspices of Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs, to coordinating meeting of APA Women Parliaments;

Decide to take appropriate measures to facilitate networking between women parliamentarians of Asia in order to enable them to share their interests with their counterparts and different organizations;

Request the APA Secretariat to assign one part of the website of the Assembly to facilitate such a network between women parliamentarians of Asia through the establishment of data base covering update information on APA Women Parliamentarians;

Express concern at the dire situation of millions of women in all war-torn areas such as Afghanistan Azerbaijan, Kashmir, Iraq and Syria, and for suppression and injustice faced by the Palestinian and Syrian women in the occupied Syrian Golan under Israeli occupation, as well as violence against women, such as killing, rape, and captivity;

Request the Secretary-General to make appropriate arrangements to hold the third Special Committee of APA women parliamentarians in 2015 seek the views of Member parliaments on this resolution and submit a report thereon to the meeting.



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

Resolution 201516

Page 1 of 2

We the members of Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

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;

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, and the sixth global Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, held in Bali, Indonesia on 29 and 30 August 2014;

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;

Urge all parliaments to support and spread the message of inter-faith harmony and goodwill, as such mutual understanding constitutes important dimensions of the dialogue among civilizations and of the culture of peace;

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;

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;

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;

Declare that terrorism, extremism and violence have no religion nor any borders, as these are common enemy of all humanity;

Consider Islamophobia in all its forms contrary to the merits of inter-faith dialogue which has no place in the community of civilized nations;

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 around the world, and call upon all states to refrain from providing any support to such groups;

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;

Call Upon the international community to be cognizant of the grave humanitarian situation in Myanmar, Gaza, Iraq, and Syria which involves violations of human rights against the Muslim community;

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;

Request the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member Parliaments commensurate taken to implement this resolution and to report the efforts of Member Parliaments for their contribution in this regard.



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

Resolution 201517

Page 1 of 2

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;

Decide to hold the meeting of the Open-ended Ad-Hoc Working Group established by APA Resolution, (APA/Res/2013/05 of 9 December 2013), on the sideline of the meeting of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs in 2015 to further study the subject, including the feasibility of developing model legislation on combating smuggling of cultural items on the basis of the principles prepared by the APA Secretariat and annexed to this resolution to serve as a guideline for member parliaments' national efforts to enhance their capacities in this regard;

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;

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;

Request the Secretary-General to prepare a report for consideration of the open-ended Ad-Hoc Working Group meeting in 2015.

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

Resolution 201518

Page 1 of 3

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 Afghanistan;

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 the region, including continued the illegal cultivation, production and trafficking of narcotic drugs that pose a serious threat to the stability of Afghanistan, its neighbours and other countries;

Expressing the need to increase 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;

Call upon Asian Parliaments to coordinate among themselves to review relevant legislation to address different aspects of combating illicit drug trafficking;

Stress the need to exchange information and best practices within APA Member Parliaments on combating d illicit rug trafficking;

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;

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;

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;

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;

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;

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;

Encourage networking of the relevant national agencies or organizations in Asia dealing with transnational crimes to further enhance information exchange and dissemination;

Request the Secretary General to prepare a report on the contribution of Asian Parliaments to combating illicit drug trafficking including a review of relevant legislation in Member Parliaments in this regard.