Asian Parliamentary Assembly

Report of the 5th APA Plenary
29 - 30 November 2010
Damascus, Syria

The Role of Asian Parliaments in Achieving Security, Peace and Stability in the Middle East Region

Rapporteur: Honorable, Mr. Benjir Ahmed (Bangladesh)

1. Honorable, Mr. H. Marzuki Alie, the outgoing APA President and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia opened the inaugural session of the 5th Plenary of APA at 10:10 A.M. in the morning of Monday, 29 November 2010, and made a statement. (Annex I)
   The inaugural meeting took place in the Ebla Cham Palace in Damascus.

2. Honorable, Dr. Haddad Adel, member of the Parliament of the Islamic Republic of Iran made a statement in his capacity as the First APA President. (Annex II)

3. H. E. Dr. Hadi Nejad Hosseinion, the APA Secretary-General made a statement. (Annex III).

4. Honorable Mr. Mahmoud Al-Abrach the incoming APA President made a welcoming speech.

5. The Inaugural Session concluded at 11:15 A.M.

6. Honorable Dr. Marzuki Alie, the APA President opened the 5th Plenary Session of the APA and made a statement in which he reviewed the work of the APA over the past two years. (Annex IV).
   The presidency of the APA was transferred from the Speaker of the Parliament of Indonesia to Honorable Dr. Mahmoud Al-Abrach, the Speaker of the People’s Assembly of the Syrian Arab Republic. The New APA President made an acceptance speech and thanked Member Parliaments for the confidence shown to him and to Syria.

7. The Plenary then moved to adopt its Agenda. The Agenda and the program of work are attached as Annexes V and VI.

8. The Plenary moved to elect the Plenary Bureau. Kingdom of Bahrain (Honorable Mr. Khalil Ebrahim Al Marzooq, MP); Republic of Korea (Honorable Dr. Sunggon Kim, MP); Russian Federation (Honorable, Mr. Valery Yazev, First Vice-Chairman of State Duma; Turkey (Honorable, Mr. Emin Onen, MP); were elected as Vice-Presidents. Bangladesh
(Honorable, Mr. Benjir Ahmed, MP) was elected as the Rapporteur. The President announced that the Chairperson of the Drafting Committee will be the Honorable, Mr. Haddad (Syria), member of the People’s Assembly of the Syrian Arab Republic.

- Honorable, Mr. Khalil Ebrahim Al Marzooq (Bahrain) will chair the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs.
- Honorable, Dr. Sunggon Kim (Republic of Korea) will chair the Standing Committee on Political Affairs.
- Honorable, Mr. Valery Yazev will chair the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs.
- Honorable, Mr. Emin Onen will chair the Ad-Hoc Committee on Financial and Personnel Regulations.

9. Honorable, Dr. Hidayat Nur Wahid, the Chairperson of the APA Executive Council reported to the Plenary on the efforts of the two meetings of the Executive Council which were held in Jakarta and in Damascus in 2010. He expressed thanks to delegates from Member Parliaments who took active part in the two Executive Council meetings. Dr. Wahid, recommended to the Plenary to consider and adopt 15 draft resolutions and one decision recommended by the Executive Council.

10. H. E. Dr. Nejad-Hosseinian, the APA Secretary-General made a statement on the state of the organization. (Annex VII)

11. The Plenary began the general debate. The President announced that one Standing Committee is going to hold its meeting simultaneously with the Plenary. Two delegates from each delegation may present statement at the general debate provided that both statements are not more than 10 minutes.

The list of speakers in the general debate is as follows:

Iran (Islamic Republic of), Honorable Dr. Ali Larijani, Speaker of the Islamic Parliament of Iran
Kuwait, Honorable Mr.Jasim Al Kharafi, Speaker of Parliament of Kuwait.
Russian Federation, Honorable, Mr. Valery Yazev, First Deputy Chairman of State Duma
Bahrain, Honorable, Mr. Khalil Ebrahim Al Marzooq, Vice speaker of Parliament of Bahrain
Cambodia, Honorable Mr. Nguon NHEL, Deputy Speaker of Parliament
China, Honorable, Mr.Wenpu MA, Vice-Chairman of Foreign Affairs Committee, National People’s Congress.
Turkey, Honorable, Mr. Emin ONEN, MP
Palestine, Honorable, Mr. Tayseer Quba’a, Deputy Speaker of Palestinian Parliament,
Syria, Honorable, Mr. Mohammad Zohier Taghlibi. MP
Republic of Korea, Honorable, Dr. Sunggon Kim, MP
Lebanon, Honorable, Mr Hassan Fadlallah, MP
Saudi Arabia, Honorable, Mr. Abdullah Mohammad Ebrahim AL Shaiekh, Speaker of Parliament did not deliver his statement, but circulated a copy for information purposes.
All statements delivered in the general debate and copies have been made available will be attached as Annex VIII.

12. The Plenary was adjourned at 5:00 PM. The Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs began its deliberation at 3:00 PM.

13. The Standing Committees on Political Affairs and on Economic Affairs began their deliberation simultaneously at 9:00 A.M. on 30 November 2010.

14. The Drafting Committee on final statement for the 5th Plenary meeting in Damascus met at 2:00 P.M. in the afternoon of 30 November 2010.

15. The Closing meeting was held at 5:00 P.M. on 30 November 2010.

16. Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs:
The Rapporteur of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs, submitted the following report on the decisions of the Committee to the Plenary:

APA/Social/Rep/2010/01

29 November, 2010

Report of the APA Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs

Damascus, 29 November 2010

The APA Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs held its meeting on 29 November 2010 and adopted its agenda.

1. Honorable, Mr. Khalil Ebrahim Al Marzooq of Bahrain chaired the meeting. Honorable, Mr. Khandakar Abdul Baten of Bangladesh was elected as the vice-Chairperson of the Standing Committee.

2. The documents before the Standing Committee were:

   EC1/Res/2010/01: Sub-Committee on Combating Corruption
   EC1/Res/2010/02: Sub-Committee on Achieving Health Equity in Asia
   EC1/Res/2010/03: Sub-Committee on Challenges and Opportunities of Globalization in Asia
   EC1/Res/2010/09: Ad-hoc Committee on Information and Communication Technology
   EC1/Res/2010/13: Sub-Committee on Protecting and Respecting Cultural Diversity in Asia
   EC2/Res/2010/01: Coordinating Meeting of APA Women Parliamentarians
   EC1/Des/2010/01: APA Day

3. The Chairman opened the meeting. The Assistant Secretary-General Mr Gholamali Khoshroo briefly described the six draft resolutions and one draft decision before the
Standing Committee.

4. The Standing Committee took note with appreciation of the Reports submitted by the APA Secretary-General to each Sub-Committee that constituted the basis of deliberations in the sub-committees leading to the development of the draft resolutions above.

5. The delegations of the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Syrian Arab Republic, Singapore and Palestine took the floor and commented on the issues before the Committee.

6. The Standing Committee agreed on the text of the Draft Resolutions to be forwarded to the Plenary for final adoption. The Draft Resolutions are now issued under Documents

APA/Social/Res/2010/02: Draft Resolution on Achieving Health Equity in Asia
APA/Social/Res/2010/03: Draft Resolution on Challenges and Opportunities of Globalization in Asia
APA/Social/Res/2010/04: Draft Resolution on Information and Communication Technology
APA/Social/Res/2010/05: Draft Resolution on Protecting and Respecting Cultural Diversity in Asia
APA/Social/Res/2010/06: Draft Resolution Coordinating Meeting of APA Women Parliamentarians
APA/Social/Des/2010/01: Draft Decision on APA Day


8. The Honorable delegate of the Russian Federation, referring to the illegal drug trafficking in Afghanistan, proposed to establish an APA Ad-hoc Committee on Drug Trafficking. He informed the meeting that Russian Federation would produce the relevant documents. The Chairman informed the Committee that this Ad-hoc Committee may meet at the sideline of one of the Sub-Committees under the umbrella of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs in 2011. The Honorable delegate of Syria expressed readiness to host the Ad-hoc Committee in the event that the Islamic Republic of Iran will not be in a position to hold that meeting. The Chairman concluded that an Ad-hoc Committee may be established and its first meeting would be at the sideline of one of the Sub-Committees under the umbrella of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs in 2011 in Iran or Syria. The Committee agreed on this proposal to be forwarded to the Plenary for final adoption.

9. The Honorable delegate of Indonesia, referring to the problems of migrant workers in Asia, proposed to establish an APA Ad-hoc Committee to Protect the Rights of Migrant Workers in Asia. He informed the meeting that Indonesia would be prepared to host the first meeting of the Ad-hoc Committee in 2011. A number of delegations supported this proposal. The Chairman concluded that an Ad-hoc Committee may be
established and its first meeting would be at the sideline of one of the Sub-Committees under the umbrella of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs in 2011 in Indonesia and that Indonesia would produce the relevant documents for the Ad-hoc Committee meeting. The Committee agreed on this proposal to be forwarded to the Plenary for final adoption.

10. The Standing Committee took note of the proposals made by the Honorable delegate of Bangladesh on the enhancement of cooperation among Member Parliaments on social and cultural affairs.
17. The Plenary adopted 6 resolutions and one decision recommended by the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs.

18. Standing Committee on Political Affairs:
   The Rapporteur of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs, Honorable, Mr. Suleiman Haddad (Syria), submitted the following report on the decisions of the Committee to the Plenary:

   APA/Political/Rep/2010/01

   30 November 2010

   Report of the Standing Committee on Political affairs
   APA 5th Plenary Session
   Damascus, 30 November 2010

   Rapporteur: Honorable, Mr. Suliman Haddad (Syria)

1. The Standing Committee on Political affairs met in the morning of 30 November 2010. Honorable, Dr. Sunggong Kim, MP (Republic of Korea) chaired the meeting. H. E. Dr. Masoud Islami, APA Assistant Secretary-General served the meeting.

2. The meeting adopted its agenda (Annex I). It elected its Bureau: Honorable, Mr. Amir Taherkhani (Islamic Republic of Iran) was elected the Vice-Chairperson and Honorable Mr. Suliman Haddad (Syria) was elected as the Rapporteur.

3. The Committee then moved to consider the six draft resolutions on its agenda as follows:
   - EC1/Res/2010/04 Draft Resolution on Comprehensive Counter-Terrorism and Counter-Occupation Strategies
   - EC1/Res/2010/05 Draft Resolution on Supporting the Rights of Palestinian People
   - EC1/Res/2010/06 Draft Resolution on Reinforcing the Declaration on Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia
   - EC2/Res/2010/02 Draft Resolution on Denouncing the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons
   - EC1/Res/2010/08 Draft Resolution on Measures for Enhancing Cooperation between Parliaments & Governments
   - EC1/Res/2010/09 Draft Resolution on Measures for Enhancing Cooperation between Parliaments & Governments
4. The draft resolution on the Necessity of Effective Security Assurance and Denouncing the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons in International Relations drew further debate and discussion, despite the thorough discussion of the same in the informal meeting of the 28 November. The Korean proposal to include some reference to the desirability of establishing a nuclear weapon free zone in the Korean Peninsula was discussed. Several delegations stressed that the Executive Council decided not to be specific on a single state and thus appealed to the Korean Delegate not to insist on his proposal. The Chair ruled that the proposal of the Republic of Korea be reflected in the report of the Standing Committee.

The delegation of Syria proposed adding a paragraph from the UN Middle East Resolution contained in operative paragraph 2 of A/Res/64/26, dated 14 January 2010, which reads:

“Calls upon all countries of the region that have not yet done so, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards”

The Chair ruled that the meeting will no longer entertain major amendment and asked the Syrian delegate not to block the consensus. The draft resolution was agreed upon and forwarded to the Plenary for adoption.

5. Draft resolution on supporting the Rights of Palestinian People was also discussed further. The delegation of the Russian Federation pointed out that its delegation has several amendments to it. The delegation of Singapore stressed that the draft goes beyond the provisions of the UN resolutions and that its delegation dissociate itself from this draft resolution. The delegations of Syria, Islamic Republic of Iran, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and Palestine took the floor, made extensive statements on developments in the Middle East and supported the draft resolution on the Rights of the Palestinian People. They suggested that the meeting move to adopt the draft resolution and at the same time record the views of Singapore and Russia who have reservations thereon.

The delegations of Russian and Singapore said they would have voted in favor of this draft resolution if it would have facilitated finding a resolution to the Middle East conflict, but in their views, the draft is counterproductive. Russia and Singapore abstain from supporting this resolution not because they do not support the Palestinian rights, but because Russia and Singapore believe reality dictates a more complex approach to the Middle East conflict. Russia also stressed that the draft contradicts parts of their commitment under the Quartet. Russia and Singapore support the general crux of the draft resolution, but would have abstained if the draft resolution were to be voted upon.

The Chair then moved to adopt the resolution with the understanding that the position of Singapore and Russia are reflected in the report of the Standing Committee. China and Cambodia made a statement in support of Palestinian rights and the United
Nations and international approach to resolve the conflict. Cambodia associated his delegation with those of Russia and Singapore on the draft resolution.

The meeting then agreed to propose the draft resolution to the Plenary.

6. The Standing Committee moved to consideration of draft resolution on the Role of Asian parliaments in Promoting Comprehensive Counter-Terrorism and Counter Occupation Strategies. The Secretariat presented the background to this draft and presented, in brief, the amendments proposed and circulated by the Russian delegation. The Secretariat pointed out the Syria and Iran has presented counter amendments to the Russian proposals. The meeting then entertained the amendments. Palestine supported the draft as it stands. Singapore questioned some concepts and paragraphs in the draft resolution. Lebanon supported the resolution and made some clarification on the questions raised by Singapore on the question of self-determination of peoples under foreign occupation. He moved to adopt the draft resolution. Palestine thanked those who supported Palestinian right for self-determination and called for adoption of the resolution as amended. Saudi Arabia supported Lebanese statement. Indonesia supported the draft and called on delegations not to go back discussing what has been agreed before. He supported the Lebanese proposal to adopt the draft. Russian delegation said that he does not support the draft resolution and would have abstained if the resolution were to be voted on.

Islamic Republic of Iran made a statement and encouraged condemnation of this evil phenomenon. He said the delegates may have noted in the news that two Iranian nuclear physicists were assassinated the day before yesterday in Tehran: Professors Abbasi and Shahriari were assassinated close to their universities. If we do not act today, terrorism will find other victims tomorrow. He supported the draft resolution as it now stands. I also suggest that we take note of the terrorism that took place the day before yesterday in Tehran.

The chair asked the Secretariat to present a compromise text. The Assistant Secretary-General briefed the meeting on the status of his consultation with different delegations. He orally presented an amended text that could meet with the approval of the meeting. The Chair moved to adopt the draft as amended by the Secretariat. Lebanon supported the draft as amended by the Secretariat. China proposed deletion of two paragraphs: Russia sought some clarifications about the amended text. Bahrain called for adoption of the resolution as amended.

The meeting then agreed to propose the draft resolution to the Plenary with certain changes which accommodated two of the amendments proposed by Russian delegation concerning the deletion of reference to state terrorism and recognizing the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons as acts of terrorism. The meeting did not however accept the two other Russian amendments concerning the deletion of reference to foreign occupation and recognition of the rights of all people to self-
determination as having nothing to do with terrorism. The Secretariat clarified the questions raised by Russia. The Chair moved to adopt the resolution. The meeting agreed to recommend to the Plenary to adopt the resolution.
The Plenary adopted six resolutions recommended by the Standing Committee on Political Affairs.

19. Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development:

The Rapporteur of the Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development, submitted the following report to the Plenary:

APA/Economic/Rep/2010/01

30 November 2010

Report of the APA Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development

Damascus, 30 November 2010

The Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development held its meeting on 30 November 2010 and adopted its agenda.

11. Honorable, Mr. V.A. Yazev, Vice-Chairman of State Duma, Russian Federation chaired the meeting.

12. The documents before the Standing Committee were:

   a. EC.1/Res/2010/12: Draft Resolution on Environmental Issues, Global Warming, Climate Change and Planting Billions of Trees throughout Asia

   b. EC.1/Res/2010/14: Draft Resolution on Alleviating Poverty in Asia,

   c. EC.1/Res/2010/10: Draft Resolution on Ramifications of International Financial Crisis for the Economics of the Countries of APA Member Parliaments


13. The Chairman opened the meeting. The Assistant Secretary-General Mr. Ali Khorram briefly described the four draft resolutions before the Standing Committee.

14. The Standing Committee took note with appreciation of the Reports submitted by the APA Secretary-General to each Sub-Committee that constituted the basis of deliberations in the Sub-Committees leading to the development of the draft resolutions above.

15. The delegations of the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Syrian Arab Republic and China took the floor and commented on the issues before the Committee.
16. The Standing Committee agreed on the text of the Draft Resolutions as amended to be forwarded to the Plenary for final adoption. The Draft Resolutions as amended are now issued under Documents:
   e. APA/Economic/Res/2010/01: Draft Resolution on Environmental Issues, Global Warming, Climate Change and Planting Billions of Trees throughout Asia
   f. APA/Economic/Res/2010/02: Draft Resolution on Alleviating Poverty in Asia
   g. APA/Economic/Res/2010/03: Draft Resolution on Ramifications of International Financial Crisis for the Economies of the Countries of APA Member Parliaments

17. On the Resolution related to Integrated Energy Market in Asia, The Honorable Delegate of Saudi Arabia stated that in the opinion of the Shura Council of Saudi Arabia the conference can be held after the consultation with the governments of Member Parliaments. He requested that his delegation's views in this regard are reflected in the minutes of the meeting.

The Plenary adopted 4 resolutions recommended by the Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development. The Delegation of Saudi Arabia stressed that implementation of Operative Paragraph 9 of Resolution on Integrated Energy Market in Asia should be contingent on prior consultations with governments.

20. The Rapporteur of the Plenary, Mr. Benjir Ahmed MP (Bangladesh) presented the Report of the 5th Plenary and the Plenary adopted it by acclamation.

21. The meeting adopted the Final Statement of Damascus as amended.

22. The Delegation of the Republic of Korea expressed hope that APA would develop greater balance in its approach to issues important to Asia. He stressed that APA currently puts too much emphasis to the Middle East and little or no attention to other parts of Asia, like the Far East.

23. The Delegation of Russian Federation offered to serve as the President of the APA after Syria.

24. The President made a closing statement.

25. The Heads of delegations of Kuwait and Indonesia took the floor and expressed gratitude to the Government, Parliament and people of Syrian Arab Republic for the leadership provided the APA. They also thanked the APA Secretary-General and his assistants for their excellent preparation of documents and servicing the meetings.

26. The President thanked all delegations, the APA Secretariat and staff of the People’s Assembly of Syria again and officially closed the 5th Plenary at 6:30 P.M. on 30 November 2010.

27. The list of participants (in Arabic) is attached to the report as Annex IX. The Host Parliament was requested to prepare the same list in English and should be sent to all Member Parliaments in due time.
Annex I

SPEECH BY H.E. Dr. MARZUKI ALIE, PRESIDENT OF THE APA AT THE OPENING OF THE 5th PLENARY SESSION OF THE APA Damascus, 29th November 2010

Excellency Mr. Bashar Al-Assad, President of the Syrian Arab Republic,
Excellency Dr. Mahmud Al-Abrash, Speaker of the People’s Assembly of the Syrian Arab Republic,
Honorable Dr. Nejad Hosseinian, Secretary General of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,
Excellencies Leaders of Parliaments,
Honorable Members of Parliaments,
Distinguished invitees,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

BismillahiRrahmanirRahim
Assalamualaikum Warohmatullah Wabarokatuh

At the outset, let us express our most sincere thanks to Allah SWT, for the blessing and well-being so that we are able to gather here today. It is a great honor for me to be able to participate in this 5th Plenary Session of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly.

On behalf of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the People’s Assembly of the Syrian Arab Republic for its initiative to convene this important meeting and its warm welcome to us since our arrival in this beautiful city. Our sincere gratitude also goes to the Secretariat of the APA for its valuable contribution in the preparation of this Plenary Session. Also to all Members of Parliaments of the APA member-countries, I would like to convey my appreciation for your presence. I believe your presence here will contribute to fruitful solution of the problems faced by Asian nations nowadays.

At present, promoting democracy is an important mandate for almost all inter-government and inter-parliamentary organizations. We, Members of the APA, pursuant to the APA Charter, have confirmed our commitments to the moral and spiritual values of the collective heritage of Asian nations. I am convinced that these commitments are the foundation for a real democracy. In the era which has become increasingly democratic, Parliament plays its role as a vital institution to voice people’s aspiration, endorse legislative products, and oversee the government. Moreover, Parliament works together
Annex - II
سخنرانی

جناب آقای دکتر حداد عالد

نماهنده محترم مجلس شورای اسلامی ایران

و ریاست اسبق مجمع مجالس آسیایی

در پنجمین اجلس سالانه مجمع مجالس آسیایی

دمشق - سوریه

8 آذر 1389
جناب رئیس،

رؤسای و نماینندگان محترم مجالس آسیایی،

خانمها و آقایان،

در اغاز ماه میلادی خورشیدی، روشنایی موفق پنجمین اجلاس مجمع مجالس آسیایی در کشور دوست و برادر سوریه این نامی، جای بیش خوشوقتی است که شهر تاریخی و زیبای دمشق به عنوان یکی از کلان‌شهرهای مهم رشد و گسترش فرهنگ و تمدن اسلامی در طول سده‌های گذشته، امروز میزان مجالس آسیایی است. در اینجا باید از زحمات فراوانی مجلس اندونزی، بودجه و باردار بسیار غربی جامع آموزشی و برنامه‌ریزی جامعه‌پناهی و بانی حقوق مجلس و همکاران اینهای در راهبردی فعالیت‌های مجمع مجالس آسیایی طی دو سال گذشته صمایی تشکر کنم. با آنونزی در دوران ریاست خود به خوبی نشان داد که تا چه حد به پیشرفت اهداف مجمع مجالس آسیایی علاقه‌مند، و در راه تنقیه همگرا و در آسیا جدید است. همچنین اطلاعی از اینکه پنجمین اجلاس مجمع مجالس آسیایی با اتخاذ تصمیمات مهم و سازندگی راه همگرا و همکاری در آسیا را هموارتر خواهد کرد و نمایندگان ارزشمندی در جوهر های اقتصادی، سیاسی و فرهنگی به امرخان خواهی آورد.

عالیجان

نماینده‌گان محترم،

اسلام به همکاراندازی و فرهنگی از موقعیت ممتاز و ویژه‌ای در جهان بروخوردار است.

از نظر راهبردی اسیاب و سطح ترین قرار و در ایام حساس ترین نقاط زیمتانژیک در کره زمین است. اکنون بیش از دو سوم جمعیت جهان در اسیاب زندگی می‌کند که این خود نیروی کار بسیار ارزشمندی را برای توسعه سریع اقتصادی فراهم می‌آورد. اسیاب از لحاظ منابع سرشار طبیعی و ذخایر عظمی‌ندی در بالاترین گاینده جهانی فراردارد.

از نظر فرهنگی و معنوی اسیاب مهد ادیان بزرگ جهانی و میراث دار تمدن‌های عظمی بریستا. فرهنگ‌های متنوع، ارزش‌های والد و سنت‌های اصلی در تاریخ ویزندگی مردم در جوامع مختلف اسیاب نمایان است. بیابانان و بزرگ‌الهی در خاک اسیاب برمی‌افشانند و انسان‌ها به رستگاری و برپاست خدای یکدیگر فراوان‌اند تا جوامع از زنگ‌های اسارت و سرسپردگی رها شوند و دروغ و توهی‌های ریشه‌گیر کن شود و حمیت و دوستی در جهان منشتر گردد. اسیاب کانون اشراق و منبع فیبر نور در سرسره تاریخ بهره بوده است. همچنانه خورشید به روز از شرق طولع می‌کند، انوار عشق و معنویت در طول تاریخ از شرق بر تمامی ماه و بیشتر است. در تجربه معمول اسیاب می‌توان به نوشتی دریافت که چگونه نیروی اگاهی و گرمای حیق‌وزش به زندگی نشانه و به جهان جان‌بخشیده است.

با اینهمه در اینجا، در برای نماینده‌گان محترم مجالس اسیابی باید خاطرنشان بسیار که هنوز اسیاب نوانسته است نقش شایسته و واقف خود را در تحولات جهانی ایفا کند. اکنون برسی اساسی این است که چرا اسیاب با وجود
برخورداری از این منابع سرشار مادی و ذخایر عظیم معنوی قادیر نبوده است افتادار شایسته و مشارکت فعال خودرا در عرصه جهانی به منشأ ظهور رسانه. به نظر انجام داد که باید رمز گذاری این معالج تاریخی را باید در یک مفهوم بیشتر چکه کرد که "همگرایی" است.

درجهای که هر روز به نحو فراودینه ای اقتصاد و تجارت، محیط زیست، ارتباطات و فناوری دریغ می‌گیرد، نتیجه‌ی شایسته و مشارکت فعال خودرا در عرصه جهانی به منشأ ظهور رسانه، به نظر انجام داد که باید رمز گذاری این معالج تاریخی را باید در یک مفهوم بیشتر چکه کرد که "همگرایی" است.

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به هر میزان که مجموع محل انسایی بتواند بسیاری همگرایی بپیشروی کند به همان میزان از حضور و نفوذ قدرت‌های فراموش ای در این قاره که گسترش می‌شوند.

گرچه سیر تحولات در آسیا در یک سده گذشته در جهت کسب و تعیین استقلال ملی و گسترش مشابه در مارک در فراهم‌دهای سیاسی و اجتماعی بوده است، اما هنوز انسا از حضور نظامی و مداخله سیاسی قدرت‌های قاره ایئر منطقه ای نه
می‌برد. حضور نیروهای خارجی در عراق و افغانستان باعث ناتمامی و بین‌النیم‌بودن، تورش و در افغانستان، عراق و پاکستان هر روز قربانیان تازه می‌گیرد و زنان و کودکان بسیاری را به کام مرگ می‌کند.

فلسطین در طول ده‌ها گذشته قربانی اشغال و میکروب و کشتار به وحشت مردم بر پاه خوشی بوده است.

محاصره همه جانبی غزه، کشتار کودکان مظالم و مادران بی‌گناه، بیماران مناطق مسکونی، مدرسها و بیماران‌های نمونه بارز نسل‌کشی و جنايت عليه بشریت است. حمله وحشیانه به کاروان کمک‌های انسانی که از سوی ازدیخوادان سراسر جهان برای رخنه در بزرگ‌ترین زندان تاریخ تدارک شده بود، نشانه دیگری از پاپسال کردن قوانین بین المللی و از انتباشته به افزایش عمومی جهانی توسط رژیم اشغالگر فلسطین است. اجلس‌تریبیکایی مجمع مجالس آسیای برای شکست محاصره غزه و کمک به انسان‌های اسر و دربند اقدامی شایسته بوده است که اقطاب درم با جدید دنبال خواهد شد. مجمع مجالس آسیایی باید با اتخاذ موضوعی قاطع و واحد اشغالگر اسراییل را به ویژه اشغال بلندی های جولان را محكوم کند.

جانب اقای ریسی

در پایان لازم می‌دانم از دیپلمات محترم مجمع، جناب آقای دکتر نزادرخسینی و همکاران محترمن، سباستین می‌کنم. به دنبال دوره مجمع مجالس آسیایی توسط برادر وی ریفرالیست آقای دکتر ابرش ریکت محترم مجمع سویه با تبریک گفته و موافقیت اینان را در هدایت مدیران امور خواستارم. امیدوارم که در نشست اصلی، پیشرفت خوبی را در مباحث، برنامه و برخی اقدامات شاهد باشیم.

منشکرم.
Annex III

Statement

By

H.E. M. H. Nejad-Hosseinian

The Secretary-General of the APA

At the Inaugural Ceremony of

The Fifth APA Plenary Session

Damascus, Syria

29 November 2010
Mr. President,  
Excellencies, Speakers of Parliament, Member of Parliaments  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my honor to address this noble and distinguished gathering today. I would like to register my appreciation to Honorable, Mr. Mahmoud Al-Abrach, the Speaker of People’s Assembly of the Syrian Arab Republic for leading this session and congratulate him as the incoming APA President.

I wish also to express my sincere thanks to Honorable, Dr. Marzuki Ali, the outgoing APA President for his support without which the accomplishments of the APA over the past two years would have not been realized.

APA has given a new meaning to parliamentary diplomacy. The Fifth APA Plenary is yet another opportunity for renewing our resolve to meet challenges Asia faces today.

Flying together towards further integration in Asia has been the main theme of the APA resolutions and activities ever since the inception of the Assembly in 2006. Indeed, integration in Asia has been seen by the APA as a prelude to further peace, prosperity, democracy and justice in Asia. Each Asian Member Parliament has a role to play in the promotion of this ideal goal and a fair share of responsibility in facilitating and materializing its requirements.

Mr. Chairman,

Distinguished Delegates,

Parliaments possess fundamental powers to set the ground for development plans and priority agenda of their own countries. Cooperation within the framework of the APA has provided Member Parliaments with a solid standing point for combining their strengths and harmonizing their efforts to perform the same functions at a regional level. The essence of Asian Parliamentary diplomacy as inspired and promoted by the APA is to utilize the powers and functions of Parliaments in a harmonized and effective manner towards further integration in Asia.

The principal function and effective power of Parliaments rest in their position as legislative power. By exercising their main function as law-making institutions, Asian Parliaments can immensely contribute to the process of Asian integration through their common legislations.
Indeed, the APA has already made remarkable contributions to the initiation of Asian integration by addressing fundamental issue areas relevant to the development and prosperity in Asia and by adopting resolutions which identify priority agenda items for further convergence among nations of this region.

What is needed at this stage is to exchange views and explore how APA can devise effective mechanisms to better implement its decisions and resolutions. The wider interest of Asia is served when APA Member Parliaments accord greater focus on how to follow up on implementation of APA decisions.

APA has great potentials. It is a remarkable political asset for Asia that needs to be reckoned with on both legislative and political policy making. APA has pronounced itself on a number of major issues of international peace and security. Certainly, Asia has more than its fair share of situations of conflict, not only in the Middle East but also in other parts of greater Asia. APA Troika Plus offers a voice to Asian People. Asian parliamentary leaders forming APA Troika Plus can bear the weight of Asia as a whole on any situation of conflict with a view to managing regional crisis.

A track record of Troika Plus over the past two years on the grave situation in Gaza following Israeli aggression is indicative of the great political potentials which lie in Asian parliamentary diplomacy.

Mr. President,

APA has grown as an organization with an impressive pace. It has achieved many structural and substantive successes. APA owes its achievements to the active and constructive participation of all its Member Parliaments and the leadership exercised by APA President, Honorable Dr. Marzuki Alie and his capable colleagues. I am confident that under the able leadership of Honorable Mr. Mahmoud Al-Abrach, APA will continue to gain strength and command respect throughout Asia even further.

Thank you.
STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (APA)
H.E. DR. MARZUKI ALIE
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
AT THE PLENARY MEETING OF THE 5TH PLENARY SESSION OF THE APA

Damascus - Syria, 29 November 2010

His Excellency Mr. Dr. Mahmud Al-Abrash, Speaker of the People’s Assembly of the Syrian Arab Republic,
Honorable Dr. Nejad Hosseiniyan, Secretary General of APA,
Honorable Members of Parliaments,
Distinguished invitees,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Bismillahirrahmanirrohim (In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate)
Assalamu’alaikum Warohmatullah Wabarakatuh

It is a great honor for me to have, once again, the opportunity to deliver my speech in this APA forum in this Plenary Session in Syria. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the People’s Assembly of Syrian Arab Republic for your commitment to the APA to hold this Plenary Meeting.

I would also like to express my appreciation for the hard work that have been done by the Secretary General of the APA, who has prepared all essential materials to the continuity of the deliberation process in the Plenary Session. Moreover, I would also like to express my salute to the commitment and the dedication of all Members of Parliaments of APA who attend in this Plenary Session. I hope, what we all have done will be the evidence of our genuine sincerity in realizing prosperity, stability, security and peace in Asia.

Honorable Members of Parliaments,
Distinguished Invitees,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today, officially, the post of the President of APA which I hold will be handed over to Syria. Excellency Dr. Mahmud Al-Abrash, the Speaker of the People’s Assembly of the Syrian Arab Republic, shortly will officially hold the mandate as the
President of APA, a highly respectable position because it represents the only inter-parliamentary organization in the vast region of Asia. However, before I handover this post of President of APA to Excellency Dr. Mahmud Al-Abrash, Speaker of People’s Assembly of Syrian Arab Republic, I would like to respectfully convey several things and commitments which we have done in my term of office.

Honorable Members of Parliaments,
Distinguished Invitees,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia has held the post as the President of APA since the end of 2008 until now, starting from the term of office of Mr. Agung Laksono as the Speaker of the House of Representatives until my term of office at this moment. During our Presidency, DPR RI has agreed to make APA as a gate of diplomacy to strengthen Asian region. In our view, in the fast changing global world, Indonesia will not be able to strive alone for the dream of an ideal world. APA is a gate for social and political interaction amongst parliaments in Asian countries. Therefore, since its early establishment, we have participated and actively involved in it. Our involvement is more active and intensive in our term of office as the President of APA.
In its early term of office, we held Plenary Session in 2008 which adopted approximately 20 resolutions out of five standing committees. On our initiative and the active role of all of Members of APA, also in that year, *Jakarta Declaration on the Urgency for the Establishment of a New Global Financial Architecture* was adopted. The declaration was originally generated from the global economy crises.

As a part of APA, the House of Representatives has also actively participated in all meetings, i.e. in meetings of Standing Committee and Sub Committee. We have shown our great attention to the APA so that we also participated in the forming of Ad-hoc group and Advisory Group for some issues ranging from *Information Communication Technology (ICT), Protecting and Respecting Cultural Diversity in Asia, Energy*, to issues that touched the organizational need of the APA like *Financial and Regulation*.

**Honorable Members of Parliaments,**  
**Distinguished Invitees,**  
**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The real fundamental change the APA at this moment is the simplification of the Standing Committee from five to three, which was effectively applied in the 2009 Plenary Session in the
**APA Resolution on the Streamlining of the APA Work.** The 2009 Plenary Session held in Bandung, was also a milestone for two countries, India and Kazakhstan, since the two countries officially was accepted as the APA Members. Therefore, the number of Members of APA becomes 41 countries from 50 countries in Asia. In the 2009 Plenary Session in Bandung, 11 resolutions and Bandung Declaration, covering democracy, security, peace, climate change, and the human rights protection and the strengthening of women’s participations in politics and policy making were also adopted.

In 2010, APA consistently opens its room for meetings of the latest issues. Up to now, 15 draft resolutions and one draft decision to be adopted in this Plenary Session are ready. However, we should not be satisfied because there are still many things to be addressed for the existence of APA in global world.

The House of Representatives has noted there are still many issues to be addressed in the APA. In the organization of meetings, we note that there were Sub Committee meetings that were delayed as the quorum was not reached. Even though in the end the meetings were successfully held, this should become our review for the APA to settle this matter in
the future. We very much hope the commitment of all APA members to support the whole programs and activities of APA.

**Honorable Members of Parliaments,**  
**Distinguished,**  
**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

In relation to the strengthening of the women’s participation, the House of Representatives has officially proposed the forming of *Women APA* in the Executive Council of APA Meeting held in Jakarta in 2010. The Indonesian House of Representatives believes that this proposal is a part of the *Bandung Declaration* commitments. We do believe that it is time for APA to have concrete actions in propelling the ideals for strengthening the women’s participations in politics and policy making. Indonesia has that commitment. We are open to women’s participation in politics, and in other fields. The number of women parliamentarians in the House of Representatives has increased significantly every period. Therefore, I, as the President of APA as well as the Head of Delegation of the Indonesian House of Representatives, in this Plenary would like to express my gratitude for the support of all Members of APA related to the proposal. I do hope that the implementation of that commitment will not stop only until the
forming of *Women APA*, but also in the effort to increase women’s participation, including in the meetings of APA.

Our proposal can also be a driving factor for the full spirit of the APA Members to promote the gender equality and women’s rights in each country. This will also be a part of crystallization of struggle and our support to the women’s rights which are neglected in Palestine. We have noted that, until now, the conflict happening in Palestine due to the Israel’s Aggression has not been over yet. As the result of the conflict, the vulnerable members of society like women and children of Palestine cannot enjoy their rights freely. They are held hostage by the interest of the aggression the Zionist regime.

*Honorable Members of Parliaments,*  
*Distinguished Invitees,*  
*Ladies and Gentlemen,*  

It is still fresh in mind, Israel’s despotic action by blocking the Gaza Strip. They build settlement in the West Bank by ignoring the fact that the land belongs to the Palestinians. The situation was worsened when Israel attacked and deported the Mavi Marmara humanitarian ship bound for the Gaza Strip in May 2010. Our stance, toward this aggression still and will not change. What the Israel has done in the Gaza Strip, West
Bank and also the aggressions are despotic actions which ignore the human rights.

A few days ago, we were shocked by the endorsement of a Law on Referendum if Israel will sign a peaceful agreement to withdraw from Jerusalem and the Highland of Golan. This is a regressive step of the effort of peaceful negotiation initiated by international community. Indonesia strongly condemns the endorsement of the Law as it is against the international rules considering the world up to now has not recognized concretely that the areas belong to Israel.

Indonesia consistently stands for Palestine in defending their deprived rights as the result of the Israel’s aggression. Even, the Indonesian House of Representatives, representing the APA, was the first party of the Asian Parliament that was able to penetrate the blockade in Gaza on 30 June 2010 after the attack launched by Israel on Mavi Marmara Humanitarian Ship. The effort was part of our humanitarian and solidarity mission including the assistance to build a hospital in Gaza Strip.

Together with Iran and Syria through APA Troika Plus, in June 2010, we reiterated our stance on the Palestinian issues. What we have done is a stance and a manifestation of
the consistency of APA to defend the weak. It is the consistent stance of APA in realizing the resolutions. We can not avoid this reality. The Historical facts state that, since 2006, APA has reiterated its stance toward the respect for the human rights for women and children and the fight to support Palestine.

*Honorable Members of Parliaments,*
*Honorable Invitees,*
*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

In relation to the respect for the human rights, we also call for the APA Member Parliaments to foster and to give fundamentals for each country to respect the human rights. We underline the fact that migrant workers are also entitled to human rights.

As settled foreigners working in a foreign country, they no longer have basic protection as they have in their own country. However, if the country where they work has agreement on the protection of the basic rights, this will no longer be a problem.

Therefore, I call for the APA Members to push and develop our commitment to reinforce the protection of migrant workers' rights in a concrete foundation for our mutual interest. This foundation, of course, does not only reinforce the protection,
but also improve the quality of migrant workers to guarantee their rights are not abused. I do hope that we can share this issue, considering the understanding of respecting human rights in the APA has been recognized since the adoption of the APA Charter and the adopted resolutions subsequently.

Honorable Members of Parliaments,
Honorable Invitees,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Those are the matters that I would like to convey as a part of the accountability of what the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia has done during my tenure as the President of APA. Now, it is time for me to handover the presidency to His Excellency Dr. Mahmud Al-Abrash, the Speaker of the People's Assembly of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Shortly, APA will have a new President. I would like to congratulate His Excellency Dr. Mahmud Al-Abrash, the Speaker of the People's Assembly of the Syrian Arab Republic, for his new mandate. I very much hope, the new President of APA will be able to continue the works of the APA more optimally. I also very much hope the new APA President will play significant roles optimally, for the realization of prosperity, stability,
security and peace in Asia and unified Asia based on the APA’s vision.

I call on all APA Member Parliaments to do their best efforts to maintain Asia’s harmony and eliminate selfishness for the realization of peace at bilateral and multilateral levels. I also reaffirm that the Indonesian House of Representatives will not stop playing its roles in the APA. We are convinced that APA is the main gate of change in Asia, and also the unifying agent of Asia. For that reason, we assure you that Indonesia stands ready to cooperate with the new Leader of APA. Thank you.

Wassalamualaikum Warohmatullah Wabarakanuh
Annex - V

ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

The Fifth Plenary Session
28 November – 1 December 2010
Damascus - Syria

Agenda

Inaugural Session

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Statement by the President of APA, Honorable Dr. Marzuki Alie, Speaker of the House of Representatives of Republic of Indonesia
3. Transfer of APA Presidency from Honorable Dr. Marzuki Alie, Speaker of House of Representatives of Indonesia to Honorable Dr. Mahmud Al Abrash, Speaker of People’s Assembly of the Syrian Arab Republic
4. Acceptance speech by the APA President, Honorable Dr. Mahmud Al Abrash, the Speaker of People’s Assembly of the Syrian Arab Republic
5. Election of the Bureau*
6. Statement by Honorable Dr. Muhammad Hidayat Nur Wahid, the Chairperson of the Executive Council
7. Statement by H.E. Dr. Nejad Hosseinian, the APA Secretary General, on the work of the APA
8. General Debate
9. Meetings of the Standing Committees
10. Meeting of the Drafting Committee on Damascus Declaration
11. Reports by the Rapporteurs of:
   - Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs
   - Standing Committee on Political Affairs
   - Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development Affairs
12. Adoption of the APA Resolutions and Decisions
13. Decision on the next APA Presidency
14. Adoption of the Report of the APA Plenary Session and the Damascus Declaration
15. Any other matter

*Four Vice Presidents and one Rapporteur (Three Vice Presidents serve as the Chair of three Standing Committees and the Forth will oversee the elaboration of Financial and Budget Regulations)
Annex - VI

Asian Parliamentary Assembly
The Fifth Plenary Session
28 November - 1 December 2010
Damascus, Syria

Program of Work

Saturday, 27 November 2010:
Arrival of Delegates & Registration

Sunday, 28 November 2010:
09.00 - 12.30 Informal meetings:
- Informal meeting to discuss the Draft Resolution No. SC/Res/2010/07 on the Necessity of Effective Security Assurance and Denouncing the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons in International Relations.
- Informal meeting on preparation for the international conferences in 2011 including on Asian Integrated Energy Market, with participation of both Member Parliaments and their governmental experts (Draft Resolution EC.1/Res/2010/11, dated 16 June 2010)

Venue: Room No. 3 Conferences Palace

12.30 - 14.00 Lunch: Room No. 3 Conferences Palace

Venue: Four Season restaurant

15.00 - 16.15 Second APA Executive Council Meeting
- Opening Statement by Honorable Dr. Mahmud Al Abrash, Speaker of People’s Assembly, Syrian Arab Republic
- Adoption of the Agenda of the Executive Council
- Election of the Bureau of the Executive Council
- Statement by the Secretary General

16.15 - 16.30 Coffee Break

16.30 - 18.00 - Consideration of Draft Resolution on the Necessity of Effective Security Assurance and Denouncing the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons in International Relations. (SC/Res/2010/07)
- Consideration of the Draft Resolution by Indonesia on the APA Coordinating meeting of Women Parliamentarians.
- Consideration and recommendation of the Draft Agenda of the 5th Plenary Session.
- Any other matters.

Venue: Room No. 2 Conferences Palace

Free Dinner

Monday, 29 November 2010:

09.30 - 11.00 Inaugural Ceremony

- Statement by APA President Honorable Dr. Marzuki Alie, Speaker of the Indonesian House of Representatives
- Statement by Honorable Dr. Haddad Adel, the first APA President
- Inaugural Address by H.E. Dr. Nejad Hosseinian, APA Secretary-General
- Welcome Address by Honorable Dr. Mahmud Al Abrash, Speaker of the People’s Assembly of the Syrian Arab Republic
- Photo Session

Venue: Room No. 1 Conferences Palace

11.00 - 11.15 Coffee Break

11.15 - 12.30 Plenary Meeting

- Adoption of the Agenda of the Fifth Plenary Session
- Statement by Honorable Dr. Marzuki Alie, the President of APA and Speaker of the House of Representatives of Republic of Indonesia
- Transfer of APA Presidency from Honorable Dr. Marzuki Alie, Speaker of House of Representatives of Indonesia to Honorable Dr. Mahmud Al Abrash, Speaker of People’s Assembly of the Syrian Arab Republic
- Acceptance speech by Honorable Dr. Mahmud Al Abrash, the APA President and the Speaker of People’s Assembly of the Syrian Arab Republic
- Election of the Bureau of the Plenary and Chairpersons of the Standing Committees
- Statement by Honorable Dr. Muhammad Hidayat Nur Wahid, the Chairperson of the Executive Council
- Statement by, H.E., Dr. Nejad Hosseinian, APA Secretary-General on the work of the APA

Venue: Ommayyat room – Ebla Hotel

12.30 - 14.00 Lunch

Venue: Four Season restaurant

15.00 - 17.00 Plenary Meeting (Continued)

- General Debate:
Statement by Honorable Dr. Ali Larijani, Speaker of Islamic Parliament of Islamic Republic of Iran

Statement by Honorable Mr. Jasem Al Khurafi, Speaker of Parliament of Kuwait

Statement by Honorable Mr. Abdullah Al Alsheikh, Speaker of Parliament of Saudi Arabia,

Meeting of the Standing Committees on Social and Cultural Affairs.

Venue: Room No. 2 Conferences Palace

17.00 - 17.15   Coffee Break
17.15 - 18.15 - General Debate (Continued)
               - Meeting of the Standing Committees on Social and Cultural Affairs (Continued).

20.30 Dinner at Al Nobla’a Palace Restaurant hosted by Honorable Dr. Al Abrash, Speaker of People’s Assembly of Syrian Arab Republic (Delegates need to assemble in the lobby at 20.00 hours)

Tuesday, 30 November, 2010:
09.00 - 10.30   Plenary Meeting (Continued)
                - General Debate (Continued)
                Venue: Ommayyat room – Ebla Hotel
                - Meeting of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs
                Venue: Room No. 2 Conferences Palace

10.30 - 10.45   Coffee Break
10.45 - 12.00   - General Debate (Continued)
                - Meeting of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs. (Continued)

12.00 - 14.00   Lunch: Venue: Four Season restaurant
15.00 - 16.30   Plenary Meeting (Continued)
                Venue: Ommayyat room – Ebla Hotel
                - Meeting of the Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development Affairs.
                Venue: Room No. 2 Conferences Palace
                - Meeting of the Drafting Committee of the Damascus Declaration plus any other outstanding issues of the Standing Committees.
                Venue: Room No. 9 Conferences Palace

16.30 - 16.45   Coffee Break
16.45 - 18.00   - Meeting of the Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development Affairs (Continued)
                Free Time and Dinner

Wednesday, 1 December, 2010:
09.00 - 10.30   Plenary Meeting (Closing Ceremony)
                - Presentation of reports by Rapportueurs of the Standing Committees
                - Adoption of the Draft Resolutions and Decisions
                - Presentation and Adoption of Damascus Declaration

10.30 - 14.45   Coffee Break
10.45 - 12.00   - Decision on next APA Presidency.
Adoption of the Report of the 5th APA Plenary Session
Closing statement by Speaker of the People’s Assembly of the Syrian Arab Republic and President of APA

Venue: Ommayyat room – Ebla Hotel

12.00 - 14.00
Lunch:
Venue: Four Season restaurant

15.00 - 19.00
Sightseeing/ Free time (Visit to Ancient City - Delegates need to assemble in the lobby at 15.00 hours)

20.00
Farewell Dinner
Venue: (Ancient City)

Thursday, 2 December 2010 - (Departure of Delegates)

07.00 - 08.30
Breakfast
Departure of Delegates
Annex - VII

Statement

By

H.E. M. H. Nejad-Hosseinian

The Secretary-General of the APA

Before

The Fifth APA Plenary Session

Damascus, Syria

29 November 2010
Mr. President,
Honorable Speakers of Parliaments,
Honorable Members of Parliaments,
Distinguished Delegates,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me a great pleasure to speak for the second times, before this august Assembly today. Allow me at the outset to congratulate Honorable, Mr. Mahmoud Al-Abrash, the Speaker of People’s Assembly of the Syrian Arab Republic as the new APA President. I am confident that under his able leadership, APA will continue to work towards further realization of its objectives. I am also sure that the Secretariat will enjoy the full support of the new APA President as we did during the last two years, thanks to Honorable, Mr. Marzuki Alie, the former APA President and his competent colleagues, particularly Honorable, Mr. Noor Mohammad Wahid, the Head of APA Executive Councils in 2010.

The Fifth APA Plenary is yet another occasion for renewing our motivation and resolve to seize the available opportunities and aggregate our strength to meet our challenges. Flying together towards further integration in Asia has been the main theme of the APA resolutions and activities ever since the inception of the Assembly in 2006. Indeed, integration in Asia has been seen by the APA as a prelude to further peace, prosperity, democracy and justice in Asia. Each Asian Member Parliament has a role to play in the promotion of this ideal goal and a fair share of responsibility in facilitating and materializing its requirements.

Parliaments possess fundamental powers to set the ground for development plans and priority agenda of their own countries. Cooperation within the framework of the APA has provided Member Parliaments with a solid standing point for combining their strengths and harmonizing their efforts to perform the same functions at a regional level. The essence of Asian Parliamentary diplomacy as inspired and promoted by the APA is to utilize the powers and functions of Parliaments in a harmonized and effective manner towards further integration in Asia.

The principal function and effective power of Parliaments rest in their position as legislative power. By exercising their main function as law-making institutions, Asian Parliaments can immensely contribute to the process of Asian integration through their common legislations. The common legislation may just embody certain principles required to deal with the issue at hand. It does not necessarily include all the details of a legislation which, based on each country’s distinctiveness, may be different from one country to another.

The initial common legislations by the APA may begin with subjects that are non-controversial and of particular concern to all Member Parliaments such as smuggling of cultural items in Asia; promoting health equity in Asia; and Asian strategy for climate change.

Indeed, the APA has already made remarkable contributions to the initiation of Asian integration by addressing fundamental issue areas relevant to the development and
prosperity in Asia and by adopting resolutions which identify priority agenda items for further convergence among nations of this region.

What is needed at this stage is to find effective mechanisms for the realization of principles and objectives set out by the APA so far. Besides utilizing their legislative power, two strands of the same strategy must be woven together: Firstly, the APA Member Parliaments should engage their respective governments in the process of Asian integration and pave the way for the APA resolutions to become international conventions in the foreseeable future. Secondly, the APA Member Parliaments should organize a concerted public relations campaign to reach out to their respective constituencies and inform them of the values and benefits of the APA objectives and activities.

Mr. President,

Distinguished Delegates,

In reviewing the achievements of the APA bymeetings, I should like to report to the Plenary that thanks to the streamlining resolution of the Fourth Plenary, the APA managed to reduce the quantity of its sub-committee meetings and improve their quality throughout the year 2010. It helped the APA to rationalize its work and conduct its meetings more efficiently. Member Parliaments learned well in advanced of the calendar of APA events and meetings prepared by the Secretariat early in the year.

Issues related to the APA Standing Committee on Cultural and Social Affairs were addressed at a general meeting hosted by the Parliament of Palau. The subjects considered by this meeting included Globalization; Combating Corruption; and Health Equity.

The second general meeting which was held at the Headquarters of the APA Secretariat in Tehran, and hosted by the Parliament of the Islamic Republic of Iran covered all subjects pertaining to the APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs, including The Role of Asian Parliaments in Promoting Comprehensive Counter-Terrorism and Counter Occupation Strategies; Supporting the Right of Palestinian People; Declaration on Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia; Nuclear Security Assurance; and Enhancing Cooperation between APA and Asian Governments.

The third general meeting which was hosted by the State Duma of the Russian Federation considered issues relevant to the purview of the APA Standing Committee on Economics and Sustainable Development. These subject matters included the Environment and the Integrated Energy Market in Asia.

The House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia hosted the sub-committee on International Financial Crisis. The Parliament of Cambodia hosted the Sub-Committee on Cultural Diversity. The Parliament of Turkey arranged to host the Sub-Committee on Alleviating poverty, but later cancelled the meeting. The House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia, as the APA President, had to fill in for Turkey and hosted the Sub-Committee on Alleviating Poverty.
I would like to express sincere thanks to the esteemed Parliaments of Cambodia, Indonesia, Iran, Palau, and Russia for hosting the APA meetings in 2010. I hope APA will enjoy the full cooperation of these and other Member Parliaments in conducting our work in 2011. My appreciations also go to all Member Parliaments that have actively participated in these meetings.

Mr. President,

Distinguished Delegates,

I need not go into the details of proceedings of all the meetings in 2010 since the distinguished delegates are in the possession of the written reports of these meeting as prepared and made available by the Secretariat. However, I think it is important and useful to elaborate on the following points:

**International Conferences on Priority Subjects**

In the course of deliberations of the meetings of the APA Standing Committees and Sub-Committees, and subsequently in the two meetings of the Executive Council in 2010, it has been recommended to this Plenary to hold international conferences on four important subjects that have been on the APA agenda for some time. This new mechanism is designed to give a boost to certain agenda items which need more scholarly elaborations on the one hand and more publicity on the other to accomplish their desired outcomes. Moreover, such conferences are expected to attract interested groups and stakeholders who are active in these fields in one way or another.

The recommended conferences for the year 2011 are to be held on the following subjects:

1. Principles of Cooperation and Friendly Relations in Asia;
2. Global Financial Crisis;
3. Asian Integrated Energy Market; and
4. Inter-Religious and Inter-Cultural Dialogue in Asia.

In the light of the participatory culture that has been developed within the APA, I am glad to announce that the Parliaments of Indonesia; Russia; and Iran, have undertaken to host and organize these conferences in 2011. The Secretariat will provide assistance to the host Parliaments on the organization and substance of the conferences. The Secretariat will announce, in coordination with the host, the appropriate dates for these international conferences.

**Publicity Campaign in Asia and Beyond**

In a world characterized by communication revolution and global media outreach, it is crucially important for the APA to make the old and young people in Asia informed and familiar with its goals and objectives. It should run a publicity campaign to inform both the public and the private institutions throughout Asia and even beyond of the potentials of our continent and the requirements of integration in Asia.
**Promoting APA Day**

In the context of publicity campaign, the APA Secretariat proposed commemoration of 14 November, on which the APA Charter was formally adopted, as the APA Day. The first Executive Council recommended to the Fifth Plenary to adopt a decision on 14 November as the APA Day. At the same time, the Secretariat has had a number of posters designed on the occasion of the APA Day which reflect the thematic effort of APA to achieve greater cooperation and integration in Asia. You have no doubt noticed these posters in the meeting halls.

**Troika Plus Meetings**

Utilizing APA potentials to address and find ways to help solve problems endangering peace in Asia has always been a priority for APA. In this context, the streamlining resolution urged APA Troika Plus to continue to make representation, on behalf of the APA, in areas and situations of conflict in order to help defuse the situation and promote international peace and security. In accordance with this resolution, a meeting of Troika Plus was held in Tehran, in May 2010, and addressed the grave situation in Gaza following Israeli aggression there.

I believe the Troika Plus mechanism is an efficient tool at the disposal of the Assembly to be utilized to respond to emergency situations. Troika Plus mechanism is expected to prove more effective because it relies on Asian potentials and political asset that the Asian Parliaments carry.

**APA Financial Regulations**

The Third APA Plenary Meeting encouraged the Secretary-General to develop a set of financial and personnel regulations including scale of assessment of contributions by Member Parliaments for consideration and approval of the Executive Council.

We in the Secretariat have worked for some months on this subject and after consulting different modalities employed by international organizations such as the United Nations, the International Parliamentary Union and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, have come up with a draft proposal on the APA scale of assessment of contributions.

According to the APA Streamlining Resolution, the Fourth Vice-President of the Plenary is responsible to arrange the meetings of the Ad-Hoc Committee in order to make a concrete recommendation on the draft regulations to the Executive Council in 2011. It is important for the APA that the Executive Council and the Plenary would consider and adopt both the Staff and Financial Regulations at appropriate time.

Until the APA adopts its own financial regulations and determine the scale of assessed contribution by its Member Parliaments, I urge the Member Parliaments to consider making voluntary financial contributions to the organization in order to support its accomplishments and make the implementation of its mandates more feasible. This issue is becoming increasingly more important as we approach the year 2011 by which new arrangements have to be made to manage the financial affairs of the APA Secretariat.
Furthermore, the Secretariat has also sought to generate fund for the APA activities by exploring the possibility of involving the private sector to initiate a range of activities that promote APA principles and objectives. Ideas such as organizing an annual Asian Economic Forum, if supported by APA, is bound to promote APA principles and objectives on the one hand, and generate funds needed for the APA activities.

**APA International Outreach**

In line with the mandates of the APA resolutions, the Secretariat has taken certain steps to expand the international ties and interactions of the Assembly with international governmental organizations such as the United Nations; inter-parliamentary organizations such as the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU); Parliamentary Union of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (PUIC); Inter-Parliamentary Union of the Arab Countries (IPUAC); Latin American Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (LAIPA); and non-governmental organizations such as the International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP); Most of the APA activities in this respect have been directed to attending the general assemblies of these organizations and seeking and granting observer status on the mutual basis. In my view, the growing international outreach of the APA will definitely contribute to the realization of its goals and objectives.

Furthermore, the Secretary-General has participated in the several IPU Assembly meetings and explained the APA positions on different issues related to IPU Agenda. On these occasions, in accordance with the Third APA Plenary resolution, APA coordination meetings have been held on the sideline of the IPU meetings in order to discuss and coordinate positions of APA Member Parliaments on major international issues of importance to APA. I am pleased to report to the Plenary that the participation by the APA Member Parliaments in these coordinating meetings has steadily grown and proved constructive in presentation of the APA position on the one hand and the promotion of its stature on the other.

The APA international outreach would also require more involvement of its Member Parliaments in the activities of the Secretariat. I urge the Member Parliaments to consider supporting the Secretariat by seconding competent and qualified experts from their countries to work with the Secretariat. This will help us to improve our performance and create a more diversified environment.

In conclusion, I must stress that that APA has grown tremendously as an organization under Indonesian leadership. APA continues to grow and give greater voice to Asian people. We need to follow up implementation of our decisions and resolutions. Hopefully, APA will take major steps in this direction under Syrian leadership.

Thank you.
Statement by Hon. KIM Sung Gon,
Representative of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea
at the Plenary Session of the 5th General Assembly of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly
in Syria on November 29, 2010

Honorable Dr. Mahumud Al Abrash, Speaker of the People’s Assembly of the Syrian Arab Republic and H.E. Dr. M.H. Nejad-Hosseinian, Secretary-General of the APA,

On behalf of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea, let me extend my heartfelt gratitude for inviting us to the 5th APA General Assembly. And I would like to send the best regards from H.E. PARK Hee Tae, Speaker of the Korean National Assembly, to all the delegates present here today.

And my special thanks go to all of you for accepting me as one of the Vice Presidents representing the Political Standing Committee. In particular, let me thank Iran for its special consideration.

Since the inception of the APA, the Republic of Korea has offered its presence consistently. I gained a better understanding of the sufferings of Arab countries including Palestine and its neighboring countries by attending many APA Assemblies thus far. We, Korea, had similar experiences in the past such as aggression and colonial rule by our neighboring countries for a long time; therefore, I fully sympathize with the difficult situation facing Palestine, and it is our sincere hope that you can bring peace to this region at the earliest possible time. We will pledge to make our best efforts in this matter. And Israel should acknowledge the rights of the Palestine people, and recover occupied Arab territories to its neighbors in accordance to the U.N. Resolution.

Just as Palestine needs peace at the western tip of Asia, we also need peace on the Korean Peninsula at the eastern tip of Asia. At this stage, I cannot help but mention the conflict between South and North Korea on the Korean Peninsula, which occurred on November 23, 2010. As you know, Korea had been a united country for 1,300 years. After independence from the Japanese colonial rule in 1945, Korea has been divided between the South and the North in confrontation against each other. The Korean War broke out in 1950, claiming millions of lives, and afterwards, although there have been sporadic clashes between the two Koreas after the Armistice Agreement was signed, the recent artillery attacks by North Korea on Yeonpyeong Island off South Korea’s west coast and its civilian residential areas was the first-ever attack on the South Korean soil since the Korean War.

Against this background, the Korean National Assembly almost unanimously passed the Resolution in a bi-partisan manner denouncing North Korea’s armed military provocations. The said Resolution strongly calls for North Korea to apologize for its illegal artillery shelling causing 20 deaths and injuries including innocent civilians in outright violation of the inter-Korean Basic Agreement, the Armistice Agreement and Clause 4, the Article 2 of the U.N. Charter, and to ensure that there will not be any recurrence of such provocations in the future.

Furthermore, North Korea has disclosed uranium enrichment facility at its nuclear centre in Yongbyon. We, APA, are drafting a Resolution that the Asian continent should be free from
nuclear weapons. Korea believes that use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes should be
guaranteed, but clearly oppose the development of nuclear weapons. North Korea’s nuclear
development should be halted since it threatens peace not only on the Korean Peninsula, but
also Northeast Asia as a whole. We seek your active support from APA member Parliaments so
that North Korea gives up its nuclear weapons programs, and returns to the six party talks
aimed at the North’s nuclear disarmament and permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula.

Now that North Korea, as APA member, is not here with us in the Assembly, let me wrap up
the inter-Korean issues here. Anyway, we do not want a war. We do want peace, and sincerely
hope that the two Koreas can be reunified.

I myself serve as Secretary General of Asian Conference of Religions and Peace (ACRP),
contributing to interfaith and intercultural dialogue. All religions teach that individuals love
each other and live peacefully side by side. This message of love should also be applied to
countries as well. As Jesus advised, “Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself,” genuine peace is
possible only when you love your neighboring countries as you do for your own country.

As Vice President for the Political Standing Committee, I am considering hosting a meeting
under the Standing Committee on Political Affairs next year in Seoul. And a tentative theme
would be how to achieve reconciliation among countries which are hostile against each other.
(For example, Palestine vs. Israel and South Korea vs. North Korea) If we recognize that we
humans have equal rights and implement the spirit of equality, humanity and love of people,
then nations will be able to reconcile as is the case of individuals.

I am very much grateful for Syria hosting this Assembly, particularly because Syria is the one
and only country in Asia that hasn’t yet established diplomatic ties with Korea. After coming
here, I realized that Syria has such a long history and plays a very important role in the Middle
East peace process. Moreover, 70% of cars on the streets of Syria are Korean cars. Now, there
appears to be no reason why the two countries cannot establish the bilateral diplomatic
relations. It is my earnest wish that the People’s Assembly of Syria takes the leadership role in
this endeavor.

Once again, I deeply appreciate Syria and the APA Secretariat for their hard work, and please
accept my best wishes for your good health and prayer for the peace in your country.

Thank you listening.
SPEECH

Hon. Mr. Nguon Nhel, First Vice-President of the National Assembly and President of Cambodian National Parliamentary Group of APA

the 5th Plenary Session of APA

(28 November - 01 December 2010, Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic)

“The Roles of Asian Parliaments in Achieving Security

and Peace in the Middle East Region”

* Honorable Dr. MAHMUD AL ABRASH, Speaker of People’s Assembly of Syrian Arab Republic, and President of APA

* His Excellency Dr. M.H. Nejad-Hosseinion, Secretary-General of APA

* Honorable Delegates,

* Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today I have the honor and pleasure to warmly address your excellencies, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen in this beautiful and developed country of the Middle East. I am also very proud to lead the Cambodian Parliamentarian Delegation at the 5th Plenary Session of APA.

On behalf of the National Assembly of Kingdom of Cambodia and the Cambodian Delegation, I wish to thank the Government, the Assembly and the people of Syrian Arab Republic for working in continual good cooperation with Cambodia. I also wish to especially thank the Organizing Committee for the warmest hospitality extended to us on this occasion.

Honorable delegates, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen!

Security and Peace are essential factors in developing countries at both regional and international levels; especially within the Middle East Region, which has befallen to war for more than 60 years, resulting in tragedies and sufferings in nations in the region, including Syria. Nations all over the world have been working hard together to achieve Security and Peace for all mankind and as noted by the Hon. Dr. Mahmud Al Abrash, Speaker of People’s Assembly of Syrian Arab Republic and the President of Asian Parliamentary Assembly, in his speech, those leaders of parliaments and representatives of people in each respective region have played a core role in strengthening security and peace. Parliament is working to adopt legislation, represent people, and monitor implementation; conversely the government directly implements the peace seeking policies. However, in order to achieve these goals, it requires close and effective cooperation between the executive and legislative branches.

Honorable delegates, Distinguished Guest, Ladies and Gentlemen!
Cambodia has faced over decades of civil war but through negotiations and reconciliation is living in a new era of peace and national unity through the win-win policy enacted by Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia. However, there are a lot of complexities surrounding the conflicts in the Middle East, compared to the Cambodian issue. I note and recognize a vast difference of race and origin of the people, religions, governments, as well as the economic and social standing of countries in this region. The conflicts are for the causes of territory, religion, history, and security. The Palestinian-Israeli issue remains the longest and explosive running conflicts in the Middle East. Year after year, Palestinian people are denied of their right to establish a Palestine State living side by side in peace with the people of Israel. The United Nations’ Forum has urged the parties concerned to comply with the United Nations Security Council resolutions, while the world is waiting impatiently for a peace agreement between the two parties.

Honorable delegates, Distinguished Guest, Ladies and Gentlemen!

In this context, Cambodia would happily welcome any initiatives that aim to provide peaceful and non-violent approaches, and that will strengthen the role of parliament in achieving Security and Peace in the region. On behalf of the Cambodian people I wish to urge both parties to act with utmost restraint and to stop any act of provocation in order to pave the way for a peaceful solution in the Middle East Region.

Cambodia always supports the Palestinians’ struggle for their right of self-determination in establishing a Palestine State that exists in harmony with Israel. Furthermore, Cambodia does not want to see any violence between Israel and Palestine. Cambodia also fully supports the Middle East Quartet’s appeal for a halt in settlement building and immediate final status negotiations to reach a comprehensive state of peace.

Cambodia is optimistic that all Asian countries will seek peace and prosperity throughout the meetings through which to share and exchange our ideas, mutual understandings, and cooperation towards a peaceful co-existence, social harmonization, and mutual trusts.

I would lastly like to wish this 5th Asian Parliamentarian General Assembly, a fruitful, effective and successful gathering and deliberation for all of our nations.

Thank you
### Annex - IX

الجمهورية العربية السورية
مجلس الشعب
العلاقات العامة
الوفود المشاركة في الدورة العادية الخامسة
للجمعية البرلمانية الأسيوية
دمشق من: 28/11 - 1/12/2010

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### المجلس البرلماني الأوروبي الاقتصادي (IPAEURASEC)

- السيد بيتر زيفريج السكرتير التنفيذي للمجلس
- نائب أول
- السيد فيانيسلاف ساندشفوسيكي نائب

#### 6. مملكة البحرين
- السيد خليد إبراهيم المرزوقي عضو مجلس النواب
- السيد فؤاد أحمد الحاجي عضو مجلس الشورى
- السيد علي عباس العرادي إعلامي
- وحيد حسن بحر أداري

#### 7. سنغافورة
- السيد كيان مين أونغ رئيس الوفد
- الدكتور أحمد مجد السكرتير
- السيد أ. بايلياني نائب أول

#### 8. بنغلاديش
- السيد خدكذار عبد الباطن عضو برلمان
- السيدة عبد الباطن زوجة رئيس الوفد
- السيد سعید محسن على عضو برلمان
- السيد بهنجر أحمد عضو برلمان
- السيد محمد رام الدين سكرتير مساعد

#### 9. الجمهورية الإسلامية الإيرانية
- السيد الدكتور علي لأرياني رئيس مجلس الشورى
- السيد غلام عادل حداد رئيس الجمعية السابق
- السيد محمد حسن أبو ترابي نائب رئيس المجلس
- السيد محسن نوریان
- السيد حسين أمیری خامکاى وزوجته نائب
- السيد أمیر طاهر خانی
- السيد محمد علي داور
- السيد جواید زمانی
- السيد حسین شیخ الإسلام مستشار
- السيد سید مرتضی رضویانی رئيس إدارة المؤتمرات مترجم
- السيد علي سلطان دوست مرافق أمین
- السيد علي رضا عطاری مرافق أمین

#### 10. مملكة تايلاند
- د. فیروز تانیانتونغ عضو مجلس النواب
- سوتنایا سانفو عضو مجلس الشورى
- د. وارواتي بارو عضو مجلس الشورى
- السيد كیتی سیبرایون علاقات

#### 11. جمهورية الصين
- السيد مانوو نائب رئيس الوفد (لجنة الشؤون الخارجية)
- السيد وانغ مینغتشویان نائب (لجنة مالية)
- السيد سون تشنتشیان نائب
- السيد شيوانغ وي رئيس قسم مديرية الشؤون الخارجية
- السيد نيوت برايد شوينغ سكرتير شؤون دبلومية
- السيد ليو دهوي موظف - شؤون خارجية
- السيد نيوت هو متجم صينية - انكليزية
- السيد هو دوينغ مترت جماعة صينية - انكليزية
- السيد ليو بوانغ سكرتير ثان في سفارة الصين

12- جمهورية قيرص
- السيد نيكوس أناستاسيديس عضو برلمان
- زوجة السيد أنستاسيديس
- السيد كريسستيان سولومونিদو

13- مجلس الأمم العربي الكبير
- السيد عبد القادر أمين نائب
- السيد محمد شاهين نائب
- السيد علي عثمان سالي نائب
- السيد تاجناريان نائب
- السيد سليمان نيزات كوركاز نائب
- السيد ناجي أوزتوك معاون مدير المرام
- السيد مراد هاستورك مرام

14- المملكة العربية السعودية
- السيد الدكتور عبد الله محمد إبراهيم آل الشيخ رئيس مجلس الشورى
- السيد يوسف بن راشد الحربي سكرتير الرئيس الخاص
- السيد فهد بن عبد العزيز العمير من مكتب الرئيس
- السيد د. طلال محمود ضاحي نائب
- محمد إبراهيم مرام
- خالد الحمد المنصور مدير عام العلاقات
- د. عبد الرحمن بن عثمان الصغير
- د. محمد بن عبد الله المهنا
- السيد أسس بن عبد العزيز السعيد
- السيد سعود بن عبد المجيد آل علي
- السيد سلطان بن عبد القادر الفهد
- السيد وليد بن سليمان الراشد

15- المجلس الوطني الكمبودي
- السيد نغون فهلنغ النائب الأول لرئيس المجلس
- السيد نغون نيه ته نائب
- السيد نغون ثي في نائب
- السيد نغون مي بونغ نائب
- السيد نغون راكمسي علاقات عامة
- السيد نغون توكيت بانال مدير مكتب

16- وفد مجلس الشعب السوري
- السيد الدكتور محمود الأبراش رئيس المجلس
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18- اتحاد مجالس الدول الأعضاء في منظمة المؤتمر الإسلامي |

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19- وفد الأمانة العامة للجمعية البرلمانية الإسبوسيوية |

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