



Report of the 7th APA Plenary Lahore, Pakistan

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Inaugural Session

1- H.E Amjad Parvez, the Secretary-General of the Senate Pakistan called the inaugural Session to order at 9: 35 a.m.

Versus from the Holy Quran were recited.

2- Honorable Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Chairman of the Organizing Committee made an opening Statement. APA is convening in Pakistan at a historic time, when Asia is growing fast and as of last year when Pakistan assumed the APA presidency, APA is witnessing rejuvenation. We had many meetings: two Executive Council meetings in Geneva and Pakistan, four meetings in four different countries and two meetings of the Plenary in Pakistan. Pakistan has provided leadership and vision to APA. Yesterday, in the Executive Council decided to establish a Special Committee on establishment of Asian Parliament. We need to take concrete steps to enhance cooperation in various fields including energy. Asian decisions are taken in Asia now and not in Washington, London or Brussels. He called for greater cooperation and coordination on major international issues like climate change and fighting violence and extremism which have no religion.

3- H.E. Dr. Masoud Islami, APA Acting Secretary-General made a statement. Relying on its wide scope of membership which covers most countries of Asia, APA is in a position to depict itself as a Model Asian Parliament. The realization of such an ideal vision would require realistic missions. As an assembly of parliaments, the APA does not possess executive powers to directly implement its resolutions and decisions. This is a fact but not a failure. Without executive powers at hand, the APA still can accomplish a lot. It needs not to overextend or exaggerate its capabilities. The APA 7th Plenary, inspired by its meaningful theme: Quest for Asian Parliament in Asian Century has a great deal of important subject matters on its agenda. Besides the speeches and remarks by dignitaries and parliamentary leaders of both the host and the guest countries during the general debate, we expect to have constructive discussions on various topics in our standing committees meetings. I am confident that by the end of this Plenary Session and as the result of thoughtful and vigorous debates and deliberations, we will have achieved yet another successful event and shall move forward in our right direction which is the direction of peace, prosperity, cooperation, and harmony among all Asian nations.





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History is made by men and women with foresight and determination. We are thankful to the Asian Parliamentary leaders from Pakistan, Indonesia, Bangladesh, the Philippines, Iran, and other founders of the APA who possessed foresight and determination to provide vision for greater cooperation and integration in Asia. Europe, Africa and Americas have established parliaments with various functions and mandates. It is time that we in Asia overcome all the hurdles on the path of establishing an Asian Parliament. Asian Parliament can be initiated on a voluntary basis with limited advisory or consultative mandate. It can grow gradually from there, as we learn how to build wider consensus in Asia.

4- Honorable Senator Raja Zafar-u--Haq, Leader of the Pakistani delegation made a statement. He welcomed, on behalf of the Pakistani people, all delegates to Lahore. He welcomed and supported the work of the APA and all Draft resolution endorsed by APA. Asian states must overcome their differences and like the European countries try to promote cooperation and establish an integrated Asian Parliament. Combating violence and extremism, climate change, addressing the Kashmir issue and promoting economic cooperation and peace are issues that we can well coordinate within the APA. No individual country can face the modern challenges of cyber crime; drug trafficking, violence and extremism on its own alone. We have no option but to enhance cooperation and integration in Asia. By joining hand, we the parliamentarians, can usher in an era of prosperity and APA can play an effective role in this context.

5- APA President Honorable Syed Nayyer Hussain Bokhari made a statement. He greeted all delegates and welcomed them to Lahore. As president of this esteemed forum, I am very pleased to note the sustained and high level of commitment and participation shown by our esteemed Members and partners at successive APA forums since the 6th Plenary session held in Islamabad.

I note the drive and conviction of all delegates to cause the APA to progress. Asian Parliament can be established through cooperation and integration, APA connectivity with other international organizations. I support all draft resolutions developed during the many meetings held last year.

These are extraordinary times. These are historic times. These are also troubled times.





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Extraordinary because Asia's spectacular rise from poor underdeveloped agricultural backward to becoming the global factory in a period spanning little over five decades is nothing short of an economic miracle.

Historic because compared to economically dismal 1960's when developing Asian economies were summarily written off as of little significance for lacking natural resources and high levels of poverty, Asia has risen like a Phoenix on the wings of its energy, dynamism and its young and educated population.

Troubled because despite all these positive developments, economic prosperity in Asia has not been shared equally amidst enduring challenges on account of spiraling poverty, access to basic amenities, gaping cleavage between haves and have-nots, human rights, accelerating growth, improving social indicators and creating a geo-political environment that fosters peace.

I am confident that by forming a grand parliament, which is representative of the whole region and stands as custodian of its interests, we can overcome all these challenges and build a future of Asia that we can all be proud of.

energy, educated human resources on the one hand, and non-conducive political environment, unrest in Kashmir, Palestine, Iraq and Syria, on the other are challenges we must face together. An all-inclusive Asian Parliament is a solution to many of our challenges. We need to further enhance our collaboration and synergy to face our common challenges to achieve our shared goals.

6- The inaugural session was concluded at 10:30.

7- The Plenary resumed its first session at 11:15, with APA President presiding over the proceeding.

8- The Delegation of Azerbaijan applied orally for full membership of the APA. The Plenary agreed to grant membership to Azerbaijan.





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9-The Delegation of Palestine presented the APA President a replica of the Dome of the Rock.

10- Turkey, Indonesia, Kuwait, Russia, and Pakistan were elected as the Chair respectively for Political, Economic, and Cultural Standing Committees, Ad-hoc Committee on Staff and Financial Regulations, and Special Committee on Asian Parliament. Nepal was elected as the Rapporteur of the Plenary.

11- Acting APA Secretary-General made a statement and reported on the work of the organization. He reviewed 19 draft resolutions that are recommended to the Plenary for adoption. These resolutions cover a wide range of important issues to Asia and show the dynamic of the APA. He also underlined the importance of Asian cooperation and integration leading to Asian Parliament some time in the future. Text of his statement is attached as an Annex.

12- Honorable Senator Mushahed Hussain Sayed, Chairman of the 2nd Executive Council held on 1 December, reported on the work of the meeting. He referred to 19 draft resolutions that were discussed and recommended to Plenary for adoption. The report of the 2nd Executive Council, he said, is ready and circulated.

General debate:

13- Cambodia: Honorable Dr. Nguon Nhel, Second Vice-President of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia: APA has many achievements, including:

The Tehran Declaration, which established a cooperative framework to promote and strengthen closer cooperation and solidarity of all members in Asia, and which clearly pointed out the vision of close Asian integration.

The 2013 Islamabad Declaration, which provided the vision of Asian Parliament.

APA faces the following challenges:

APA resolutions are not actively followed up and implemented,
Troika Plus meetings have been slower than expected,





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Political crisis in Ukraine, issues in the South China Sea, poverty, corruption, terrorism and violent extremism, illicit drug trafficking and energy crisis. These are major concern and may affect the progress of our efforts in achieving our dream of establishing an Asian Parliament.

He emphasized the importance of resolution on enhancing coordination between parliaments and governments. He expressed gratitude to APA President Bokhari, APA Secretary-General and his colleagues as well as the Parliament of the Islamic Republic of Iran for their continued support of the APA Secretariat.

14- Syria: Honorable Speaker Allaham, expressed gratitude to Pakistan and APA Secretariat for their efforts. He believed there is no case deserving to be the main topic of APA agenda other than the case of international terrorism that is spreading like cancer in the Middle East, especially Syria, Iraq and their neighborhood. Washington's campaign of allied countries to attack what is called ISIL is contrary to many UN SC resolutions, including 1371, 2170 and 2178 SC resolutions. We warn that some states attempt to exploit the alliance in order to strike the infrastructure in Syria. He alluded to the Government of Turkey exploiting the situation. US fight against terrorism in the last 15 years has bore the opposite and terrorism has now increased and multiplied and their area of terrorist acts have expanded. Turkey has flagrantly declared that its priority is for the alliance to fight the Syrian Government more than combating terrorist organizations.

15- Cyprus: Honorable Nicos Tornaritis, MP said: Asia has a significant role to play to help move the West and ultimately the world to overcome the ongoing economic crisis. Issues we consider in the context of APA are important and relevant for the stability of Asia and the world. Facing current challenges require collective action to achieving the goals of peace, justice, security and economic and social prosperity. Asian Parliament should work on the basis of consensus and on non-controversial issues.

16- Islamic Republic of Iran, Honorable, Mohammad Hassan Aboutorabi Fard, First Vice-Speaker of the Islamic Parliament of Iran said: He expressed happiness to be in Lahore, where is recognized by Allameh Iqbal. APA is source of inspiration for Asia. He welcomed the membership of Azerbaijan. Promoting democracy, enhancing meritocracy and justice are the very foundation of establishment of APA. I share the vision of APA President, Honorable Bokhari to form the Asian Parliament. This is how to promote democracy and justice and legitimacy. If we hold that the West is on the downside, it is because it imposed the world





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wars in Asia and other parts of the war, created unjustly the Zionist regime. Creation of Zionist regime means giving rise to terrorism. The future belongs to those who comply with ethics and uphold morality and science is at the service of people with complying with ethics and justice.

17- China: Honorable Zhao Baige, Vice- Chair of Foreign Affairs Committee of National People's Congress of China: Asia prides itself in having one third of global GDP and ample supply of labor force. APA has become one of the most influential inter-parliamentary organizations in the region in the short nine years since its inception, thanks to the concerted efforts and proactive promotion of parties concerned. Enhancing understanding, coordination of positions and building consensus among parliamentarians of various Asian countries is the main function of the APA. Asian Parliamentary Assembly is a parliamentary organization covering the entire Asia, which boasts a broad geographical coverage and a convincing representation. Many ideals upheld by APA coincide with the "Connectivity in Five Areas" stressed by the "Belt and Road", namely, connectivity of policy, roads, trade, currency and the heart of people.

18- Kuwait: Honorable Faisal Muhammad Alkandari: praised the work of the APA and expressed the full support of the leadership of Kuwait. He reviewed the situation of occupied Palestine and condemned the atrocities of Israel. He expressed sympathy with the pain of the Syrian people.

19- Turkey: Honorable Yuksel Ozden, MP: We see opportunities to foster stronger bilateral and multilateral ties and to contribute positively to the resolution of problems in different parts of the world. This is the basis of our policy of reaching out to distant geographies like Southeast Asia, Latin America as well as to Africa. Indeed, in so far as the number of established foreign missions is concerned, Turkey has one of the largest diplomatic representations in the world. In today's world, power keeps flowing from the West to the East and South. The rise of Asia is one of the defining characteristics of the 21st century. As the biggest continent on Earth which contains some of the most populous countries worldwide and the majority of the fastest growing economies, cultures, religions, it is fair to say that Asia has a large role to make the world what it is today. We are determined to intensify our relations through effective multilateralism. As a result of this approach, Turkey today is forging closer ties with all countries and increasing its engagement with the region as a reliable partner.





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20- Indonesia: Honorable Fadli Zon: Asia is soon to be united as never before. The quest for Asian Parliament first and foremost requires the consent of all Asian nations. We need to foster the political will required for this purpose. APA member parliaments need to enhance their coordination with their own government. In the work of multilateral discussion of Asia Cooperation Dialogue, I believe, in the long run, the ACD may serve as the first gate of our work towards the establishment of Asian Parliament. The Road towards such integration is not an easy task. The differences among nations, such as resources, level of democracy, social and cultural issues, economic growth and political development, and further commitment and involvement of the people are major issues of divergence.

21- Saudi Arabia: Honorable Saed Alshaikh: Shura Councils calls on the international community to fight terrorism according to Security Council's resolutions 2178 and 2170. The Custodian of the two Holy mosques King Abdullah called for an international meeting on fighting terrorism, and he also called for the establishment of an international center for fighting terrorism. The kingdom of Saudi Arabia has donated 100 million dollars for the establishment of that center. The kingdom is very concerned about the killing of innocent people and about the humanitarian situation of refugees Syria, and is calling for the full implementation of (Geneva 1) declaration. Saudi Arabia welcomes the choice of the new Iraqi President, Chairman of the Parliament, and Prime Minister Saudi Arabia has donated 500 million dollars to cover the humanitarian needs for Iraqi people.

22- IPU Representative (Observer), Mr. Mian Raza Rabbani: I must confess that I found the theme of your Meeting – “Quest for Asian Parliament in Asian Century” – intriguing, and I will Endeavour to share some thoughts on what this theme evokes for me. Asia is the world's largest and most populous continent with a population of 4.3 billion people. Asia comprises 30% of the Earth's land area. Its 4.3 billion people make up 60% of the world's current human population. But as we all know, these features are not without their attendant consequences. Asia's population growth and rapid economic development efforts are threatening the region's rich and limited resources through the expansion and intensification of agriculture, uncontrolled growth of industrialization, destruction of natural habitats and urban sprawl. So where do parliaments fit into all of this? Let me concentrate on the development front first. In a bid to control unbridled growth and ensure more even and equitable distribution of the benefits of development, parliaments' core functions of law-making and oversight are crucial. I do believe that this is Asia's moment on the international





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arena. The time has come for us to shine the spotlight on ourselves. The geopolitical landscape has changed largely due to the rising powers in Asia, the so-called tigers.

23- Bangladesh: Honorable MD Nazrul Islam Chawdhry, MP: Bangladesh has always made sure that people's voice is inclusive so that the democracy takes deeper roots in every sphere in people's life. Bangladesh attaches great importance to the work of APA and for that matter we are committed to extending our cooperation for the activities of APA.

24- Bahrain: Honorable Dr. Jamal Saleh MP: We are ready to take steps to strengthen democracy in Bahrain. Our country is a democratic country where election was recently held and participation stood at 52 percent. We plan to further engage with APA and contribute further to its work. The question of Palestine gains increasing significance these days. Enhancing economic cooperation within Asia would help alleviate the scourge of poverty.

25- Jordan: Honorable Senator Shahadeh Abu Hdaib: Commending the achievements of the APA and its future outlook. Pointing out the dangers and ramification of war, extremism and violence, he emphasized the importance of dialogue, cooperation and collaboration to achieve the desired goals of the APA.

26- Palestine: Honorable Zuhair Sanduqa: Our fight with Israelis is the war of un-equals. It is our sacred right and responsibilities to withstand the use of brutal force by Israelis in the occupied land. We are positive and sure that we will prevail.

27- Afghanistan: Honorable Nader Khan Katawazai MP: We support the principles enshrined in APA Charter, like promoting freedom, equality, justice and social welfare, security, stability, friendship and integration in Asia. Drug trafficking like terrorism and violence is another serious challenge that threatens our region. Drug trafficking is not an issue of Afghanistan alone, but it is a global phenomenon, which is not only affecting our country but all countries in the region and the world. We need to work in unison to address terrorism, violence and the issue of drug trafficking.

28- Philippines: Honorable Giorgidi B. Aggabao, Deputy Speaker of House of Representatives: Unlike our colleagues in Latin America and Africa, who have established continent-wide regional parliaments, we in Asia have reached a juncture in our collective history when we must come together to explore the feasibility of setting up our own regional





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legislature. Common threats and challenges, which have a potential unifying role, are numerous, ranging from eradicating regional poverty to rooting out international terrorism. However, there are significant areas of political divergence, which have constrained closer cooperation among Asian countries. Historical misunderstanding and mistrust, exacerbated by on-going territorial disputes, constitute the root cause of insufficient political congruence. Divergent levels of economic and social development are also among other significant impediments to integration. The formation of an Asian Parliament therefore is key to inspire and promote further integration in Asia.

29- Oman-Observer. Honorable Ahmed Bin Mohammed Massoud Al-Busaidi: Asia must take its own decisions; otherwise its leaders will not find the opportunity to continue in a leadership position.

30- Russian Federation: Honorable Anvar Mahmutov: APA is an excellent platform for inter-parliamentary cooperation in Asia. We have good experience in inter-parliamentary diplomacy and would like to share this experience.

31- Azerbaijan: Honorable Dr. Ganira Pashayeva, MP: One million Azerbaijanis are displaced for over 20 years. We need to double efforts to put an end to conflicts in the Middle East, Nagorno Gharbagh, Kashmir, Iraq and Syria.

32- Sudan: H.E. Dr. Mohammad Yousif Abdalla, Representative of the Council of African Political Parties (CAPP): The commitments undertaken so far by the representatives of Asian Parliaments will put Asian continent in the right path of peace, tranquility, prosperity and human dignity. The resolutions you adopted will help Asian people and member states to meeting their aspiration.

33- PUIC- Observer: Honorable Prof. Mahmud Erol Kilic, PUIC Secretary-General: This invitation and participation enhances the bond of friendship and cooperation between the two organizations. Our common objective is to promote good governance and democracy to strengthen peace, security and development. The theme of the 7th Plenary Session about Asian Parliament has significant strategic importance.

The second session of the Plenary was adjourned at 5:10.





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Special Interactive Session on Asian Parliament, presided by H.E. Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Speaker of National Assembly, Pakistan

34- Honorable Sardar Ayaz Sadiq made a statement: The 49 countries of Asia cover the 30 percent of the world's total land mass and 60 percent of its population. People in Asia speak over 2300 languages. Asia seems to be living in two worlds when we learn from the Hurun Report that today over 40% of the world billionaires are in our continent--living side by side with over 60% poorest of the poor of the planet. On Asia's Eastern side, the Pacific Rim glows with the rise of the Asian tigers. But in its west, the Middle East continues to face wars, political unrest and terrorism. Asian countries emerged as the biggest buyers of defense equipment during 2012-2013 while during the same time it's spending on health, education, clean drinking water, sanitation and infrastructural development dwindled. As a result, Asia has more malnourished children than entire world combined. Over three fourth of the world's illiterate live amongst us. Gender disparity and violence against women is the highest in our countries. A meaningful, participatory and inclusive democracy largely remains missing from our continent. Parliaments find it difficult to exert their influence, as the executive tends to shy away from parliamentary scrutiny. This is the combined "democratic dilemma." A meaningful, action oriented joint parliamentary forum, "The Asian parliament", provides an ideal answer. However, in the absence of a genuine will to address the core issues of animosity and dispute, this ideal will remain but a dream.

35- H.E. Dr. Masoud Islami, APA Acting Secretary-General made a statement:

APA Secretariat has presented an analytical report entitled "*Foundations of an Asian Parliament*"; presenting the outline of the prerequisites, potentials, obstacles and challenges of establishing an Asia Parliament. The Secretary-General is of the view that in order to pursue the vision of establishing an Asian Parliament, the APA may consider the following interim proposals:

1) *APA High-Level Panel on Asian Parliament*

Setting up a High-Level Panel comprising eminent persons; parliamentary leaders; and special envoys of governmental and non-governmental organizations, to develop a focused plan for further articulation of the idea and objective assessment of requirements and challenges associated with its realization. The responsibility of chairing or supervising such a special panel may be assigned by the APA Plenary to a





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Speaker or a prominent leader of an APA Member Parliament in his/her personal, professional, parliamentary, or otherwise capacity.

The APA High-Level Panel on Asian Parliament, as it may be called, shall take into account all relevant factors, variables, as well as requisite measures, and shall report its conclusions to the Executive Council and subsequently to the Plenary for final consideration and decision. The formation of such a panel could also establish a platform for the promotion of the idea of an Asian Parliament in the realms of public diplomacy, media diplomacy, as well as parliamentary diplomacy. Through communication and interaction with other stakeholders, this panel can pave the way for gradual formation of an Asian parliament.

2) *Common Legislations*

We must admit that the principal function and effective power of Parliaments rest in their position as legislative powers. 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 needs not necessarily to 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 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.

3) *Academic Advocacy*

Perhaps the third interim measure which can contribute to more elaboration of the Asian Parliament initiative is to bring into the picture some outstanding academicians from renowned Asian universities to organize scholarly conferences and address different aspects of establishing an Asian Parliament with a view to generating some substantive literature on the subject.

36- Several delegates from Pakistan, and delegate from Nepal exchanged views.





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President of the Special Session summed up the discussion and suggested that a time frame for actions needs to be developed if progress is to be made on the path to Asian Parliament.

37- The Special Session on Asian Parliament concluded its work at 6:15.

38- Report of the Meeting of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs (2 December 2014)

The APA Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs held its meeting on 2 December 2014, in Lahore and adopted its agenda.

Honorable Faisal Muhammad Alkandari, MP from Kuwait chaired the meeting. H.E. Dr. Seyed Ali Mahmoudi, Deputy APA Secretary-General assisted the Chair.

The following member Parliaments participated in the meeting and exchanged their views on related matters: Afghanistan, Bahrain, Cambodia, China, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Pakistan, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Turkey.

The Chairman opened the meeting by indicating the need to reach consensus. The Assistant Secretary-General Dr. Mahmoudi briefly described the draft resolutions before the Standing Committee.

The Standing Committee took note with appreciation of the Reports submitted by the APA Secretary-General on each subject that constituted the basis of deliberations in the Committee leading to the development of the draft Resolutions.

The delegations of Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan, Palestine, Saudi Arabia Syria and Turkey took the floor and commented and in some cases amended the drafts before the Committee.

The Standing Committee agreed on the text of the Draft Resolutions to be forwarded to the Plenary for final adoption. The Draft Resolutions as amended are now issued under following titles:

- Draft Resolution on Measures to Promote Cultural Diversity and Protecting Cultural Heritage in Asia;





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- 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";
- Resolution on Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers in Asia'
- Draft Resolution on Asian Parliamentarians against corruption;
- 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 Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking;
- Draft Resolution on Effective Cooperation in Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking in Asia;

Due to lack of time, the participating delegates agreed that the views, comments and proposals of representatives of member countries be submitted to the Secretariat in written form.

The texts of draft resolutions, as amended, are attached.

39- Report of the APA Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development

The Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development held its meeting on 2December 2014and adopted its agenda.

1. Honorable, Mr. Hamdhani from Indonesia chaired the meeting. Honorable, Mr. Zhao Beige from China was elected as the vice-Chairperson and Senator Ch. Mohammad Jaffar Iqbal from Pakistan was elected as Rapporteur of the Standing Committee.
2. H.E. Dr. Ali Khorram, Assistant Secretary-General opened the meeting and presented the four resolutions for the consideration of the participants.
3. The documents before the Standing Committee were:
 - a. EC.1/Draft Res/2014/05: Draft Resolution on Integrated Energy Market in Asia,
 - b. EC.1/Draft Res/2014/08: Draft Resolution on Alleviating Poverty in Asia





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- c. EC.1/Draft Res/2014/07: Draft Resolution on Environmental Issues, Global Warming, Climate Change and Planting Billions of Trees throughout Asia
 - d. EC.1/Draft Res/2014/06: Draft Resolution on Financial Affairs for the Countries of APA Member Parliaments
4. The Standing Committee first reviewed the background information on the Draft Resolution on Integrated Energy Market in Asia. It was pointed out that the Sub-Committee met in Jakarta, on 3-5 June 2014, considered the report of the Secretary General (SG/Rep/2014/09/rev.1), and developed the Draft Resolution before the Standing Committee. It was also stressed that the Sub-Committee considered it important to activate the communications among the Advisory Group on Energy in order to further
- study the APA documents on energy, particularly the issues of stability of energy market, energy efficiency, energy intensity and the concept of Asian Gas Network as reflected in the Secretary-General's Report of 1 June 2014 and to submit a report to the meeting of the Standing-Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development in 2015.
5. The Standing Committee reviewed the background information on the Draft Resolution on Financial Affairs of the Countries of APA Member Parliaments, Draft Resolutions on Environmental Issues, Global Warming, Climate Change and Planting Billions of Trees throughout Asia and Draft Resolution on Alleviating Poverty in Asia and . It was pointed out that the Standing-Committee met in Jakarta on 3-5 June, 2014 and developed the Draft Resolutions before the Standing Committee. A number of amendments to the Draft Resolution were proposed and consequently it was adopted as amended.
6. Many delegations including Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan, Turkey, Cyprus, Cambodia and China proposed amendments or made observations that contributed to further enriching the Draft Resolutions.
7. 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





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- e. APA/Economic/Res/2014/01:Draft Resolution on Integrated Energy Market in Asia,
 - f. APA/Economic/Res/2014/02:Draft Resolution on Alleviating Poverty in Asia
 - g. APA/Economic/Res/2014/03:Draft Resolution on Environmental Issues, Global Warming, Climate Change and Planting Billions of Trees throughout Asia
 - h. APA/Economic/Res/2014/04:Draft Resolution on Financial Affairs for the Countries of APA Member Parliaments
8. The Honorable Delegate of the Republic of Indonesia expressed his readiness to host the relevant meeting of the Standing-Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development in 2015.

40- Report of the Meeting of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs (3 December 2014)

The Standing Committee on Political Affairs began its meeting at 9:30 on 3 December 2014, in Pearl Continental Hotel in Lahore, in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. APA Delegations from parliaments of Afghanistan, Bahrain, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Pakistan, Palestine, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tajikistan, and Turkey participated in this meeting.

Honorable Yuksel Ozden, the Member of the Turkish Parliament and Chairman of the Turkish Delegation to the APA, who was reelected as the Vice-President and the Chairman of the APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs in the Plenary, presided over the meeting. The agenda of the meeting was adopted. His Excellency, Dr. Masoud Islami, APA Deputy Secretary-General for Political and Legal Affairs assisted the Chair. In his opening remarks, Mr. Ozden underscored the significance of the parliamentary cooperation in Asia and the subjects under consideration in the meeting expressing his hopes for the productive results of the deliberations by all participants.

The following documents which were recommended by the Executive Council were before the meeting for consideration:





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- a) Draft Resolution on Draft Resolution on Measures and Methods of Materialization of Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia
- b) Draft Resolution on Asian Denunciation of Terrorism and Violent Extremism
- c) Draft Resolution on Engaging APA with Asian Governments and Inter-Governmental Organizations
- d) Draft Resolution on Important Political Developments in Asia

The Chairman then sought the opinions of the participants on the draft resolution on Consolidation of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia. After full reflection on the content of this draft resolution, it was adopted by consensus. Throughout the discussion, it was emphasized that the further materialization of the APA Declaration on Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia is a solid ground for further interaction and cooperation between the APA Member Parliaments, both at bilateral as well as multilateral levels. It was also underscored that the promotion of this Declaration needs active role to be played individually and collectively by all Member Parliaments. The delegation of the Islamic Parliament of Iran reiterated its commitment to hold the second international conference on Friendship and Cooperation in Asia with a theme to promote the initiative of Asian parliament in 2015. The exact date is subject to further confirmation and coordination with the APA Secretariat.

On draft Resolution on Denunciation of Terrorism and Violent Extremism, there was a written amendment proposed by Turkey's delegation on deleting an entire paragraph in the preamble part which emphasized the right of self-determination of people under foreign occupation. The proposal did not receive support from the floor and it was finally decided to keep the paragraph as it was. The Palestinian delegation presented two pages of suggested additions to the draft resolution which was agreed upon unanimously and was referred to the Secretariat for drafting and inclusion in the draft resolution in a proper manner.

There were also certain proposed additions to the draft resolution on Important Political Development in Asia by delegations of Palestine, Pakistan, Turkey, and Iran which were referred to the Secretariat for proper reflection in the draft resolution.





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The Secretariat provided new drafts which included all the suggested amendments and submitted it to the Chairman for final approval. The Chair held informal consultations with respective delegations and the final drafts were submitted to the Plenary Session for final adoption.

Honorable Yuksel Ozden, invited all the delegates from Member Parliaments to actively participate in the upcoming meeting of the APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs in 2015 which will be hosted by the Parliament of Turkey sometime in 2015. The relevant information and coordination of this meeting, including its exact time and venue, will be done through the APA Secretariat.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

41- Report of the Ad-hoc Committee on Staff and Financial Regulations (3 December) 2014

The meeting on Staff and Financial Regulations was Chaired by Honorable Mikhail Yemelyanov, Member of the State Duma of the Russian Federation., who called the meeting to order and introduced the draft resolution developed in the meeting of the Ad-hoc Committee on Staff and Financial Regulations, held in Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia. The Chair called on H. E. Amir Zamaninia, Deputy APA Secretary-General to provide background information on the status of the Draft Resolution since the meeting in Phnom Penh.

Deputy APA Secretary-General pointed out that the following documents are before delegations for consideration:

Rep/ad-hoc/2014/04: Report of the Ad-hoc Committee Meeting on Staff and Financial Regulations held on 24-25 June 2014 in Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia,

Draft Staff and Financial Regulations,

Ec.1/Draft Res/2014/09: Draft resolution on APA Staff and Financial Regulations

UN Document on Report of the Committee on Contributions, Seventy-first session (6-24 June 2011) Supplement No 11.





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He added that wide consultations has taken place since the Phnom Penh meeting on amendments proposed by several delegations, including Russian Federation, Cambodia, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Jordan. He reported that there is general agreement on deleting the reference to "Immunities" in Article 8, Chapter II of Staff Regulations, three amendments by Russian Federation in Article 49 and 50, Chapter X on Travel. Deputy Secretary-General pointed out that the two Russian amendments on the issue of assessed contributions and overall budget (Article 10 of Draft Staff Regulations), which is geared to specifying a fixed figure for the APA budget for a number of years and a fixed figure as contributions to be assessed do not seem to gain the support of member parliaments.

The Chair, speaking in his national capacity, provided explanations for his amendments, and then opened the discussion to the floor. A number of delegations, including Saudi Arabia, Iran and Pakistan took part in the discussion.

Following the debate and further clarification by the Secretariat, the Chair moved to adopt the draft resolution as amended. The Draft Resolution endorsed to be recommended for adoption at the Plenary, with the understanding that Articles 8, 49 and 50 of draft Staff Regulations was amended as proposed by Saudi Arabia and Russian Federation.

In accordance with Operative Paragraph 3 of the draft Resolution just endorsed, H.E. Farhad Karimian, Assistant APA Secretary-General presented a power point on the Methodology used by the United Nations to determine the formula for assessed contributions of United Nations member states.

The Meeting was adjourned at 12:20.

42- Report of the Second Coordinating Meeting of APA Women Parliamentarians (3 December, 2014)

The Second Coordinating Meeting of APA Women Parliamentarians held its meeting on 3 December, 2014, in Lahore and adopted its agenda.

The Honorable member of Pakistan parliament Senator Nuzhat Sadiq chaired the meeting.





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The document before the Standing Committee was the draft Resolution of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs, APA/Res/2014/16

The following member Parliaments participated in the meeting and exchanged views on related matters: Azerbaijan, Bhutan, China, Cambodia, Iran, Indonesia, Pakistan, Palestine and Syria.

The Chair opened the meeting. The Chairperson underlined the importance of creation of a separate body of Women Parliamentarians under the auspices of APA which can be formulated to address the women issues. Now, to further enhance women participation, it is necessary to develop a specialized structure for women MPs under APA, either in the form of sub-Committee or a women caucus. Meeting of this women body can be convened before every Executive Council meeting of APA or any other suitable time. Recommendations should be presented to the Executive Council meeting and then to Plenary for approval.

Assistant Secretary-General, H. E. Dr. Mahmoudi assisted the Chair.

The Coordinating Meeting took note with appreciation of the Resolution of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs, APA/Res/2014/16 that constituted the basis of deliberations in the meeting leading to the promotion of the draft Resolutions.

Participants in the meeting took the floor and commented and in some cases amended the drafts before the Committee.

The Second Coordinating Meeting of APA Women Parliamentarians agreed on the text of the Draft Resolution to be forwarded to the Plenary for final adoption.

43- The drafting committee met and agreed on APA Lahore Declaration.

44- Upon the initiative of the Senate of Pakistan, the Plenary decided to establish an open-ended Special Committee for the Creation of Asian Parliament (SCCAP), to be based in Islamabad. The SCCAP is mandated to develop strategies, under the leadership of the Senate of Pakistan, to move the initiative forward by submitting result-oriented and time-bound reports to APA Executive Council for consideration and recommendation to the Plenary for final approval in coordination with the APA Secretariat.





Report of the 7th APA Plenary Lahore, Pakistan

45- The closing session was convened, adopted 19 resolutions, APA Lahore Declaration, and the Report of the 7th APA Plenary.





Report of the 7th APA Plenary Lahore, Pakistan

Annex-I

Resolutions adopted by the 7th APA Plenary





Resolution on Measures and Methods of Materialization of Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia

Resolution 201401

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We the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly

Recalling relevant APA Resolutions including 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);

Recognizing the constructive role of APA parliamentarians and inter-parliamentary cooperation in paving the way for strengthening amity and the friendly relations among the Asian Nations and States;

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

Reaffirming that peace and regional stability are prerequisites to sustainable development and well-being of the people in Asia.

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;

Cognizant of the deep-rooted ties of history, geography, culture, and civilization which bind Asian peoples together and the common interests pointing to the need for further cooperation;

1. **Call Upon** all Member Parliaments to increase awareness and cognizance among their own members of the principles and guidance contained in the APA Declaration on the Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia and contribute to its materialization;
2. **Call Upon** all APA Member Parliaments to further collaborate in removing barriers to Asian integration, and actively contribute to the formation of an Asian Parliament
3. **Determine** to utilize capacities and opportunities available to the Member Parliaments and the APA Secretariat to promote, publicize, and disseminate information about the Declaration on the Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia;





Resolution on Measures and Methods of Materialization of Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia

Resolution 201401

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4. **Resolve** to stimulate 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 tents and guidelines enshrined in the APA Declaration on the Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia,
5. **Decide** to motivate public and private media, press, actual and cyber networks, websites and the like at local, national, and Asian 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;
6. **Request** all APA Member Parliaments to promote the APA Declaration on Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia by all available means including through public and private media, educational programs, publication and dissemination of the text of the Declaration, and artistic manifestations of its contents.
7. **Welcome** the organization of the second international conference on Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia by the Parliament of Islamic Republic of Iran in 2015 subject to further confirmation;
8. **Call Upon** the APA Member Parliaments to continue their contributions to the creation of peace and regional stability through legislative, budgetary and monitoring function, and keep up their involvement in international fora.
9. **Request** the Secretary-General to make necessary 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;





Resolution on Engaging APA with Asian Governments and Inter-Governmental Organizations

Resolution 201402

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

Recalling APA Resolution on Resolution on 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;

Taking Note of the deliberations of the APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs in its meeting on May 2014 in Ankara, Turkey, on effective measures to enhance further coordination between APA and governments in Asia;

1. **Urge** all Member Parliaments to encourage relevant officials of their respective governments to adhere to and further appreciate the usefulness of the principles incorporated in the APA Declaration on the Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia,
2. **Decide** to continue inviting Ministers of Foreign Affairs, or their representatives, and other pertinent officials of the APA Member and Observer Parliaments to participate in the Executive Council and Plenary Sessions of the APA and to exchange views on the most significant and urgent issues in Asia and on the APA agenda;
3. **Encourage** setting up APA parliamentary groups comprising nominated delegates from interested Member Parliaments to participate in Asian inter-governmental meetings and organizations including Asian South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD), Arab League, and Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), and similar credible organizations in order to promote institutional interaction and cooperation in areas of mutual interest.
4. **Welcome** the idea of conducting regular bilateral and multilateral meetings, between parliamentary delegations of APA Member Parliaments as well as





Resolution on Engaging APA with Asian Governments and Inter-Governmental Organizations

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with other inter-parliamentary and inter-governmental organizations aiming at converging viewpoints on regional and global issues;

5. **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 including training and workshops on exchanging best practices and learning from each other;
6. **Decide** to form working groups from interested and volunteer Member Parliaments to focus on the following issue areas in order to come up with thematic and substantive reports, as well as practical plans of action, for the implementation of the APA decisions and resolutions:
 - APA Parliamentary Initiatives for Combating Terrorism
 - Sharing Parliamentary Skills and Best Practices
 - Exploring Areas for Cooperation between APA and Private Sector Institutions on issues of Mutual Interest
7. **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;
8. **Request** the Secretary General to seek the views of all APA Member Parliaments and report to the Executive Council on feasible initiatives for cooperation between APA and active inter-parliamentary and inter-governmental organizations in Asia;





Resolution on Denunciation of Terrorism and Violent Extremism

Resolution 201403

Page 1 of 3

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Reaffirming the principles and values enshrined in the Charter of the APA;

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

Recalling APA Resolution on comprehensive counter-terrorism and counter-occupation strategies (APA/Res/2010/07, 30 November, 2010)

Taking Note of the United Nations Resolution on “a world against violence and extremism and on “promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace”

Reassuring commitment to counter violent extremism and combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations

Considering that acts of terrorism and violent extremism threaten peace and security in many areas and are menace to social and economic development of international community

Condemning any and all kinds of support or advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, extremism or sectarian violence

Denouncing stereotyping of any religious, national or ethnic group and condemn any linkage between terrorism and any particular race, religion, ethnic group and culture.

Recognizing that terrorism and violent extremism constitutes a serious common concern for all Member Parliaments, threatening the security and well-being of human societies;

Demanding all states to leave behind the mentality of the Cold War which was conducive to military intervention and confrontation; non-compliance with democratic principles; and interfering in other countries’ domestic affairs, and adopt constructive approaches to conflict resolution and regional stability.

Emphasizing that the struggle of peoples under foreign occupation to gain national freedom and exercise their right to self-determination is not, in any way, an act of terrorism;

Denouncing violations of international law which threaten international peace and security and violations of human rights, including freedom of worship, committed by the Israeli occupying forces





Resolution on Denunciation of Terrorism and Violent Extremism

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Acknowledging that measures taken by Israeli regime in the occupied Palestinian territories continue to undermine peace and lead to disastrous humanitarian, economic, social and cultural consequences which undermine international efforts towards achieving a just and lasting peace in the region

Recognizing as violent and extremist actions 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 with no due process;

1. **Call Upon** APA Member Parliaments to engage in a continuous dialogue and joint parliamentary activities to combat terrorism and extremism in Asia and beyond
2. **Call Upon** all parliaments and parliamentarians in the world to utilize all means available to them to launch regional and global campaigns against violence and extremism which are conducive to human catastrophes; economic deterioration; political instability; and environmental degradation
3. **Call Upon** all APA Member Parliaments to focus on improving capacity building and providing technical assistance in combating terrorism by strengthening hand-in-hand cooperation with executive bodies;
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. **Express** concerns with the increasing threat of involvement of recruited mercenaries and private military troops in internal and regional conflicts who carry out large-scale terrorist activities and defy the security and territorial integrity of sovereign states
6. **Deplores** attacks on religious places and shrines and cultural sites in particular any deliberate destruction of relics and monuments;
7. **Invite** Member Parliaments and their respective Governments to exchange their best practices in fighting terrorism
8. **Urge** the APA Member Parliaments, Asian States, and other capable organizations in Asia to collaborate in fighting against foreign intervention in the internal affairs of





Resolution on Denunciation of Terrorism and Violent Extremism

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sovereign countries including the imposition of sanctions against Asian people who exercise their right to self-determination

9. **Encourage** all Member Parliaments and Asian international organizations to generate public awareness of the importance of inter-cultural and inter-religious dialogue and the dangers of intolerance and sectarian violence for ensuring the promotion of moderation and tolerance and respect for human rights;
10. **Request** the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member Parliaments on measures taken by Member Parliaments regarding the implementation of this resolution to the next meeting of the APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs and the Executive Council;





Resolution on Important Political Developments in Asia

Resolution 201404

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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;

Taking Note of the United Nations Resolution on “a world against violence and extremism and on “promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace”

Recognizing that the right of nations to self-determination as a preemptory norm of international law and that all people have the rights to freely exercise their rights without coercion or repression due to foreign occupation;

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

Expressing anxiety as to the increasing threat of involvement of recruited mercenaries and private military troops in internal and regional conflicts who carry out large-scale terrorist activities and defy the security and territorial integrity of sovereign states

1. **Deplore** armed attacks on religious places and shrines and cultural sites in particular any deliberate destruction of relics and monuments;
2. **Condemn** in the strongest terms the Israel’s attempts to illegitimately legalizing incursions in the Al-Aqsa Mosque and other holy places in al-Quds al-Sharif through time and place divisions in full defiance of international law and the rights of Palestinian as well as Muslim peoples worldwide
3. **Encourage** all Member Parliaments to further utilize democratic institutions including public elections; transparent competition between political parties; legal and legitimate framework for assessing the credibility of candidates; and free voting;
4. **Welcome** and encourage the exercise of democratic practices in all countries of Asia, including fair and free elections, particularly in countries whose security and stability damaged by terrorism;
5. **Express** concerns with potential and actual ramifications of the critical situation in Ukraine for regional and international peace and security and call upon all parties involved to refrain from acts of violence and seek peaceful solutions to the crisis;





Resolution on Important Political Developments in Asia

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6. **Welcome** the negotiations initiated by parties involved in the Iranian nuclear program and support an early comprehensive agreement to include assurances of peaceful nature of the program as well as ensuring all rights of the Islamic Republic of Iran under the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and removal of all sanctions exerted against Iran;
7. **Deplore** the massive destruction and indiscriminate killing of innocent civilians in Syria by ISIL and Al-Nusra Front which have deferred political solutions for the crisis and call upon all parties concerned to concentrate on political and diplomatic conclusions;
8. **Praise** negotiations between belligerent sides in Syria in search of internal political solutions to chronic violence with a view to alleviating further damage and curb exacerbation of the situation;
9. **Express** support and satisfaction with reconciliation among Palestinian organizations, namely Fatah and Hamas aiming at strengthening the united front against Israel which was widely welcomed by Palestinian people;
10. **Recognize** that measures taken by Israeli regime and violent extremism by Israeli settlers in the occupied Palestinian territories continue to undermine peace and lead to disastrous humanitarian, economic, social and cultural consequences hampering international efforts towards achieving a just and lasting peace in the region;
11. **Denounce** Israel's repeated military aggressions against Gaza that claimed the lives of thousands of innocent Palestinians, particularly defenseless women and children, and entailed massive destruction of infrastructure including homes, schools, mosques, and hospitals;
12. **Deplore** the failure of Israel as the occupying power to protect the rights of Palestinian people in the occupied territories as demanded by international law and uphold the right of Palestinian people to have their own independent state and support their application for full membership in the United Nations.





Resolution on Integrated Energy Market in Asia

Resolution 201405

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We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling Resolution on the Asian Integrated Energy Market, APA/Res/2013/12, dated 10 December 2013; Resolution APA/Res/2010/05, dated 16 June 2010; Resolution APA/Res/2009/05, dated 11 December 2009; Resolution APA/Res/2008/01, dated 29 November 2008; Resolution APA/Res/2007/08, dated 19 November 2007; the Plan of Action on the promotion of an Integrated Energy Market in Asia, APA/Res/2007/08/Annex, dated 19 November 2007; and Resolution on Energy, APA/Energy Com/2007/01, dated 20 November 2007;

Welcoming the Report of the Secretary-General on the Asian Integrated Energy Market (AIEM), SG/Rep/2014/01, dated June 2014, to the meeting of the Energy Sub-Committee held in Jakarta, Indonesia on 3 June 2014;

Confirming the realization of the “Asian Integrated Energy Market” when the Asian Parliamentary Assembly envisages a continental energy supply system in Asia;

Taking note of high rates of growth in energy demand in East Asia and the abundance of energy resources in West Asia as an important advantage in Asia which could facilitate steps towards development of “Asian Integrated Energy Market”

Recognizing “Asian Integrated 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;

Confirming the bilateral agreements provide an appropriate channel to proceed towards securing the energy needs of the parties involved;

Recognizing the existing bilateral arrangements and multilateral legally binding arrangements governing Asian energy relations are helpful but not enough;

Recognizing the multilateral arrangements, while less susceptible to domestic political variables, provide greater stability and security to both the energy producers and consumers;

Confirming existing bilateral, regional & multilateral arrangements; whilst recognizing the development of a legal framework for a model in the Asian energy market;

Reaffirming the existence of 70% of the world’s oil reserve in the West Asia, particularly in the Persian Gulf and a large share of consumption growth in the East and South Asia;

Gravely being concerned about the negative environmental impact of energy consumption





Resolution on Integrated Energy Market in Asia

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in the world and particularly in Asia;

Recognizing the disastrous and irreversible of the consequences of global warming as a result of carbon emission in the world and in particular in Asia;

Emphasizing on the imperative of “Stability of Global Energy Market”, including rationalization of demand and maximization of energy production;

Emphasizing also the importance of dialogue and cooperation between producers, consumers and transit countries of energy in Asia to promote Stability of Global Energy Market;

Recognizing the potentials of proactive cooperation among APA Member Parliaments to formulate policy and provide vision on the long-term gains that Integrated Energy Market in Asia could offer all the peoples of the continent;

Recalling the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) Energy Action Plan adopted at the 12th Ministerial Meeting of ACD in Manama, Bahrain, 2013

Encouraging joint investments in energy-related industries among the energy-producing countries;

Emphasizing the importance of investing in energy-related industries and a climate-resilience future for all and the need to improve access to reliable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services and resources for sustainable development;

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

Taking note of the impressive improvement in “energy intensity” in some parts of Asia in the last decade, confirm the urgent need in the other parts of Asia to embark on a concerted efforts to make progress in this continent;

Emphasizing on multilateral co-operation among APA countries in order to improve energy transportation infrastructures such as a gas network in Asia;

We, therefore;

1. **Decide** to establish an Advisory Group for the development of a global Asian energy system which would be adequate to the demand and supply for energy in Asia. This





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- group is open ended and including Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Pakistan, Iran, Bahrain, Cyprus, Malaysia, China and Cambodia. The group will be in touch with each other through APA Secretariat and will report its outcome to the Sub-Committee before the 2015 plenary;
2. **Call upon** Member Parliaments of the committee to propose some complementary arrangements to support the legal rights and interests of all energy exporting and importing countries in Asia and facilitate the relations between and among them;
 3. **Urge** Member Parliaments to set up some kind of common complementary arrangements in Asia to secure the transit of energy materials and products throughout the whole continent;
 4. **Call for** the establishment of regional cooperation between West Asia as energy producer and East & South Asia as energy consumers, aiming ultimately at a harmonized cooperation and integration on a wider scale throughout the continent;
 5. **Urge** Asian Parliament to adopt appropriate legislations to reduce energy intensity by enhancing existing equipments and facilities and utilizing new technologies in order to improve and upgrade current consumption patterns throughout Asia;
 6. **Call for** action to achieve economic viability of new and renewable sources of energy through enhanced research and development support along with appropriate policy initiatives and investments at the national and regional levels, with governments rking in collaboration with Asian Parliaments and relevant stakeholders, including the private sector;
 7. **Urge** Asian countries to plan for Energy Conservation in their economic system;
 8. **Call** Asian Parliaments to take seriously into account the environmental impact of the use of fossil fuels, particularly coal and the urgency of the adoption of conservation measures especially in light of the expected overall increase in energy demand;
 9. **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 cooperation and integration of energy market in Asia;
 10. **Urge** Asian Parliaments to propose and adopt appropriate legislations to change the current consumption patterns in energy field in Asia;
 11. **Call upon** Asian Parliaments to assist their governments for the improvement of





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- energy efficiency by approving appropriate legislations to provide the specific energy technologies;
12. Urge all Member Parliaments based on their constitutional mandates to adopt policies to restrain demand of energy through among others the use of measured and targeted subsidies as well as plan for a cleaner transport and green cities, and expand supply for new and renewable energy resources;
 13. *Urge* all Member Parliaments experienced in the field of Energy, especially major energy producer and consumer countries to join the Advisory Group on Energy to further strengthen and broaden its deliberation on a model for Asian Integrated Energy Market;
 14. *Urge* Member Parliament to report to the Secretary-General on their national experiences in the field of increasing energy efficiency to be included in his report as the development and promotion in Asia;
 15. *Request* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member Parliaments on the implementation of this resolution and to report thereon, particularly on the establishment of the Advisory group on Energy to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee;
 16. *Decide* to extend the mandate of the Sub-Committee to promote the development of the Asian Integrated Energy Market.





Resolution on Financial Affairs for the Countries of APA Member Parliaments

Resolution 201406

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We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling resolutions on the Ramification of International Financial Crisis for the Economies of the Countries of APA Member Parliaments, APA/Res/2013/13 dated 10 December 2013, APA/ Res/2010/06 dated 10 December 2010, APA/Res/2009/05 dated 11 December 2009; and APA/Res/2008/05 dated 29 November 2008;

Being concerned with the repercussions of slowdown in the stimulus policy of the world's major economies to the growth of the Asian emerging markets;

Recognizing the increasing need for connectivity among countries in Asia in order to increase flow of goods, services, capital and people;

Being aware of the prospect of Asia's economic development and the capacity of Asian countries to play leading roles in the global economy;

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

Being concerned about the future instabilities that may have devastating consequences on APA economies;

Reaffirming the important roles of APA, as the premier inter-parliamentary organization in the region, that can play through new legislations in managing and preventing further expansion of new financial crisis;

Supporting the deliberations at the UN, G-20, IMF, WTO, WB, ADB and other international organizations and their recommendations towards ameliorating the Western financial crisis and redressing the situation;

Appreciating the measures that have already been taken by Asian parliaments and their governments to contain the negative impacts of the 2007-2009 crisis on their economies, and expect them to take further steps to stimulate their respective economies;

We, therefore;

1. **Urge** the Asian countries to take into serious account of the probable risks from global macroeconomic instability which may cause financial instability in Asia;
2. **Recommend** our Governments to sign Bilateral and Multilateral Swap Arrangements between central banks of APA countries to reduce the repercussions of any international financial crisis.





Resolution on Financial Affairs for the Countries of APA Member Parliaments

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3. **Call for** close cooperation and coordination between Asian governments and Parliaments to manage the negative consequences of financial slowdown on Asian economies;
4. **Encourage** our governments to intensify their efforts to promote efficient allocation of global capital and to explore and improve infrastructure financing, involving government, private sector and international institutions;
5. **Call upon** the APA Member Parliaments to intensify their contributions to the creation of regional economic stability through legislative, budgetary and monitoring functions;
6. **Urge** the Asian Parliaments to collectively address the challenges of macroeconomic instability including reforming of - current global financial architecture and its elements;
7. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to contribute in maintaining the stability of international economic and trade activities through preserving global peace and security;
8. **Request** the Secretary-General to realize the Panel of Experts to conduct a comprehensive study and offer independent advice to the Sub-Committee on issues that may have future impacts to APA Member Countries;
9. **Decide on** the extension of the mandate of the Sub-Committee to review the development of the forthcoming financial crisis and to propose ways to control, manage, and formulate exit strategy from the potential global crisis in future.





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

Resolution 201407

Page 1 of 2

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Referring to the Resolution on Environmental Issue, Global Warming, Climate Change, and Planting Billions of Trees (APA/Res/2013/10);

Recognizing that climate change represents an imminent and potentially irreversible threat to human societies, future generations and the planet;

Recognizing that human activities that use fossil fuels such as coals, natural gas and petroleum have mostly contributed to the release of carbondioxide into the atmosphere;

Realizing that there are many other factors that contribute to environmental degradation such as nuclear waste, coastal degradation, etc.;

Being aware of the importance of sustainable forest management which will contribute significantly to promote environmental sustainability, and to mitigate the effects of climate change

Noting that coastal states, archipelagic states, and small island countries in Asia will be affected negatively from climate change and global warming;

Admitting that unsustainable economic growth and development and unfriendly environmental policies have contributed to damaging and polluting the environment;

Considering that natural resources and living environment are integral parts of national and intra-national development endeavours of countries;

Recognizing the responsibilities of developed countries and international institutions to meet the special needs of Asian countries, particularly Asian developing countries, in their efforts to deal with the environmental degradation effectively and to reiterate the importance of devising a proper mechanism for technology transfer and financing environmentally sound technology from developed to developing countries.

We, therefore;

1. **Urge** countries in the world to reduce their dependency on the non-renewable natural resources by developing eco-friendly technologies and materials and renewable energy resources;





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

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2. **Encourage** utilization of renewable natural resources to ensure sustainability for the benefits of present and future generations;
3. **Welcome** the financial contributions that have been made to the Adaptation Fund in 2013 by the Asian Governments for emission reduction units activities under Article 6 of the Kyoto Protocol;
4. **Express** satisfaction with the success of the clean development mechanism in the Kyoto Protocol to certify 1.4 billion emission reductions;
5. **Urge** all APA Member Parliaments to pursue the principles of sustainable development , which entails the protection of natural resources from damage, including protection of genetic resources of plants and animals, in the forests and seas in particular;
6. **Request** all countries in the world to formulate a National Action Plan to address climate change and global warming;
7. **Call upon** all countries to reduce deforestation and to promote planting of billions of trees for reforestation of abandoned areas;
8. **Request** all Parties to the *Kyoto Protocol* to ratify and implement the *Doha Amendment* to the Kyoto Protocol as a matter of urgency;
9. **Urge** the APA Member Parliaments to support combating climate change through active, systematic, identifiable measures to reduce or limit the greenhouse gas emissions;
10. **Urge** all countries to take immediate action to solve the problems of climate change and global warming through their long-term development plans, and enhance international cooperation in various fields including research and development, transfer of technology and capacity building.
11. **Demand** the occupying power, to stop its exploitation of the natural resources of Palestine, especially water resources, and to stop its policy of dumping its chemical and poisonous wastes in the lands of the occupied Palestinian state.





Resolution on Alleviating Poverty in Asia

Resolution 201408

Page 1 of 3

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA Resolution on Alleviating Poverty in Asia (APA/Res/2013/10, December 2013);

Recalling the commitments at relevant conferences and summits including in the United Nations Millennium Goals Declaration adopted by the General Assembly in 2000; the report of the High-level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda “*A New Global Partnership: Eradicate Poverty and Transform Economies through Sustainable Development*”; the report of the United Nations Secretary General “*A life of dignity for all: accelerating progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and advancing the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015*”; and other internationally agreed development goals related to poverty alleviation;

Expressing concern that even though there has been progress in reducing global poverty, this progress has been uneven;

Considering that the causes of poverty are multidimensional connected in particular to ineffective economic strategies and to the lack of good governance;

Expressing concern about lack of property rights over land, settlement, education, health, clean water, and sanitation, and houses for the poor;

Underlining the important role of parliaments in monitoring the implementation of sustainable development in alleviating poverty;

Noting that poverty alleviation is one of essential elements to combat terrorism and transnational crimes;

Reaffirming that poverty alleviation is the greatest challenge of our time and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for the least developed countries;

Underlining that poverty alleviation must remain a high priority for the international community and require a coordinated and continuous international cooperation and decisive actions at the national level;





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Recognizing the role of government in improving social and economic development, particularly in the areas of health, education, housing, food security, nutrition and environmental sustainability;

Underlining the important role of Parliament to support renewed efforts in alleviating poverty;

Emphasizing that the implementation of relevant laws on poverty alleviation is essential, especially in poor and rural areas;

Noting that consolidated regional cooperation on poverty alleviation is imperative to support efforts at international and national level;

We, therefore,

1. **Urge** all development actors at all level to continue their efforts to seriously pursue the objective of poverty alleviation;
2. **Urge** the APA Member Parliaments to redouble efforts to support activities against poverty and encourage their respective governments to facilitate the implementation of effective policies to promote strong, sustainable, and balanced economic growth;
3. **Reiterate** the needs for APA Member Parliaments to strengthen their role in supporting national and international development programs critical to poverty alleviation;
4. **Also Urge** the APA Member Parliaments to strengthen the cooperation with their respective governments in promoting social development and formulating economic growth strategies which are in line with the poverty reduction efforts;
5. **Request** APA Member Parliaments to ensure that economic growth strategies and poverty alleviation will help to build peace and good governance; promote sustainable development goals; promote total participation to the development process and reproductive health and better access to universal education and health system; and achieve the Millennium Development Goals;
6. **Request** APA Member Parliaments to promote necessary legislation to
 - a) develop a better access to and opportunity for education and employment for the poor,
 - b) support the improvement of health insurance for the poor,





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- c) social development,
provide better protection of children's rights;
 - d) empower the poor to improve their living conditions and participate in the decision-making process that affect their lives ;
 - f) improve disaster preparedness, disaster relief and post-disaster economic recovery;
- 7. *Encourage*** APA Member Parliaments to take collective actions in supporting the Governments and other actors in the regions, to promote exchange of views and experiences with parliaments from other regions, in the context of poverty alleviation and promoting equality;
- 8. *Recommend*** APA Member Parliaments to commit themselves in the achievement of poverty alleviation objectives in the region by ensuring good political and economic governance; adopting appropriate laws and necessary budgeting allocations; supporting national programmes against poverty and inequity; and encourage their governments to improve public service delivery;
- 9. *Urge*** APA Member Parliaments to support and monitor the Governments in the region to speed up progress towards the achievement of the MDGs, by evaluating the outcomes with respect to these goals and by considering the post-2015 and other future possible development agendas.
- 10. *Devise*** policies aiming at development of small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) which are key drivers to create jobs and generate revenues and tax.





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We, the members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Taking note of APA/Res/2008/04 and other relevant APA documents;

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

Confirming the importance of participation by all Member Parliaments in meeting the financial needs of the APA Secretariat;

1. **Take note** with appreciation of the draft Financial and Staff regulations prepared by the Secretariat,
2. **Approve** the Financial and Staff Regulations as amended and attached to this resolution,
3. **Decide** to further consider the scale of assessed contribution by member parliaments to the general budget of APA Secretariat, and request the Secretary-General to prepare, in consultation with APA Vice-President for Financial and Administrative Affairs (Cambodia), a further report on formula for determination of assessed contribution by member parliaments to APA annual budget,
4. **Recommend** to all APA Member Parliaments, particularly those with stronger economies, pending implementation of these regulations, to make voluntary contributions and assign a professional staff as secondment to APA Secretariat in order to enhance its capacity to optimize the function entrusted to it by the Plenary,
5. **Appreciate** the Islamic Parliament of Iran for payment of APA budget since its establishment, and request the Islamic Parliament of Iran, in light of Rule 40 of the Rules of Procedure, that pending the implementation of these Regulations and securing the regular payment of assessed contributions by Member Parliaments, to continue to provide financial support to the APA Secretariat,
6. **Request** the Secretary-General to submit a proposed budget for 2016 fiscal year to the next Executive Council meeting.





**Resolution on
APA Financial and Staff Regulations**

**Annex to the Draft Resolution proposed by
Ad hoc Committee**

**APA
STAFF REGULATIONS**

DRAFT





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This Staff Regulations draft has 15 Chapters, 78 articles and 5 annexes. It is to be approved by the APA Executive Council for point of reference and implementation.

INDEX

- CHAPTER-I: Scope and Definitions
- CHAPTER-II: Duties and Privileges
- CHAPTER-III: Posts Classification
- CHAPTER-IV: Appointments
- CHAPTER-V: Interim Assignment and Secondment
- CHAPTER-VI: Promotion
- CHAPTER-VII: Performance Reports
- CHAPTER-VIII: Salaries, Increments, Allowances and other Financial Provisions
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ANNEXES

- ANNEX-I: Scale of Monthly Salaries
- ANNEX-II: Qualification Rules
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- ANNEX-V: Organizational Chart of the APA





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CHAPTER I

SCOPE AND DEFINITIONS





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CHAPTER - I SCOPE AND DEFINITIONS

ARTICLE-I SCOPE

The present regulations shall be called "Staff Regulations of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA), and shall be applicable to the staff of the APA Secretariat.

ARTICLE-2 DEFINITIONS AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

In this statute the following terms shall have the meaning hereunder assigned to them:

2.1 APA:

Asian Parliamentary Assembly.

2.2 Executive Council:

Executive Council of the APA as stipulated in the Charter and the Rules of Procedure.

2.3 Charter:

The Charter of the APA

2.4 Secretariat:

The Secretariat of the APA

2.5 Secretary General:

The Secretary General of the APA

2.6 Post:

A position within the organizational chart of the APA, approved in the budget of the Secretariat which entails a set of duties and responsibilities assigned to a staff member.

2.7 Staff Member:

An individual holding a permanent or temporary post in the Secretariat. Staff members are classified into professional and general categories.

2.8 Family of Staff Member:

Spouse, and up to three under 18 years of age children.

2.9 Country of Origin:

The State of which the staff member is a national.

2.10 Headquarters:

The seat of the APA Secretariat in Tehran, Capital of the Islamic Republic of Iran.





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CHAPTER II

DUTIES AND PRIVILEGES





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CHAPTER-II DUTIES AND PRIVILEGES

ARTICLE- 3

APA is an Asian inter-parliamentary Assembly and the staff members of the APA Secretariat are international civil servants. In the exercise of their functions, they shall commit themselves to serving the interest of the APA and to conducting themselves with integrity and impartiality.

ARTICLE- 4

The staff members of the Secretariat shall carry out every aspect of their functions responsibly and in accordance with principles and objectives of APA Charter.

ARTICLE-5

In the discharge of their duties, the Secretary General and the Staff Members shall:

- 5.1 Put the interest of the APA above all other interests and perform their duties with integrity and impartiality.
- 5.2 Strictly abide by the provisions of the present and other relevant regulations.
- 5.3 Be courteous and promote a spirit of cooperation and professionalism in the Secretariat to ensure high performance.
- 5.4 Protecting the APA funds, properties and documents.

ARTICLE- 6

The Secretary General and Staff Members shall not:

- 6.1 Receive or seek instructions from anybody outside the APA.
- 6.2 Divulge any information acquired in the performance of their duties that are classified, either by its very nature or due to relevant instructions.
- 6.3 Keep for personal use any classified document of the APA.
- 6.4 Engage in any activity incompatible with the APA principles and objectives.
- 6.5 Engage in any other paid-for jobs, save in such exceptional cases as may be authorized by the Secretary General.
- 6.6.1 Behave in any way that may be detrimental to their posts and status as international civil servants.





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ARTICLE -7

7.1 Staff Members shall secure the approval of Secretary General prior to making any public representation of the APA and/or Secretariat.

7.2 Staff Members shall accept rewards, grants or decorations from outside the APA with approval of the Secretary General.

ARTICLE -8

In the exercise of their duties, the professional staff members of the APA shall enjoy diplomatic privileges and immunities in accordance with the headquarters agreement, and relevant principles of international law.

ARTICLE -9

The diplomatic privileges shall be granted to the professional staff members in the interest of the APA and for accomplishment of the tasks assigned to them. They in no way may dispense the professional staff members from discharging their obligations or failure to abide by the local laws and regulations.

ARTICLE -10

10.1 Secretary General is the Head of APA Secretariat and, is accountable to the Plenary and the Executive Council for the conduct of the Secretariat and the implementation of the provisions of the present regulations.

10.2 All staff members are responsible to the Secretary General in discharging their functions and the duties assigned to them.

10.3 Based on procedures delineated in the Headquarters Agreement, the Secretary General shall decide to lift the immunity of any staff member.





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CHAPTER III

POSTS CLASSIFICATION





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CHAPTER - III POSTS CLASSIFICATION

ARTICLE- 11

11.1 The Secretariat may create posts and thoroughly define their job descriptions and tasks in accordance with the provisions of the present Regulations and upon consideration in the APA Executive Council and approval of the Plenary.

11.2 Subject to Rule 45 of the APA Rules of Procedure, type of work and responsibilities of the APA personnel shall be divided into the following categories:

A- Professional staff:

1. Assistants Secretary General
2. Advisors
3. Directors
4. Experts (seniors – juniors)

B- General staff:

5. General staff

11.3 Each category shall be sub-divided into grades. The grades include posts that are similar in term of their degree of difficulty, required aptitude and ensuing duties and responsibilities, even where they differ in the nature of the activities involved. Each category comprises the following Grades, classified in the descending order:

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| 1. Assistant Secretary General Category | Grades A1, A2 |
| 2. Advisors of Secretary General | Grades B1, B2, |
| 3. Director Category | Grades C1, C2 |
| 4. Experts Category | Grades D1, D2, |
| 5. General Staff Category | Grades E1, E2, |

11.4 Each category may allow a number of increments not exceeding one per year and not less than one every three years.*

* Remunerations relating to each Category are specified in Annex I.





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ARTICLE- 12

Job descriptions of the various posts shall be defined by Secretary General.

12.1 Post and related financial category and salary according to the salary scale annexed to the present regulations (Annex 1).

12.2 The requisite qualifications, educational background and number of years of necessary related experience for having access to the said post in accordance with the Qualifications Rules annexed to these Regulations (Annex II).





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CHAPTER IV

APPOINTMENT





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CHAPTER- IV APPOINTMENT

ARTICLE- 13 CONDITIONS OF APPOINTMENT

The Secretary General is elected in accordance with the provisions of the Rule 45 of Rules of Procedure.

ARTICLE- 14

The guidelines for appointing staff of the APA Secretariat are as follows:

14.1 Appointment of Assistants Secretary General and other professional staff shall be made by the secretary general, upon recommendation by a senior secretariat selection committee, taking into account, to the extent possible, equitable geographic distribution of the posts, and in accordance with the Qualification Rules set out in Annex II of the present regulation.

14.2 Appointment of professional staff shall be by designation for a four-year period, including the probationary period. After the initial term of four years, the contract may be renewed on yearly basis up to the sixth year to be counted from the date of joining the service.

14.3 Appointment of General Staff posts shall be made directly through local recruitment on a permanent basis.

ARTICLE-15

15.1 Appointment to a post shall be made only after the post has been created and for which necessary allocations have been provided for in the budget.

15.2 The APA Secretary General shall inform the Member Parliaments of vacant posts and their conditions in adequate time and shall invite them to submit their candidates.

15.3 In all cases, advertisements of vacant positions must include the conditions of appointment there to in accordance with the Qualifications Rules as attached to the present Regulations (Annex II).

ARTICLE- 16

In addition to the provisions contained in the preceding articles, an appointee to the APA must meet the following conditions:

16.1 To be twenty-five and not exceeding sixty-five years of age according to the Calendar in force in the country of origin.

16.2 Not having been convicted of a serious crime.





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16.3 Not having been removed from any job for disciplinary reasons.

16.4 To be either nominated by their Parliament for posts subject to nomination or his/her Parliament should have no objection to their appointment in the APA Secretariat.

ARTICLE- 17

The Secretary General shall decide on the appointment of the staff members including terms and conditions governing the posts and their duties and obligations.

ARTICLE- 18

The date of commencement of the appointment of a staff member shall be deemed to be the date of his/her joining the duty. If he/she fails to report for duty without a legitimate reason, to be assessed by the Secretary General, within thirty days from the date of notification of his/her entry, the said appointment shall be considered null and void.

ARTICLE-19

The staff member who is granted permanent appointment shall undergo a probationary period of six months starting from the date of his/her joining. The Secretary General shall have the right to terminate his/her services during this period or upon its completion, if his/her aptitude for the post is not confirmed.

ARTICLE-20

In Case of change in his/her educational, social and professional status, the staff member must submit the relevant statements and documents within 30 days from the occurrence of such changes.





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CHAPTER V

INTERIM ASSIGNMENT AND SECONDMENT





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CHAPTER- V INTERIM ASSIGNMENT AND SECONDMENT

ARTICLE- 21 INTERIM ASSIGNMENT

The Secretary General may, when necessary, assign a staff member on temporary basis and without compensation, to posts at the same or higher levels than those of his/her post within the same category provided that this shall not infringe upon the principle of promotion to vacant post.

ARTICLE- 22 SECONDMENTS

22.1 The Secretary General may approve the secondment of a staff member by an APA Member Parliament.

22.2 Secondment shall be for a maximum period of three years applicable to the staff member who has spent at least five years in service.

22.3 The post of a staff member shall remain vacant during the secondment period. The vacancy may however be filled, on a temporary basis.

22.4 The salary of a seconded staff member, travel expenses for himself/herself and his/her family members and all financial obligations, including the end of service indemnity, shall be borne by the party that seconded the staff.





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CHAPTER VI

PROMOTION





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CHAPTER -VI PROMOTION

ARTICLE- 23

Promotion of a staff member shall be subject to the following:

- 23.1 Availability of a vacant post, in the next higher grade.
- 23.2 The staff member must have spent at least three years in his present grade.
- 23.3 The staff member must satisfy the qualification requirements for the post to which he/she is to be promoted.
- 23.4 The confirmation of the aptitude of the staff member for promotion shall be established by his/her obtaining a "very good" mark in the performance report for the preceding year and the average evaluation of his/her work in the reports for the other years in his/her present grade is at least "Good".

ARTICLE- 24

If the number of staff members eligible for promotion exceeds the number of vacant posts, preference shall be given to those with higher qualifications: the most senior in the service, the most highly educated and then the oldest.

ARTICLE- 25

On promotion, the staff member shall be entitled to the initial salary of the grade to which he/she is promoted. If his/her salary before promotion is higher than the initial salary of the grade to which he/she is promoted, he/she shall be entitled to the salary step immediately higher.

ARTICLE- 26

Promotion shall be effective from the date stated in the relevant decision.





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CHAPTER VII

PERFORMANCE REPORTS





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CHAPTER VII PERFORMANCE REPORTS

ARTICLE- 27

Except in case of the Secretary General, annual performance reports shall be prepared for all staff members, during the last two months of the fiscal year for which the report is made.

ARTICLE- 28

In preparing performance reports, the following procedure shall be observed:

28.1 The report shall be prepared by the immediate supervisor of the staff member and approved by the staff superior to the reporting staff.

28.2 The performance of a staff member will be evaluated in the report as Excellent, Very Good, Good, fair or weak.

28.3 A staff member obtaining the evaluation "weak" shall be notified of this in writing.

28.4 The performance reports shall be retained in the service file of staff members.

ARTICLE- 29

The APA Secretary General shall appoint a Committee to study the cases of those staff-members who obtain the rating of "Weak" in their reports. The decision of the Committee thereon shall be final.





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CHAPTER VIII

SALARIES, INCREMENTS, ALLOWANCES AND OTHER FINANCIAL PROVISIONS





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CHAPTER - VIII SALARIES, INCREMENTS, ALLOWANCES AND OTHER FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE- 30 SALARIES

30.1 The staff member shall be entitled, upon appointment, to the initial step in the salary scale of the grade to which he/she is appointed.

30.2 The staff member may be appointed at a higher salary than the initial step in the salary scale if so justified by his/her qualifications and experience, but it should not exceed two increments in the same grade.

ARTICLE- 31

The staff member shall not be entitled to a salary for days he/she has not worked, unless otherwise stipulated in the present Regulations.

ARTICLE- 32

32.1 No amount may be withheld from the salary of a staff member except for payment of a debt confirmed either officially or by a final court decision, and the amount withheld shall not exceed one-fourth of the salary except for payment of alimony.

32.2 In the event of accumulated debts, priority shall be given to alimony.

ARTICLE- 33

33.1 If a staff member is suspended from duty pending investigation by the APA competent authority, he/she shall receive half pay during the period of suspension. If he/she is acquitted, his/her remaining entitlements, for the period of suspension, shall be disbursed to him/her. If however the case is dispensed in a manner other than dismissal, the APA Secretary General shall decide the amount to be disbursed to the staff member out of the remaining part of his/her entitlements.

33.2 A staff member held in temporary custody shall be deemed to be suspended from duty, and the provisions of the previous paragraph shall apply to him/her.

ARTICLE- 34 ANNUAL SALARY INCREMENT

A staff member shall be entitled to an annual salary increment upon completion of one year service in his/her grade of appointment, in accordance with the salary scales annexed to the present Regulations, provided that he/she does not receive a "weak" evaluation for his/her performance during that year.

ARTICLE- 35 FAMILY ALLOWANCES

A staff member, if married, shall receive a monthly family allowance of 100 EUROS and 50 EUROS for every child to a maximum of three children.





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ARTICLE- 36 EDUCATION ALLOWANCE

A staff member shall be entitled to an education allowance for a maximum of three children regularly attending an educational establishment, subject to the following conditions:

36.1 The allowance shall cover the cost of the educational expenses not exceeding the amount of Euros 2,400.00 per child, per annum.

36.2 The allowance is paid up to the end of the children's High School studies

36.3 No allowance is due in case of children:

- A- Attending Nursery.
- B- Pursuing studies by correspondence.
- C- Enrolled for a Vocational Training Course for an Apprenticeship of less than one year.
- D- Pursuing special courses.
- E- Repetition due to repeated failure in the same grade.

36.4 No allowance is to be paid for:

- A- Children over fourteen years of age who are still attending a primary school.
- B- Children over eighteen years of age still attending secondary school.

36.5 The payment of allowance is subject to presentation of supporting documents.

ARTICLE- 37 INSTALLATION GRANT

Except for the Secretary General, any non-local official freshly appointed to a post shall receive, for once only, an installation allowance equivalent to two months of his/her basic salary.

ARTICLE- 38 TRANSPORT ALLOWANCE

38.1 The Secretary General shall be provided with a car and a driver for official and private use, in accordance with the relevant financial rules in force.

38.2 All other staff members shall be entitled to a monthly transport allowance, at the rates fixed in the schedule annexed hereto. (Annex III)

ARTICLE- 39 HOUSING ALLOWANCE

39.1 The Secretary General shall be entitled to a furnished residence and service staff, not dissimilar to the average residence of an Ambassador accredited to the host country.





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39.2 Assistant Secretary General, Advisors, and Directors shall be entitled to a monthly housing allowance of 35 percent of the basic salary.

39.3 Other professional staff shall be entitled to a monthly housing allowance equivalent to 25% of the basic salary. Non local General Staff members shall be entitled to a monthly Housing Allowance equivalent to 25% of their basic salary.

ARTICLE- 40 OVERTIME

40.1 The Secretary General may, assign work, outside the official working hours, to staff members to accomplish urgent tasks that cannot be completed during office hours. The number of those staff members must be kept to a strict minimum.

40.2 Compensation for such overtime work shall be computed on the basis of one hour and a half for each hour put in during normal working days, and two hours for each hour, put in during official holidays. No overtime compensation shall be paid in addition to travel allowance during official missions.

40.3 Compensation for overtime work in a given month shall not exceed 25% of the monthly basic salary. The APA Secretary General may, however, in limited and extreme cases of necessity, increase such compensation to a maximum of 50% of the basic monthly salary.

ARTICLE- 41 BONUSES

The Secretary General may grant once for good, an encouragement bonus up to two months of basic salary or an exceptional scale increase to a staff member having put in service or having done research of value or having submitted concrete proposals leading to the improvement of the working procedures, efficiency or rationalizing expenses. However, the number of recipients may not exceed 5% of the staffs of the concerned level. The annual cost of these allocations shall be included in the budget and submitted to the Executive Council for consideration and appropriate recommendation to the Plenary.

ARTICLE- 42

At the time of termination of the service of official staff members with a minimum of 2 years period of the tenure in the secretariat shall be paid as "End of service Gratuity" an amount equivalent to 15 days last salary and allowances (excluding housing allowances) for every completed year of satisfactory service subject to a maximum of six years. This will be applicable to all, from secretary general to the lowest level of staff. No end of service gratuity shall be paid in case of termination of service of a staff member on disciplinary grounds.

ARTICLE- 43

All local General staff members shall be covered by an appropriate Social Security or Pension Scheme of the host country providing them health care and retirement benefits applicable to the nationals of the host government.





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CHAPTER IX

OFFICIAL HOLIDAYS AND ANNUAL LEAVE





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CHAPTER -IX OFFICIAL HOLIDAYS AND ANNUAL LEAVE

ARTICLE- 44 OFFICIAL HOLIDAYS

The official national holidays of the host country and the anniversary day of the establishment of the APA (14 November) shall be considered official holidays for the staff members of the APA Secretariat.

ARTICLE- 45 ANNUAL LEAVE

45.1 Staff members shall be entitled to an annual leave of 30 working days with full salary.

45.2 Staff members shall not be entitled to annual leave before completing six months of service.

45.3 Leave dates shall be determined by reconciling the desire of the staff member and exigencies of duty.

45.4 A staff member shall not be entitled to accumulate his/her ordinary leave for more than two years including the current one. In the event the stipulated annual leave of a staff member is not approved because of the exigencies of work, he/she shall be given the choice of either accumulating it or getting financial compensation for it. Such compensation shall be calculated on the basis of staff-member's basic salary.

ARTICLE- 46 EMERGENCY LEAVE

Staff members shall be entitled to emergency leave with full pay in the following cases:

46.1 Staff members may, with the approval of the APA Secretary General, be granted emergency leave provided that such leave shall not exceed a total of 7 days per annum and 2 days each time.

46.2 Staff members shall be granted special leave, of not more than ten days, in the event of the death of a relative of the first or second degree.

46.3 Staff members shall be granted special leave up to one month when called up, in emergency situation, for military service, in his/her country. In case it exceeds one month, it shall be without salary.

ARTICLE- 47 SICK LEAVE

47.1 Staff members may be granted sick leave on condition that he/she produces a medical report to the effect that the staff member is unable to perform his/her duties, stating the nature of the illness and the probable duration of incapacity.

47.2 Staff members are entitled to their entire monthly salary, if this absence does not exceed 60 days. In case the period of absence exceeds this limit, the official is entitled for half of his monthly salary for the second additional period equal to the maximum of 60 days. If his/her absence exceeds





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the total of 120 days, the staff member can go on a further period of leave of 30 days without pay after the approval of the APA Secretary General.

47.3 In the event of continued illness, the staff member shall be referred to an approved medical committee to advise the Secretary General about the extent he/she can continue to work.

ARTICLE- 48 MATERNITY LEAVE

A female APA staff member shall be entitled to a 40 day maternity leave with full pay, whose starting date shall be determined on the basis of an approved medical report.





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CHAPTER X

TRAVEL





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CHAPTER-X TRAVEL

ARTICLE 49

The Secretary General and his spouse shall travel first class. Children of the Secretary General and professional staff of the secretariat and their families shall travel business class. General Staff and members of their families shall travel economy class.

ARTICLE 50 TRAVELS ON APPOINTMENT AND TERMINATION OF SERVICE

Upon appointment of a staff member to a permanent post, with the exception of those belonging to the General Staff, the APA shall pay travel expenses plus 50 kilos of accompanied baggage for him and 30 kilos for his wife and 10 kilos for each child up to a maximum of three children by air, from his home country or country of residence to his place of duty. Upon termination of service, similar passage shall be provided.

50.1 The Secretary General may send staff members on official missions both within and outside the Headquarters country. The number of delegates in such official missions shall be kept to the bare minimum within the limits of the funds allocated for this purpose.

50.2 Upon appointment of a staff member to a permanent post, with the exception of those belonging to the General Staff, the APA shall pay travel expenses plus 50 kilos of accompanied baggage for him and 30 kilos for his wife and 10 kilos for each child up to a maximum of three children by air, from his home country or country of residence to his place of duty. Upon termination of service, similar passage shall be provided.





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CHAPTER XI

HEALTH CARE





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CHAPTER- XI HEALTH CARE

ARTICLE-51

The APA shall provide for health care services by providing life and health insurance of:

51.1 All staff members, their spouses, and up to 3 unmarried children under 18 years of age.

51.2 The staff members residing overseas by virtue of their work and their families residing with them.

51.3 The staff members sent on official missions outside the Headquarters' country as well as the officials on authorized leave with their families.

ARTICLE-52

The **health insurance** shall bear 90% of all medical expenses incurred with the exception of the following unless the illness was caused by or during the service:

- a- Eye glasses and contact lens
- b- Hearing aids
- c- False teeth, installation of dentures, cleaning of teeth
- d- Plastic surgery.
- e- Elimination of earlier permanent bodily defect
- f- Cost of escorts at hospitals
- g- Unauthorized regular check-ups
- h- Any other expenses not relating to the treatment.

ARTICLE- 53

A staff member shall be under obligation to reimburse the expenses paid for treatment in case of established abuse by him, of the rights prescribed in the present Regulations in addition to the disciplinary measures stipulated in the present Regulations.

ARTICLE- 54

The **health insurance** shall bear the expenses of treatment of the staff member in the service of the APA if he/she incurred illness or injury - in such cases the treatment of the staff member shall continue until complete recovery even if the period involved extends beyond the end of service of the staff member in the APA .Such treatment shall not interfere with the right of a staff member to receive other benefits as stipulated in other Articles of present Regulations.





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ARTICLE- 55

55.1 If a staff member during the service and because of it incurred illness or injury resulting in disability which does not seriously affect the level of his performance, the APA shall pay a suitable compensation to the staff member after a Medical Advisory Committee composed of three doctors accredited to the APA, examines the staff member for assessment of the degree of disability.

55.2 The amount of suitable compensation shall be determined with the approval of the Executive Council.

ARTICLE- 56

56.1 If the illness or injury is incurred during the tenure of service and because of it results in total disability or death, the APA shall pay a compensation to the staff member or his heirs equivalent to five percent of the total salaries received by the staff member during his period of service in the Secretariat with a minimum amount of Ten thousand EURO.

56.2 The payment of compensation in the event of total disability shall be made with the approval of the APA Executive Council after subjecting the disabled staff member to examination by a Medical Advisory Committee consisting of three doctors accredited to the APA for assessment of his degree of disability.

56.3 The above-mentioned compensation shall not adversely affect the right of a staff member to receive other benefits as provided for under other Articles of present Regulations.





Resolution on APA Financial and Staff Regulations

CHAPTER XII

DISCIPLINARY MEASURES





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CHAPTR-XII DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

ARTICLE-57

57.1 The Secretary General shall take disciplinary action against a staff member who violates the present Regulations and rules of the APA and when the conduct of the staff member warrants such an action.

57.2 The disciplinary procedure shall be as follows:

- a- A written notice by the immediate superior.
- b- An initial written warning by the head above the immediate superior of the official.
- c- Deduction from salary.
- d- Decreasing the staff member's salary with the amount of his annual increment.
- e- Final warning
- f- Termination of service.

57.3 The Secretary General shall decide, according to the nature of the violation, which of the measures contained in paragraph d, e, and f should be taken as a disciplinary action.

ARTICLE-58

58.1 The Secretary General may initiate an investigation before giving a final written warning to the official concerned.

58.2 If a staff member behaves in a manner that may call for disciplinary action in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations and has already been deprived of the annual increment because of unsatisfactory performance report, the right to increment shall be withheld.

58.3 The APA Secretary General shall decide as to what appropriate action is to be taken when the implementation of measures related to increments is impossible because the staff member has already reached the ceiling.

ARTICLE- 59 DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

59.1 The Secretary General shall establish an ad-hoc disciplinary committee composed of a chairman and two members to study disciplinary cases referred to it under the terms of paragraph d, e, and f of Article 57.2 on condition that the ranks of the members of the committee shall not be lower than that of the official to be disciplined.

59.2 The Secretary General shall lay down the detailed provisions governing the conduct of the activities of the disciplinary committee.





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CHAPTER XIII

TERMINATION OF SERVICE





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CHAPTER - XIII TERMINATION OF SERVICE

ARTICLE- 60

The services of a staff member shall be terminated for any one of the following reasons:

- 60.1 Abolition of the post.
- 60.2 Physical disability hindering the performance of job tasks upon a certified medical report.
- 60.3 Resignation.
- 60.4 Reaching the age of termination of service: Age 65
- 60.5 Death.
- 60.6 A decision by the Secretary General given on grounds other than disciplinary such as a "weak" grade in two consecutive or three inconsecutive performance reports.
- 60.7 Disciplinary dismissal.
- 60.8 Loss of any of the basic requirements for appointment.

ARTICLE-61

The decision to terminate the services of a staff member shall be issued by the APA Secretary General.

ARTICLE- 62

The abolition of a post shall be by a decision by the APA Executive Council upon a proposal of the Secretary General. The staff member concerned shall be given three months notice prior to the date set for abolition of the post.

ARTICLE-63

63.1 The application for resignation shall be addressed in writing to the APA Secretary General through immediate superior of the staff member. The application shall state the desired effective date of the resignation with a notice period of not less than one month.

63.2 The APA Secretary General may accept or not accept the resignation within two months.

63.3 The staff member must continue to discharge his/her duties until the date fixed by the authority for the coming into effect of the resignation subject to the periods indicated above.





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63.4 The resignation of a staff member suspended from duty or under investigation cannot be accepted until the case is decided upon.

63.5 A staff member shall be considered as having resigned in cases of unjustified absence from duty for an uninterrupted period of 15 days or a total of 30 inconsecutive days in one year.

63.6 A staff member shall be considered as having resigned at the date of the loss of any of the basic requirements of appointment stipulated during the service.

ARTICLE- 64

64.1 The service of a staff member shall be terminated when he completes sixty-five years of age. The appointing authority may, when the exigencies of the service so require, extend the service of a staff member beyond the age of sixty-five.

64.2 The period of additional service referred to in Article 65.1 can be extended upon a decision by the appointing authority for a maximum of two years, and such a period shall not be taken into account in the calculation of the termination indemnity.

ARTICLE- 65

Indemnity for end of service to be paid to the officials in the different cases shall be as follows:

65.1 In the cases of the expiry of the contract, abolition of post, certified physical disability, resignation, retirement and death, the staff member concerned shall be paid, for each year of service, an amount equal to the salary of two months. Payment in case of death shall be made to his legal heirs.

65.2 In the cases where the staff member is dismissed from service in accordance with the provisions of para 7 of Article 60, the staff member concerned shall be entitled to an end of service amounting to one-month salary for every year of his service.

ARTICLE- 66

66.1 A staff member shall be entitled to a termination indemnity as stipulated in Article 65 provided he/she has completed two or more years of service.

66.2 In the calculation of the termination indemnity, the fraction of a month of service shall be rounded up to a full month.

66.3 The termination indemnities stipulated in Article 65 of the present Regulations shall be calculated on the basis of the last monthly salary of the staff member concerned, excluding any of the allowances provided for under these Regulations.





Resolution on APA Financial and Staff Regulations

CHAPTER XIV

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE OF THE APA GENERAL SECRETARIAT





Resolution on APA Financial and Staff Regulations

CHAPTER - XIV LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE OF THE APA GENERAL SECRETARIAT

ARTICLE-67

67.1 The Secretary General enjoys a legal personality. The Secretary General is the legal representative of the General Secretariat, and its official spokesman.

67.2 The administrative structure of the permanent Secretariat shall follow the hieratical organ gram shown in Annex-V. Gradual appointments of staff members shall be in consistence with the activities entrusted to the General Secretariat and within the allocated budget, as decided by the APA plenary. Employees shall be of high competence and within the least possible number.





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CHAPTER XV

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS





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CHAPTER- XV MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

ARTICLE- 68

The APA Secretary General, in accordance with the relevant rules, may conclude short-term contracts with nationals of Member Countries to carry out specific assignments of highly specialized nature in the event of extreme necessity and non-availability of qualified personnel within the APA. The Secretary General shall ensure that only persons with the requisite qualifications and expertise undertake such duties.

ARTICLE-69

69.1 The APA Secretary General may delegate some of his authority and powers to someone who he decides. The delegated person may as well delegate part of his authority to his immediate subordinates.

69.2 Any such delegation of powers shall be enacted by a decision specifying its duration and the responsibilities to be delegated. The decision shall be circulated to all the departments of the permanent Secretariat.

ARTICLE-70

The APA Permanent Secretariat shall fix the working days and office hours at the Secretariat, taking into account the working days and office hours in the host country.

ARTICLE- 71

The present Regulations shall come into force as of the date of their consideration by the executive council and, adoption by plenary. The decisions and instructions necessary for the implementation of the present Regulations shall be issued by the competent authorities.





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ANNEX I Secretariat Staff Salaries SCALE OF SALARIES FOR THE APA PERSONNEL (IN EURO)

<i>TITLE</i>	<i>SALARY</i>
SECRETARY GENERAL	<i>EURO</i>
Assistant Secretary General	<i>EURO</i>
Advisors	<i>EURO</i>
Directors	<i>EURO</i>
Experts	<i>EURO</i>
General Staff	<i>EURO</i>

<i>TITLE</i>	<i>GRADE</i>	<i>SALARY</i>
Assistant Secretary General	A1	<i>EURO</i>
	A2	<i>EURO</i>
Advisors	B1	<i>EURO</i>
	B2	<i>EURO</i>
Directors	C1	<i>EURO</i>
	C2	<i>EURO</i>
Experts	D1	<i>EURO</i>
	D2	<i>EURO</i>
General Staff	E1	<i>EURO</i>
	E2	<i>EURO</i>

REMARKS: The APA Executive Council shall regularly review the scale of salaries for the APA Staff with a view to introducing the necessary amendments proposed by the Secretary General.





Resolution on APA Financial and Staff Regulations

ANNEXE II QUALIFICATION RULES

Any applicant to a post at the APA Secretariat must fulfill the following qualifications and years of experience (minimum)

<i>TITLE</i>	<i>EDUCATION</i>	<i>FIELD OF EDUCATION</i>	<i>RELATED EXPERIENCE</i>	<i>GRADE CATEGORY</i>
Secretary General	
Assistant Secretary General	<i>A</i>
Advisors	<i>B</i>
Directors	<i>C</i>
Experts	<i>D</i>
General Staff				<i>E</i>





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ANNEX III Monthly Transportation Allowance

<i>CATEGORY</i>	<i>MONTHLY TRANSPORTATION ALLOWANCE</i>
<i>Assistants Secretary- General</i>
<i>Advisors</i>
<i>Directors</i>
<i>Experts</i>
<i>General Staff</i>





Resolution on APA Financial and Staff Regulations

ANNEX IV DAILY SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE ON OFFICIAL MISSIONS

<i>CATEGORY</i>	<i>Inside the Host Country (In EURO)</i>	<i>Outside the Host Country (In EURO)</i>
<i>SECRETARY GENERAL</i>
<i>Assistant Secretary- General</i>
<i>Advisors</i>
<i>Directors</i>
<i>Experts</i>
<i>General Staff</i>

REMARKS:

1. If full board accommodation is provided by the host country or the APA, the Staff member receives 50% of the content of the above table.
2. In case the host Country or the APA provides local accommodation, Staff member receives 70% of the content of the above table.

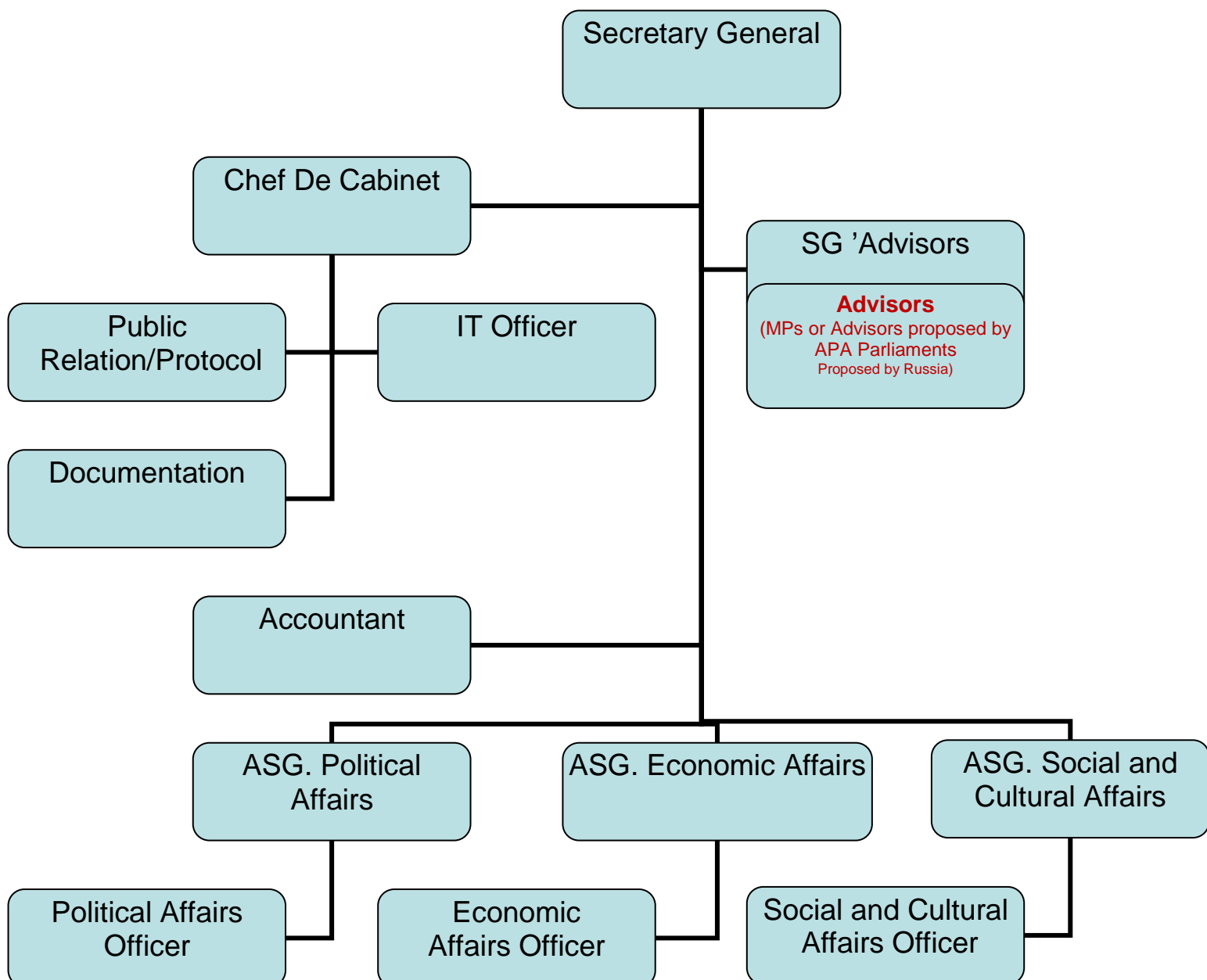




Resolution on APA Financial and Staff Regulations

ANNEXE V APA TOP ORGANIGRAM

Number of present posts : 18





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APA Financial and Staff Regulations**

**APA
FINANCIAL
REGULATIONS

DRAFT**





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DRAFT **APA FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

ARTICLE -1

The present Financial Regulations organize the financial administration of the APA. The Regulations shall become effective once they are considered by the Executive Council and adopted by the Plenary. It may only be amended through a decision of two third majority of Member Parliaments present and voting in the plenary.

ARTICLE -2

The fiscal year shall run from the first day of May to the last day of April.

ARTICLE -3

Secretary General shall prepare and present the draft annual budget to the Member Parliaments at least 30 days in advance of the first meeting of the Executive Council. The Council may establish a committee for further consideration of the draft to formulate its recommendations on the draft budget to the Executive Council. The final budget shall be adopted by the Plenary not later than the end of the fiscal year.

ARTICLE -4

Any replacement, decrease or increase in any chapter of the budget by the Secretary General shall be acceptable within a limit of 20% thereof. If need be for a higher increase, the Secretary General shall present an explanatory note for the consideration of the Executive Council. Any new chapter may also be added to the budget to cover the expenses relating to any new activity, in which case, detailed explanatory information shall be provided by the Secretary General to the Executive Council for consideration.

ARTICLE -5

The budget and the Secretariat accounts shall be drawn up and kept in Euro and Iranian Rial.





Resolution on APA Financial and Staff Regulations

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ARTICLE -6

Upon approval of the budget by the Plenary, the Secretary General shall be authorized to undertake financial commitments for the purposes for which credits have been approved within the limits of such credits in each chapter and item.

ARTICLE -7

All payments to the APA under any category, including voluntary contribution by Member parliaments, donations, grants, endowments, interests granted to funds and deposits shall be made in Euro and maintained in APA bank accounts, so as to facilitate its international auditing.

ARTICLE- 8

8.1. APA Secretary General may transfer credits between items in any one chapter up to 20% of the budget within the limits of the credit approved for the chapter concerned.

8.2 The Secretary General may transfer credits between chapters of the budget; up to 20 % whenever needed within the limits of the credits for each of the chapters.

8.3 All such transfers shall be reported in the explanatory information referred to in Article 4, together with an explanation of the circumstances.

ARTICLE -9

Credits shall be used for commitments only during the fiscal year to which they relate. In case of non-payment or delay of contributions, and in order to meet the level of budget by the APA, the Secretary General is allowed to use the funds available and adjust accordingly.

ARTICLE - 10

10.1 The budget approved by the Plenary shall be financed by contributions from Member Parliaments which will be assessed on the basis of a formula to be considered by the Executive Council and adopted by the Plenary.





Resolution on APA Financial and Staff Regulations

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10.2 Subject to the Rule 40 of the Rules of Procedure, once the Plenary has approved the annual budget, the Secretary General shall advise Member Parliaments of their assessed contribution and request them to remit the funds.

10.3 Contributions shall be considered due and payable in full, within 60 days of the receipt by Member Parliaments of Secretary General's letter of assessment.

10.4. Non-payment of contributions by any Member Parliament shall be reported to the Executive Council for appropriate decision, which may include reporting it to the Plenary.

10.5 The Secretary General shall submit to the Executive Council a report on the collection of contributions.

ARTICLE – 11

11.1. The Secretary General shall be responsible for administering the APA funds.

11.2. The Secretary General shall set up those internal controls as may be necessary to maintain a continuous check on all financial transactions, ensure fitness and transparency, prevent any misapplication of funds, and ensure the utmost economy.

11.3 To this end, the Secretary General shall issue directives, set procedures and take the following steps:

11.3.1 To check that all expenditure is in conformity with the credits and other fiscal measures approved by the Plenary.

11.3.2 To ensure that payments are made only on production of vouchers for services rendered and/or goods received.

11.3.3 To sign and seal, together with Head of Human and Financial Resources Department, all operations of transfer of funds or cheques and financial liabilities, payment orders or any other documents pertaining to expenditure from the budget.





Resolution on APA Financial and Staff Regulations

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ARTICLE -12

APA funds shall be kept in Banks of the APA Headquarters.

ARTICLE -13

13.1 The Head of Human and Financial Resources Department shall maintain documents to show:

13.1.1. Amounts authorized, commitments undertaken, payments made, and available balances of authorizations with respect to each item in the budget.

13.1.2 Assessed contributions of all Member Parliaments, together with the payments received from them and the balances remaining due.

13.1.3 Miscellaneous income.

13.1.4 Cash balances and balances at banks.

13.1.5 Other assets and liabilities of the APA.

13.2 The Secretary General shall present to the Executive Council biannual financial reports on the APA financial situation.

ARTICLE -14

The Secretary General is authorized to write-off on losses of cash, stores and other assets up to limit of 1000 Euro and anything above this amount has to be approved by the Executive Council. A full statement of all such amounts written off shall be attached to the annual financial report.

ARTICLE -15

The APA funds shall be made up of:

- 1- Payment of assessed contributions by Member Parliaments.
- 2- The grants, endowments and donations in cash and in kind accepted by the Secretary General.
- 3- The Interests/profit granted on funds and deposits of the APA accounts.





Resolution on APA Financial and Staff Regulations

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ARTICLE -16

16.1 Upon the suggestion of Secretary General the Executive Council shall determine the fees of an External Account Auditor who shall be a certified accountant of the host country, locally appointed on a yearly basis by the Secretary General.

16.2 The local External Account Auditor shall present his/her report before the end of the fourth month of the next year to the Secretary General who shall submit it with his/her comments and views to the Financial Control Committee (FCC) , as defined by the paragraph 16.3 below, as well as to the Executive Council for consideration and approval.

16.3 A Financial Control Committee (FCC) composed of three Auditors shall be appointed by the Executive Council on a two-year rotational basis to be nominated by Member Parliaments from among those regularly contributing to the APA budget.

16.4 The Financial Control Committee (FCC) shall meet annually at the Headquarters of the Secretariat in order to audit the accounts of the Secretariat for the previous year and study the report made by the local External Auditor. The Committee shall present its report to the Executive Council through the Secretary General. This report shall include:

- a) Remarks on financial matters.
- b) Remarks on the report of the External Account Auditor.
- c) The extent of effectiveness of the financial and internal control procedures within the Secretariat.

16.5 The local External Account Auditor shall abide by the conventional international rules and accounting standards.

16.6 In no case, however, shall the Financial Control Committee include substantial observations in its audit report without first affording the Secretary General or his/her representative(s) an opportunity for explanations to the FCC on the matter under observation. Such explanations shall be included in the report of the Committee.

16.7 The Secretary General may submit to the Executive Council a report giving his/her views and observations on the Report of the Financial Control Committee (FCC) and that of the local External Auditor.





Resolution on APA Financial and Staff Regulations

Resolution 201409

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16.8 The Secretary General shall pay the fees of the local External Account Auditor, while the fees and other expenses of the Financial Control Committee (FCC) shall be borne by their respective Parliaments.

16.9 No former staff member of the Secretariat shall be appointed as Auditor. Likewise, no former Auditor shall be appointed in the Secretariat before a period of three years has elapsed since he/she left his/her last position.

ARTICLE -17

The Executive Council shall examine the reports of the Financial Control Committee (FCC), of the local External Auditor and of the Secretary General. Approval of the Report of the Financial Control Committee (FCC) by the Executive Council shall authorize the closing of the accounts of the concerned fiscal year and clearing the Secretary General's financial responsibility thereon. Otherwise, the Executive Council shall continue to investigate the remaining questions and find resolution before the end of the next fiscal year.





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

Resolution 201410

Page 1 of 3

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA Resolutions, APA/Res/2010/05; APA/Res/2009/05; APA/Res/2008/17; APA/Res/2007/02; and APA/Res/2013/05 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 is depended to 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;

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;





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

Resolution 201410

Page 2 of 3

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

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 Syria by ISIS and other terrorist groups 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 promote and facilitate 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 and ethnic communities so as to ensure the fulfillment of indigenous community rights in line with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

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 to Gaza Strip;





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

Resolution 201410

Page 3 of 3

Urge Member Parliaments to ratify international conventions such as the International Convention for the Safeguarding of World Natural and Cultural Heritage and also the International Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage;

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

Call Upon 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 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 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.





Resolution on Coping with Globalization in Asia

Resolution 201411

Page 1 of 2

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA Resolution, APA/Res/2010/3, APA/Res/ 2009/04, and APA/ Res/2013/06;

Stressing that global networking provides opportunities for Member Parliaments to share views and harmonize their collective efforts in coping with effects of globalization in Asia;

Concerned with negative impact of globalization on widening the gap between the rich and the 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 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;

Call Upon APA Member Parliaments to initiate, through an ad-hoc working group or otherwise, a common legislation aiming at minimizing and bridging the digital divide among Asian countries;

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 Asian approach toward globalization through holding special workshops and forums among Asian Parliaments;

Promote the initiative of a common legislation among Member Parliaments on bridging the Digital Divide in Asia, and call on the ad-hoc working group on ICT to take appropriate steps for preparing a framework for such legislation;





Resolution on Coping with Globalization in Asia

Resolution 201411

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Request the Secretary General to obtain data and information from APA Member Parliaments, as well as governments and international governmental and non-governmental organizations in Asia, to share their experience and best practices pertaining to their individual and collective efforts in dealing with the challenges and opportunities of globalization based on Asian norms and values;

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 Asia should cope with the challenges and opportunities of globalization.





Resolution on Collaboration on Health Equity in Asia

Resolution 201412

Page 1 of 3

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA Resolutions, APA/Res/2010/02; APA/Res/2009/06; and APA/Res/2013/07;

Recalling the advises in the report of the Secretary-General on Achieving Health Equity in Asia, SG/Rep/2011/02 Dated 22 August 2011, submitted to the meeting of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran on 13-14 September, 2011;

Stressing the view that global net-working provides opportunities for Member Parliaments to engage in fruitful dialogue and exchange of best practices on health equity;

Reaffirming the significant role of parliaments both in advocating and promoting national policies and legislative measures for achieving health equity;

Welcoming the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the UN General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases, adopted on 19 September 2011, and reaffirming the political will to effectively implement the commitments contained therein;

Recalling United Nation General Assembly resolution 66/288 on “The future we want”, which recognized health as a precondition for and an outcome and indicator of all three dimensions of sustainable development;

Recalling the Rio Political Declaration on Social Determinants of Health endorsed by the Sixty-fifth World Health Assembly in resolution WHA65.8 in May 2012;

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 as central to the post-2015 UN development agenda and that consideration is given to including universal health coverage in the discussion on the post- 2015 development agenda in the context of global health challenges;

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





Resolution on Collaboration on Health Equity in Asia

Resolution 201412

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Welcoming the report of High Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda and initiative of Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, as health-related MDGs deadline draws 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;

Invites 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 promote networking among major governmental and non-governmental institutions dealing with health issues in Asia, and expand cooperation with academic institutions, non-governmental organizations, civil society groups and the media in order to identify the main social determinants of health;

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

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





Resolution on Collaboration on Health Equity in Asia

Resolution 201412

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Determine to take active part on the discussion 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 legislations promoting health equity in Asia, with due attention to social protection policies for health care, long term disability, and protection during unemployment and old age;

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.





Resolution on Information and Communication Technology “ICT”

Resolution 201413

Page 1 of 2

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA Resolution, APA/Res/2009/04, 29 November, 2010;

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General to the open-ended Ad-hoc Working Group on ICT, 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;

Emphasizing on the importance of the Report of the Secretary-General on “Asian Virtual Parliament” that aimed at enhancing deliberations among APA member parliaments;

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;

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;

Supporting the proposal for establishing the “Virtual Asian Parliament” to enhance deliberation and strengthen cooperation among Member Parliaments in a more effective manner;

Welcoming the invitation of Russian Federation to provide and share its experience on the Virtual Parliament with Member parliament and the Secretariat;

Reiterate that Virtual Asian Parliament must hinge upon a set of regulations and principles and observes possible challenges which were highlighted in Resolution APA / Res/2013/08, 3 Dec 2013;

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 establishment of VAP;





Resolution on Information and Communication Technology “ICT”

Resolution 201413

Page 2 of 2

Decide to hold the next meeting of the ICT Working Group at the sideline of the meeting of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs in 2015 to expedite the establishment of the Virtual Asian Parliament;

Request the Secretary-General to seek the views of the Member Parliaments on the progress made to implement this resolution and submit a report thereon to the next meeting.





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

Resolution 201414

Page 1 of 3

We, members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Acknowledging that the development of migrant workers and the protection of their rights would be 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;

Recognizing 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), and ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and the Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers established a broad legal framework for the protection of migrant workers;

Confirming 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, color, 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 abuses, harassment and violence, discrimination, low paying and low status jobs, unpaid job, ignored labor and overwork;





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

Resolution 201414

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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 labor immigrants to the 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 labor 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 relationship and cooperation among governments, parliaments as well as the peoples of Asia in solving the problems relating to Asian migrant workers; and in particular, providing repatriation assistant 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 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;





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

Resolution 201414

Page 3 of 3

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 the woman, made at the global and regional level into national legislations;

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;

Also 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 therefore the sending countries are well informed on the legal problems facing 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 to supervise the implementation of the 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.





Resolution on Asian Parliamentarians against Corruption

Resolution 201415

Page 1 of 4

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA Resolutions on Combating Corruption contained in APA/Res/2007/05, APA/Res/2008/18, APA/Res/2009/03, APA/Res/2010/01, and APA/Res/2013/09, 9 December 2013;

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

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

Taking note of 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;





Resolution on Asian Parliamentarians against Corruption

Resolution 201415

Page 2 of 4

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 urges 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 urges all States parties to take appropriate measures to ensure its full and effective implementation;

Urges States 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

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





Resolution on Asian Parliamentarians against Corruption

Resolution 201415

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appropriate; focal points for asset recovery, and also calls 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.





Resolution on Asian Parliamentarians against Corruption

Resolution 201415

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**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:





Resolution on Special Committee of APA Women Parliamentarians

Resolution 201416

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 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 political, cultural and economic affairs and peace dialogue;

Reaffirming that to include women in positions of power and elected bodies strengthen the development of democratic principles in public life and increase the economic development;

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

Mindful of the importance to put on the agenda of APA meetings matters of importance to women; such as fighting violence against women, empowerment of women in societies, women participation in political life, prevention of sexual violence in conflicts;

Stressing our resolve to participate and contribute actively in the deliberation of issues relating to women empowerment and women 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 the matters of specific concern to women;

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

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

Urge to include at least one woman parliamentarian in their APA delegations;





Resolution on Special Committee of APA Women Parliamentarians

Resolution 201416

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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 coordinating meeting of APA Women Parliamentarian through more effective exchange of views and close interaction;

Decide to supersede establishment of Special Committee of APA women parliamentarians under the 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 communicate 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 a data base covering up to date information on the 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 the Syrian women in the occupied Syrian Golan under Israeli occupation, as well 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.





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

Resolution 201417

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 interfaith 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;





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

Resolution 201417

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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, as well as committed by extremist and terrorist groups under the guise of Islam which hold no authentic reference to Islamic principles and no legitimacy among Muslims all around the world and call upon all states to refrain from providing any support to such groups;

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.





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

Resolution 201418

Page 1 of 3

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 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), at the side of the meeting of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs in 2015 to further study the subject, including the feasibility of developing a model legislation on combating smuggling of cultural items to serve as a guideline for member parliaments' national effort to enhance their capacities in this regard;

Regard the set of principles prepared by APA Secretariat and annexed to this resolution to constitute a useful basis for further study by the Open-ended Ad-Hoc Working Group meeting in 2015 with a view to developing a model legislation on combating smuggling of cultural items;

Call on all APA member parliaments that have not yet done so, to consider ratifying International Convention for the Safeguarding of World Natural and Cultural Heritage, and 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.





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

Resolution 201418

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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.





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

Resolution 201418

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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.





Resolution on Effective Cooperation in Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking in Asia

Resolution 201419

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 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;

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 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 the 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 drugs 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 step up training programs for Afghan law-enforcement staff;

Stressing the need to step up 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;





Resolution on Effective Cooperation in Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking in Asia

Resolution 201419

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Supporting the 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 for holding annual meetings of the Heads of Interpol National Central Bureaus to enhance police cooperation among the respective States of APA Member Parliaments;

Stressing that, in order to have effective border controlling system, there is a need to have expeditious exchange of information among the Border Control Forces of respective governments of APA Member Parliaments. Each government will strengthen its own data-base system to identify criminals especially on border check-points. It is also recommended that the establishment of a regional data-bank may be considered in future meetings of the Border Control Commanders;

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

Expressing the need for a more active and efficient international cooperation in combating 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 the relevant legislations to address different aspects of combating drug trafficking;

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

Reiterate the need to coordinate and improve the 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 the international financial assistance for the creation of alternative economic opportunities in order to ensure a sustainable anti-drug policy;





Resolution on Effective Cooperation in Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking in Asia

Resolution 201419

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Call upon APA Asian Parliaments to enable the civil society as an effective partner of parliaments as well as to enhance the role of mass media in combating drug trafficking in Asia;

Encourage all APA member Parliaments 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;

Express the need to facilitate and promote the efforts of all states and organizations concerned, aimed at creating the "anti-drug and financial security belts" in the region;

Believe that a regular dialogue on joint action 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 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 on combating illicit drug trafficking including a review of relevant legislations in Member Parliaments in this regard.





Report of the 7th APA Plenary Lahore, Pakistan

Annex-II

“APA Lahore Declaration”

Chapeau: We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA), elected representatives of the people of Asia in 42 Member and 16 Observer countries, gathered in Lahore on December 1-3, 2014, for the APA Seventh Plenary Conference:

PP1. Mindful of the fact that this is the Asian Century, and having deliberated intensely on the theme of the 7th Plenary; ‘Quest of Asian Parliament in Asian Century’ parliamentarians from Member States must help evolve a formal road map with definite timelines for creation of the ‘Asian Parliament’ as also envisaged in ‘Islamabad Declaration’ (2013) and ‘Islamabad Communiqué’ (2014);

Hereby,

1. Express APA’s resolve to promote principles of friendship and cooperation in line with the Charter of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA), and to explore ways to expand and strengthen cooperation under the framework of APA to work towards a prosperous and peaceful future for Asia and the whole world.

2. (a) Express APA’s concern at the acts of terrorism, violent extremism, intolerance, xenophobia and religious or racial profiling;

(b) Reiterate our strong and unequivocal condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, committed by whomever, wherever and for whatever purposes; reaffirm that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group; and recognize that international cooperation and any measures taken by Member States to prevent and combat terrorism must fully comply with obligations under international law, including principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations;

(c) Underscore the need for strengthening cooperation to deal with the menace of terrorism including addressing its root causes especially by addressing prolonged, unresolved conflicts and unending situations of occupations; further emphasize the need for promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue,





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understanding and cooperation for peace, as an effective step towards combating terrorism and in countering violent extremism, xenophobia and religious or racial profiling; and welcome all initiatives in this regard, including the adoption of the United Nations General Assembly's resolutions entitled "Promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace" and "A world against violence and extremism";

(d) Further reaffirm our support for the right to self-determination of the peoples which remain under colonial domination and foreign occupation;

3. Encourage and promote dialogue between Member Parliaments to ensure the security and rights of all people, and to uphold international law and justice for all;

4. Express the resolve to establish "Asian Integrated Energy Market" by utilizing the strength of West Asia in the energy sector to help propel East and South Asia to effectively improve their energy sector;

5. Underscore the need for streamlining the financial architecture of the region in order to prioritize economic cooperation, generating the need for trade, commerce, and investment to counter economic instabilities;

6. Highlight and realize the importance and urgency of a 'greener' Asia, with improvements in air quality, warranting the reduction of harmful emissions, while discouraging deforestation, undertaking the billion trees reforestation initiative and encouraging clean resources to minimize climate change and environmental degradation;

7. Reiterate their resolve to pursue internationally agreed Sustainable Development Goals post 2015 and strive for collective strategies to eradicate poverty, which has interwoven and complex causes throughout the region;

8. Call for streamlining the financial structure of the APA according to the individual economic standings of the Member Countries for effective budgeting, optimized functioning and smooth running of the APA, enabling it to perform its responsibilities and duties to its full ability and potential;





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9. Recognize the importance of parliaments in protection of human rights and cultural diversity in Asia, and urge member parliaments to promote inter-faith harmony and harmonize their efforts for respect of all religions;
10. Call upon APA member parliaments to promote and share the technological advances of globalization in Asia and create an environment for free flow of information to bridge the digital and technology divide across Asia;
11. Urge Member Parliaments to engage in effective networking to improve health systems, by acknowledging the social determinants of health (SDH) as major elements to devise a comprehensive strategy for health equity in Asia.
12. Support the establishment of APA “Virtual Parliament” as an interactive platform for achieving and strengthening the objectives of the APA;
13. Urge member parliaments to protect the rights of migrant workers, especially women, by devising, where possible and as appropriate, legally binding tools and adopting internationally agreed covenants;
14. Express the resolve to materialize the establishment of Asian Parliaments against Corruption (APAC) to curb corruption and enhance parliamentary collaboration to create anti-corruption frameworks;
15. Recognize the importance of addressing the issue of under-representation of women in various economic and political spheres including parliaments, the need for promotion and protection of their rights including increasing their contribution towards economic development of the entire region; and reaffirm support to establish an Annual Coordinating Meeting of APA Women Parliamentarians at APA Plenaries, as a preparatory meeting ahead of the plenary;
16. Urge Member Parliaments to formulate strategies to combat the growing menace of smuggling of cultural items in Asia through effective legislation;
17. Realize the implications of illicit drug production, trafficking and consumption in Asia, and urge APA members to further strengthen ongoing





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efforts and existing structures for effective coordination and cooperation in this regard;

18. Underline the need for developing better understanding and awareness among the people of Asian nations through various means including establishment of APA Media Forum so as to encourage media interaction and journalistic exchanges, and to disseminate more widely and effectively the activities of the APA, in the context of the road map towards an Asian Parliament;

19. Recognize that the Parliament of Pakistan having played a pivotal role in the transformation of the Association of Asian Parliaments for Peace (AAPP) into Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) and during the current Presidency; the Senate of Pakistan is effectively contributing in laying the foundations of the Asian Parliament;

20. To promote dialogue to find peaceful solution of conflicts in Asia as well as recognize the right of countries to develop peaceful use of nuclear energy in accordance with IAEA safeguards and all relevant UN resolutions;

21. Denounce Israel's repeated violations of the International Law and UN Resolutions as well as its blatant aggression that has claimed thousands of civilian lives in Palestine;

22. As Asians, the APA is committed to promotion and protection of core human values that strengthen society as a whole while seeking alleviation of poverty through policies that share prosperity through their respective populace;

23. Established the 'Special Committee on Creation of the Asian Parliament' (SCCAP) with its office based in Islamabad, to work on a single agenda of developing consensus within Member Parliaments to formulate a road map to achieve this significant objective.

Signed in Lahore on the Third Day of December in the Year Two Thousand and Fourteen.





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Annex-III List of Participants

Afghanistan

1. Mr. Mohd Nazir Ahmadzai, MP.
2. Mr. Samiullah Hussaini Secretary to the delegation
3. Mr. Nader Khan Katawazai, MP.
4. Mr. Abdul Rahman Shahidani, Member Parliaments

Azerbaijan

1. Ms. Ganira Pashayeva, MP.

Bahrain

1. Mr. Abbas Almadhi, MP.
2. Mr. Khalil Althawadi, MP.
3. Dr. Jamal M. Saleh, MP.
4. Dr. Naser Almubarak, MP.
5. Mr. Mohamed Alammadi, MP.
6. Mr. Sayed Husain Majed, Media Specialist.
7. Mr. Jaber Alnoaimi, Admin. Assistant

Bangladesh

1. Mr. MD Nazrul Islam Chawdhry, MP.
2. Mr. Suhrab Hossain, HE the High Commissioner

Bhutan

1. Hon'ble Chimi Dorji, Deputy Speaker, National Assembly of Bhutan.
2. Hon'ble Tek Bahadur Subba, Member of Parliament, National Assembly of Bhutan.
3. Hon Dupthob, Member of Parliament, National Assembly of Bhutan.

Cambodia





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1. Hon. Dr. Nguon Nhel, Second Vice President of the National Assembly of Cambodia and President of Cambodian National APA Group/ Head of Delegation.
2. H.E. Mr. Chhit Kim Yeat, Senator, Member of the Delegation.
3. Hon. Mr. Nhem Thavy, MP, Member of the delegation.
4. H.E. UY Visal, Dir IR Deptt./Assistant to the Delegation.
5. H.E. Mr. Nguon Raksmeay, DD I.R Deptt./ Assistant to the Delegation.
6. H.E. Mr. Hok Bunly, Chief of Multilateral Relations/ Assistant to the Delegation.
7. Mr. Soeung Rithypanha, Staff/ Assistant to the Delegation.
8. Mr. Kheav Sambath, Staff/ Assistant to the delegation
9. Mr. Pen Prakath, Interpreter.
10. Mr. Oum Sopheartith, Doctor.
11. Mr. Meas Samoeun, Cameraman.

China

1. Hon. Ms. Zhao Baige, Vice Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the NPC / MP.
2. Hon. Mr. Yang Gengyu, Member of the environmental Protection and Resource Conservation Committee of the NPC / MP.
3. Ms. Jia Yongmei, Director of the Foreign Affairs Bureau of the General Office of the Standing Committee of the NPC.
4. Mr. Jin Leiming, Staff member of the Department of International Organization and Conferences of Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
5. Ms. Hou Dong, Staff member of the Foreign Affairs Bureau of the General Office of the Standing Committee of the NPC.
6. Mr. Chen Shanrui, Staff Member of the Foreign Affairs Bureau of the General Office of the Standing Committee of the NPC.

Cyprus

1. Mr. Nicos Tornaritis, MP
2. Ms. Loukia Mouyi, International Relations Officer

Indonesia





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H.E. Mr. Fadli Zon, Vice Chairman of the House of Representatives. Head of Delegation.

- 2. Hon. Mr. Alimin Abdullah, Member Delegation.**
- 3. Hon. Mr. Syofwatillah Muhammad Zaini Bahnan, Member Delegation.**
- 4. Hon. Mrs. Kartika Yudhisti, Member Delegation.**
- 5. Mr. Hamdhani, Member Delegation**
- 6. Dr. Poltak Partogi Nainggolan, Expert Staff.**
- 7. Mr, Isnu Purwanto, Secretary to Head of Delegation.**
- 8. Ms. Endang Dwi Astuti, Secretary to Delegation.**
- 9. Ms. Miranti Widiani, Secretary Delegation.**
- 10. Mr. Muhammad Ibnur Khalid, Journalist**
- 11. Ms. Rima Diah Pramugyawati**
- 12. Mr. Leonard Felix Hutabarat, Adviser.**
- 13. Ms. Yuliana Tansil, Interpreter.**
- 14. Mr. Hasby Muahmmad Zamri, ADC to Head of Delegation.**
- 15. Mr. Muahmamd Subarkah, Journalist**
- 16. Irianto Indah Susilo, Journalist**

Iran

- 1.H.E. Mohammad Hassan Abotorabi fard, Deputy Speaker of Islamic Parliament of Iran**
- 2.H.E. Dr. Hossein Nejabar, Member of Energy Committee.**
- 3. H.E. Mr. Esmail Jalil, Member of the Committee for Planning, Budget and Accounting.**
- 4. H.E. Dr. Evaz Heidarpoor Shahrezai, Member of the Committee for foreign policy and national security.**
- 5. H.E. Mr. Hossein Sheikh Al-eslam, Advisor to the speaker and DG for International Affairs.**
- 6. Mr. Seyd Morteza Razaviyani, Director of APA deptt and expert of APA.**
- 7. Mr. Mostafa Hedayati Manesh, Director Ceremonies and Delegations of Majlis.**
- 8. Mr. Ehsan Bakhshandeh, Translator.**
- 9. Mr. Turaj kamali, Security Guard of Deputy Speaker.**
- 10. Mr. Majid Salem, Security Guard of Deputy Speaker.**
- 11. Mr. Davood Khoshbini, Security Guard of Deputy Speaker.**

Jordan





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- 1.H.E. Engineer Shahida Abu Hodeib, Head of Delegation
2. H.E.Mr. Yasin Bani Yasin, Deputy.
- 3.Mr. Nedal Al Omer, Protocol Officer.

Kuwait

1. H.E. Mr. Faisal Muhammad Alkandari, MP.
2. Mr. Dayab Muhammad Al-Dehani, Chairman of the Development of Parliamentary Relations.

Nepal

- 1.Dr. Rajan Bhattarai, MP

Pakistan

1. Senator Raja Muhammad Zafar-ul-Haq, Head of Delegation
2. Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed
3. Senator Dr. Muhammad Jehangir Bader
4. Senator Muhammad Rafique Rajwana
5. Senator Nuzhat Sadiq
6. Senator Col. ® Tahir Hussain Mashhadi
7. Senator Muzaffar Hussain Shah
8. Senator Haji Adeel
9. Senator Kamil Ali Agha
10. Senator Hilal-ur-Rehman
11. Senator Nawabzada Saifullah Magsi
12. Senator Mir Israrullah Khan Zehri
13. Senator Mrs. Kalsoom Parveen
14. Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo
15. Senator Mr. Abdul Rauf
16. Senator Ch. Muhammad Jaffar Iqbal
17. Senator Muhammad Talha Mahmood
16. Mr. Mehmood Khan Achakzai, Member National Assembly
17. Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb, Member National Assembly
18. Ms. Shaista Pervaiz, Member National Assembly
19. Malik Muhammad Uzair Khan, Member National Assembly
20. Ms. Nafisa Shah, Member National Assembly
21. Mr. Abdul Waseem, Member National Assembly
22. Eng. Qamar-ul-Islam Raja, Member Provincial Assembly Punjab
23. Qazi Adnan Fareed, Member Provincial Assembly Punjab





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24. Malik Muhammad Ahmed Khan, Member Provincial Assembly Punjab
25. Sardar Ghulam Sadiq Khan, Speaker, AJ&K Assembly
26. Mst. Shaheen Kausar Dar, Deputy Speaker, Legislative Assembly AJ&K
27. Mir Jan Muhammad Khan Jamali, Speaker, Balochistan Assembly
28. Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo, Deputy Speaker, Balochistan Assembly
29. Mr. Wazir Baig, Speaker, GB Legislative Assembly
30. Mr. Abdullah Khan, Secretary, GB Legislative Assembly
31. Mr. Agha Siraj Khan Durani, Speaker, Sindh Assembly
32. Syeda Shehla Raza, Deputy Speaker, Sindh Assembly
33. Dr. Haider Ali Khan, Member Provincial Assembly KPK
34. Mr. Arbab Akbar Hayat Khan, Member Provincial Assembly KPK
35. Malik Amjed Pervez, Secretary General, Senate of Pakistan

Palestine

1. Mr. Zuhair Sanduqa, PNC Member/ Head Of delegation.
2. Mr. Omran Al-Khatib, PNC Member/Member of Delegation.
3. Mr. Omar Hamed, Advisor.

Philippines

1. Ms Giorgidi B. Aggabao, Deputy Speaker, Head of Delegation.
2. Ms. Maria Carmen S. Zamora, Congresswoman.
3. Mr. Gracelda N. Andres, Deputy Secretary.

Russia

1. H.E. Mr. Mikhail Emelyanov, First deputy of the Chairman of the Standing Committee of the state of Duma on Economic Policy. Head of Delegation
2. Mr. Anvar Mahmutov, Member of the standing Committee of the state Duma on International Relations.
3. Mr. Stepan Zhirykov, Senator.
4. Mr. Rafail Zinurov, Senator.
5. Ms. Svetlana Shelest, Interpreter.
6. Ms. Olga Folomeeva, Senior Counselor of the Department of International Relations.
7. Ms. Veronika Belousova, Interpreter.
8. Ms. Yuliya Guskova, Senior Counsellor of the Department of International Relations.

Saudi Arabia





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1. Mr. Saeed Alsheikh, MP, Head of Delegation.
2. Mr. Ali Alwezrah, MP.
3. Mr. Hani Khashogji, MP.
4. Mr. Mohammed Aldebaji, Adviser.
5. Mr. Anas Alsaeed, Parliamentary Relations Officer.
6. Mr. Fahad Alshalhoub, Protocol.

Sri Lanka

1. Mr. Waruna Bandara Dhammika Dasanayake, Secretary General
2. Mr. Sunil Kahingala Waduge, Dy. Director Admin.
3. Mr. Ranil Buddhika Nanayakkara Heenatigala Nanayakkara Don, Asst. Protocol off.

Syria

1. H.E. MHD Jihad Allaham, Speaker of Syrian Peoples Assembly.
2. Ms. Mona Sukkar, MP.
3. Mr. Mustafa Laila, MP.
4. Mr. Shaaban Al-Hasan, MP.
5. Mr. Eid Al-Khellawi, MP.
6. Mrs. Maha Al-Omar, MP.
7. Mr. Burhan Al-Abdul Wahab, MP.
8. Mr. MHD Nasser Alwawi, PR. Director.
9. Mr. Hisham Younes, Protocol.

Turkey

1. Mr. Yuksel Ozden, Head of Delegation(MP)
2. Mr. Mustafa Kemal , Serbetcioglu, MP.
3. Mr. Haydar Akar, MP
4. Mr. Ercan Candan, Member of Turkish APA Group/ MP.
5. Mr. Alim Isik, MP.
6. Mr. Murat Hasturk, Secretary of the Turkish APA group
7. Mrs. Fikriye Sirel Deliloglu, Secretary to the Delegation

Oman (Observer)

1. H.E. Ahmed Bin Mohammed Massoud Al-Busaidi, MP, Head of Delegation.
2. Salim Bin Said Bin Musallam Al Harizi, MP.
3. H.E. Salim Ali bin Ahmed Al Kathiri, MP.
4. H.E. Saliem bin Sakat bin Saleem Al Junaibi, MP.





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5. Mr. Salim bin Ali bin Salim al Mahrouqi, DD of Majlis Security Office.
6. Mr. Hamed bin Musalam bin Hamed Al Bulashi, DD of Public Relations Department.

IPU

1. Hon. Senator Mian Raza Rabbani

APA Secretariat

1. H.E. Dr. Masoud Eslami, Deputy. Secretary General.
2. H.E. Mr. Amir Hossein Zamaninia, Assistant Secretary General.
3. H.E. Dr. Ali Khorram, Assistant Secretary General.
4. H.E. Mr. Bijan Moshirvaziri, Assistant Secretary General.
5. H.E. Dr. Seyed Ali Mahmoudi, Assistant Secretary General.
6. H.E. Mr. Farhad Karimian, Assistant Secretary General.
7. Mr. Asghar Azarikhah, Technical Staff.
8. Mr. Seyed Saber Abdollahi, Technical Staff.
9. Mr. Saeed Sohrabinia, Technical Staff.

Sudan

1. H.E. Dr. Mohammad Yousif Abdalla, Chairman Foreign Relations Committee
2. H.E. Dr. Nafie Ali Nafie, General Secretary CAPP and member of the Committee of the NCP Sudan.

PGA

1. Shazia Z. Rafi





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Annex-IV

Texts of Statements and Speeches





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7TH PLENARY SESSION
OF ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (APA)
LAHORE,
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN
2ND DECEMBER, 2014

OPENING REMARKS

By

HON'BLE SENATOR MUSHAHID HUSSAIN SAYED

CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE





Report of the 7th APA Plenary Lahore, Pakistan



- *Excellency Syed Nayyer Hussain Bokhari,*
APA President and Chairman Senate of Pakistan.
- *Honourable Speakers, Presiding Officers, Members and*
Representatives of APA Member Parliaments and Observer
delegations.
- *Dr. Masoud Eslami,*
Deputy Secretary-General, Asian Parliamentary Assembly.
- *Excellencies, Dignitaries,*
- *Ladies and Gentlemen!*

It is, indeed, a great privilege to have the singular honour to welcome you at the 7th Plenary session of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly here in Lahore.

First to all, I like to extend my deepest appreciation to Excellency Syed Nayyer Hussain Bokhari, the APA President, for his personal interest, devotion, and zeal towards rejuvenating this esteemed parliamentary forum.

These prized engagements and interactions have enabled Asian parliamentarians to sit together and swap ideas on issues of common interest and concern.

Ladies and Gentlemen!





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Since its inception at the 5th General Assembly of the Association of Asian **Parliaments for Peace (AAPP)** held in Pakistan's capital city Islamabad back in 2004, APA has come a long way as an important regional forum widely acknowledged as the institutional voice of Asian Century.

APA's endeavours towards promotion of shared ideals that inter alia include peace and security, socio-economic uplift, rule of law, justice, and Human rights were further augmented at the extraordinary 6th Plenary session of the forum held in Islamabad in December 2013.

One of the largest inter-parliamentary gatherings ever arranged in the history of Pakistan's Parliament with 28 Member and two Observer countries participating, the 6th Plenary set the tone and pace towards achieving common goals, most importantly the establishment of an Asian Parliament.

The resolves and targets thus made and set were further fine-tuned, deliberated upon and strategized at the first Troika Plus meeting, and then the two Executive Council Meetings.

Now the 7th Plenary session, is all set to reviewing the outcomes of our previous engagements at various APA sub-forums, both during the general debate as well as the simultaneous standing committee meetings.

These range from general discussion to Secretary-General's report, and reviewing and finalizing standing committees' decisions and resolutions.

Ladies and Gentlemen!





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I also welcome the representatives of Observer International Parliamentary Organizations participating in the event. I am avidly looking forward to listening to their valuable views also, since it is a manifestation of APA's constant outreach endeavours in order to cement strong partnerships across the region.

Considering the centrality of interdependence and networking in the modern day globalized world, no organization, especially a progressive inter-parliamentary forum like APA, can afford to work in vacuum.

Unilateralism has long been relegated to history's dustbin as a remnant of Cold War. Multilateralism is both the precursor and facilitator of shared growth and prosperity, especially in the context of the Asian region that pulsates with both manifested and latent potential.

With an abundance of natural resources, skilled human capital, and educated young population, Asia, no doubt, is the new socio-economic, cultural and technological Mecca in the new World Order driven by Asian minds and hands in the 21st Century.

Ladies and Gentlemen!

It is both an opportunity and a challenge to effectively use this forum to share expertise and pool resources through sound cooperative mechanisms.





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The collective development and prosperity of the poor people of Asia, which is home to three-fifth of the world's population, depends on the critical decisions and the future course of action we take today.

Hopefully, this meeting will guide us to seek the very optimal solutions to all issues placed on its agenda, with the ultimate focus on actualizing a functional and mutually-beneficial integration.

As we talk of integration, I no longer see it as a matter of ifs and buts – but more so as when and how.

Things are changing on a positive note with Asian share in global trade increasing, precipitating an unmistakable economic boom.

To carry this momentum forward, APA will do well to help facilitate conclusion of free trade negotiations and monetary initiatives within the region to enhance the bargaining power of each state.

It is our collective responsibility to work towards comprehensive and integrated socio-economic progress of the entire region through dialogue, understanding and consensus.

Ladies and Gentlemen!

I look forward to interactive discussion. I hope that this important gathering of Asian Parliamentarians here in Lahore as well as our future interactions will go a long way towards promoting peace and prosperity in Asia.

Thank you!

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Report by H.E. Dr. Masoud Islami Acting Secretary-General of Asian Parliamentary Assembly Before the 7th APA Plenary Session

**Lahore, Pakistan
2 December 2014**





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**Mr. President,
Distinguished Speakers,
Honorable Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen**

Allow me, at the outset, to express my sincere gratitude to the Senate of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for its generous hospitality and for the leadership of its Chairman, honorable Honorable Mr. Syed Nayyer Hussain Bokhari in organizing the 7th APA Plenary Session here in Lahore, the cultural capital of the great Nation of Pakistan. I would also like to thank Honorable Senator Mushahid Hossein Seyyed, Chairman of the Organizing Committee for his outstanding chairmanship. I should also extend my sincere appreciation to all members of the local secretariat of the plenary session for the excellent job they have done to bring us together here today.

This is inspiring an occasion indeed for all of us to hold our Plenary gathering in the city of Lahore, the townhome of Allama Iqbal, the great philosopher, prominent thinker, and excellent poet, whose ideas and ideals influenced millions of people in Asia and beyond calling for transcending borders of division and resurrection to our very selves and rebuilding our identity on the solid foundations of human dignity. The Asian Parliamentary Assembly will only be achieving its goals if it appreciates and cherishes the Asian heritage that nobles like Allama Iqbal have offered.

**Mr. President,
Honorable delegates
Ladies and Gentlemen**

Our organization has been established to give a new boost to parliamentary diplomacy in Asia and reap the benefits of it in the interest of all people living in this great continent. The ultimate objective of this great inter-parliamentary organization is to pave the way for an Asian Parliament which would reflect our common aspiration for regional integration and would also serve our collective interests at the world level.

In this context, I wish to reiterate the need for APA to avail itself of the views and visions of all parliamentarians in Asia, in general, and parliamentarians of its member parliaments, in particular, in order to expand the network of its parliamentary diplomacy and to undertake a more active role in decision-making processes at national and regional levels.





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The APA agenda of work in social-cultural, economic and political areas is relevant and potent. It addresses the most pressing challenges before Asia. From promotion of friendship and cooperation in Asia, to synergizing parliamentary and governmental decision-makings, from combating corruption to working together to promote inter-faith and inter-cultural dialogue, from collective efforts to eradicate poverty to measures required for health equity; and from fighting terrorism and calling for a world without violence and extremism to curbing corruption and organized crimes.

**Mr. President,
Distinguished Delegates,**

I have the pleasure of reporting to you that since the 6th Plenary Session in 2013, we have been quite successful in organizing the all the events which had been planned. Before us today, there are 19 important draft resolutions on political; economic; environmental; social and cultural issues, which have been tabled and discussed in details in the respective APA Standing Committees and have been subsequently considered by the Executive Council meetings both in Geneva in October this year and in Lahore just yesterday. The draft resolutions include some old and some new subject matters and are to be considered for final adoption by this Plenary Session. I have outlined the topics of draft resolutions according to their respective Standing Committee in the following manner:

The APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs held its meeting on 15 May 2014 in Ankara. The Committee considered and deliberated a range of important issues and adopted the following four draft resolutions on:

- ✓ Measures and Methods of Materialization of Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia
- ✓ Engaging APA with Asian Governments and Inter-Governmental Organizations
- ✓ Denunciation of Terrorism and Violent Extremism
- ✓ Important Political Developments in Asia

The APA Standing Committee on Economic and Environmental Affairs held its meeting on 2-5 June 2014 in Jakarta. The Committee considered and deliberated a range of important issues and adopted the following five draft resolutions on:





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- ✓ Integrated Energy Market in Asia
- ✓ Financial Affairs for the Countries of APA Member Parliaments
- ✓ Environmental Issues, Global Warming, Climate Change, and Planting Billions of Trees Throughout Asia
- ✓ Alleviating Poverty in Asia

The APA Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs was supposed to be held in Bahrain. However, since the Parliament of Bahrain indicated its inability to host the meeting, it was held in Tehran on 12 August 2014. The Committee considered and deliberated a range of important issues and adopted the following ten draft resolutions on:

- ✓ Measures to Promote Cultural Diversity and Protect Cultural Heritage in Asia
- ✓ Coping with Globalization in Asia
- ✓ Collaboration on Health Equity in Asia
- ✓ Information and Communication Technology “ICT”
- ✓ Coordinating Meeting of APA Women Parliamentarians
- ✓ Asian Parliamentarians against Corruption
- ✓ Legal and Legislative Cooperation in Combating the Smuggling of Cultural Items in Asia
- ✓ Effective Cooperation in Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking in Asia
- ✓ Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers in Asia

The APA Ad Hoc Committee on Financial and Staff Regulations held its meeting on 25 June 2014 in Cambodia. The Committee considered and deliberated a range of important issues and adopted the following draft resolution on:

- ✓ APA Financial and Staff Regulations





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Mr. President; Distinguished Delegates

Another significant initiative which was taken by the APA President this year was the organization of a special meeting of the APA Troika Plus in Islamabad. The meeting was very successful in attracting participation of high-level delegations from many APA Member parliaments. Upon the request by the APA President, the Secretariat had prepared a special and substantive report on the idea of moving towards an Asian Parliament entitled: *The Foundations of an Asian Parliament*. The report was most welcomed by the participants and many aspects of the idea were deliberated upon. It was decided 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. A special meeting has been organized within the program of the 7th Plenary in order to give the issue more focused attention.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates

Despite all its great potentials and accomplishments, the remarkable role of the APA, as the Parliamentary voice of Asia, in influencing the turn of events in Asia is yet to be attained. The APA is in need of mechanisms to pursue the realization of its thoughtful resolutions. The Organization also needs to strengthen its relevance to current developments throughout Asia and beyond so it could further contribute to the prosperity, development, peace, and improvement of living conditions in the region.

The APA 7th Plenary, inspired by its meaningful theme: *Quest for Asian Parliament in the Asian Century*, has a great deal of important subject matters on its agenda. Besides the speeches and remarks by dignitaries and parliamentary leaders of both the host and the guest countries during the general debate, we expect to have constructive discussions on various topics in our three standing committees meetings. I am confident that by the end of this Plenary Session and as the result of thoughtful and vigorous debates and deliberations, we will have achieved yet another successful event and shall move forward in our right direction which is the direction of peace, prosperity, cooperation, and harmony among all Asian nations.

Thank you Mr. President.





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7TH PLENARY SESSION
OF ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (APA)
Lahore,
Islamic Republic of Pakistan

INAUGURAL ADDRESS

2ND DECEMBER, 2014

By

HON'BLE SYED NAYYER HUSSAIN BOKHARI

PRESIDENT ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
AND CHAIRMAN SENATE OF PAKISTAN





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- *Honourable Speakers, Presiding Officers, Members and Representatives of APA Member Parliaments and Observer delegations.*
- *Dr. Masoud Eslami, Deputy Secretary General, Asian Parliamentary Assembly*
- *Honourable Raja Zafarul Haq, Leader of the House in the Senate of Pakistan.*
- *Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed.*
- *Excellencies, Dignitaries, Distinguished Guests.*
- *Ladies and Gentlemen!*

Assalam-o-Alaikum!

It is, indeed, a great honor to welcome and greet all of you at this large and historic gathering of Speakers, Presiding Officers, Parliamentarians from APA member states, Observer countries and partner organizations, here in Lahore at the 7th Plenary Session of Asian Parliamentary Assembly.

Please accept our sincerest wishes and prayers as a memento of abiding friendship from the people and the Senate of Pakistan.





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As President of this esteemed forum, I am very pleased to note the sustained and high level of commitment and participation shown by our esteemed Members and partners at successive APA sub-forums since the 6th Plenary session held in Islamabad last year.

Seeing through the prism of the Islamabad Declaration issued by the last Plenary session, APA's progress during the year remained focused and geared towards addressing all the issues deliberated upon and identified, especially the key objective of forming an Asian Parliament, as also depicted by the theme of the 7th plenary sitting.

Seeking to build a just and equitable economic order by encouraging collaboration in all areas of human endeavour, the First Troika Plus Meeting pondered over critical issues such as formation of Asian Parliament, APA's connectivity with other regional multi-lateral forums, and ways and means to curb violence, promote dialogue and peace in Asian sub-regions.

The two Executive Council meetings held this year, first in Geneva and the second right here in Lahore yesterday further deliberated on all the issues and firmed up the agenda for the plenary.

These two meetings proved to be of utmost significance, as they not only reviewed the progress on the decisions made during the last plenary and the 1st Troika-Plus meeting, but also discussed and finalized the draft resolutions compiled laboriously by the standing committees on Political Affairs; Economic Affairs and Sustainable Development; Social and Cultural Affairs.





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The Resolutions, which have been passed and tabled in the 7th Plenary are also of great importance being a roadmap to shape up Asian destiny by Asian hands in the Asian Century.

I am confident that the commitments we make here will usher in a new era of prosperity, peace, and sustainable development for our people.

*Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen!*

- These are extraordinary times.
- These are historic times,
- And these are also troubled times.

Extraordinary because Asia's spectacular rise from a poor underdeveloped agricultural backwater to becoming the global factory in a period spanning little over five decades is nothing short of an economic miracle.

Historic because compared to economically dismal 1960s when developing Asian economies were summarily written off as of little significance for lacking natural resources and high levels of poverty, Asia has risen like Phoenix on the wings of its energy, dynamism and its young and educated population.

Troubled because despite all these positive developments, economic prosperity in Asia has not been shared equally amidst enduring challenges





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on account of spiraling poverty, access to basic amenities, gaping cleavage between haves and have-nots, human rights, accelerating growth, improving social indicators and creating a geo-political environment that fosters peace.

Also of great concern and an impediment to Asia's forward march are raging regional conflicts, extremism, and transnational terrorism. Wanton violence and unrest in Kashmir, Iraq, Syria and Palestine stand as a testament of enduring, polarizations, intolerance, enmity and hatred.

Palestinian issue, in particular, ranks high on our agenda. I take this opportunity to share with you that at the recent UN Committee on Israel-Palestine Peace Process meeting at UN Headquarter attended by large number of Parliamentarians and regional Parliamentary Bodies. I represented APA and highlighted the Member countries mutual concerns on the issue, especially the recent genocide unleashed in Gaza. Historic wrongs should be reversed and intractable conflicts, both inter-state and intra-state be resolved through the spirit of peace and reconciliation.

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen!

I have a firm faith that an all-inclusive and genuinely representative Asian Parliament is the most befitting course available to us given the highly-fluid socio-economic and geo-political, security and development scenario prevailing in the region.





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I am confident that by forming a grand parliament, which is representative of the whole region and stands as custodian of its interests, we can overcome all these challenges and build a future of Asia that we can all be proud of.

It is clear that in order to make this century the Asian Century, we need to stay cognizant of the ground realities. We have to cross many rivers; we have to negotiate many snags — of governance, structural reforms, dispute resolution, and alleviating deprivation — to make integration work and deliver.

It is high time to address structural problems in our way and redefine national and global responsibilities and priorities in bridging the gaps where they exist.

I am also positive that with necessary political will, we can work out suitable mechanisms and frameworks in order to realize the commonly-cherished ideal of an Asian Parliament, enabling the entire region to leverage the opportunities created by paradigm shifts across the world.

*Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen!*

Economic and commercial activities are squeezed in an unstable and uncertain environment. Pakistan has experienced this bitter reality first hand being the frontline state in the international war on terror, braving huge repercussions on socio-economic and development front.





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As we strive for greater regional integration there is a need for a new and comprehensive approach supported by political, security, economical and social measures.

I am confident that we can achieve all this and more through joint, and, more importantly, sustained efforts.

I avidly look forward to listening to your valuable views and suggestions as to how we can further augment synergies and cooperation towards realizing all commonly-cherished ideals, especially with regard to our 'Quest for an Asian Parliament'. My hope and expectation is that in this 7th General Assembly we will be able to go beyond mere declaration and put in place a structure and mechanism to achieve early the shared vision and goal.

With these words, I once again welcome you, and wish you a comfortable stay and a really motivating and stimulating experience.

I, hereby, declare the 7th Plenary session of Asian Parliamentary Assembly now open.

Thank you!





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**7th Plenary of
the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,
1st December, 2014,
Lahore, Pakistan**

THEMATIC SPEECH

of

HON'BLE RAJA ZAFAR UL HAQ

**LEADER OF THE HOUSE
IN THE SENATE OF PAKISTAN**





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- **Excellency Syed Nayyer Hussain Bokhari,**
President Asian Parliamentary Assembly,
- **Honourable Speakers, Presiding Officers,
Members and Representatives of APA
Member Parliaments and Observer
Parliamentary Forums.**
- **Dr. Masoud Eslami,**
 - Deputy Secretary General, Asian Parliamentary
Assembly,
 - **Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed,**
Chairman of the Organising Committee,
 - **Excellencies, Dignitaries.**
 - **Ladies and Gentlemen!**





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Assalam-o-Alaikum!

Welcome - you all - on behalf of Pakistan.

I deem it a great privilege to share my views with a very worthy and discerning audience on the theme of “Quest for Asian Parliament in the Asian Century” at this important 7th Plenary Session of Asian Parliamentary Assembly here in Lahore.

The relevance and importance of this theme cannot be overemphasized, at a time when, Asia is gearing up to play an important role on the world stage, as the global economic, technological and cultural hub.

Ladies and Gentlemen!





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Endorse all the draft resolutions and by word, item by item.

How to push forward steady and continuous cooperation among Asian countries, which are still divided on numerous issues. It is a question that must be resolved by regional states with patience and experience.

The success of European countries, which once differed from each other on many issues, in advancing and realizing integration on their continent, serve as a case in point for Asian countries, as it is a doable human experience, during our own life times.





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We must also realize that Aspirations to overcome various crises in the wake of World War II, to look for a path to peace and prosperity, and to rebuild a powerful Europe not controlled by the former Soviet Union or the United States, have explained the success of Europeans in integrating themselves.

However, **Ladies and Gentlemen**, this noble role that Asia yearns, demands paradigm shifts, reformations, transformation and prompt set of actions across a wide range of issues and fronts, demanding immediate and sustained attention by leaders of Asia.

Combating the rising wave of terrorism and extremism, eliminating weapons of mass destruction, conserving environment and biodiversity by

5





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promoting sustainable development, safeguarding fundamental human rights including right of self determination, especially for the people of J & K having the only peaceful & democratic way of resolving the issue and personal liberties against violence, conflicts, coercion, exploitation and meeting gaping energy deficit are some of the challenges must meet through cooperation to make integration work.

Ladies and Gentlemen!

With economic globalization rapidly sweeping every corner of the global village, the world has irreversibly entered a new era in which peace, development and cooperation remain the mainstream.





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And on the other hand, the process also makes it possible that crises and risks within one country rapidly spread beyond their borders.

Pressing global issues and non-traditional security threats have also played a role in pushing Asian countries to accelerate cooperation and integration efforts.

Ladies and Gentlemen!

It has become an undeniable fact that in a globalized era, the number of terrorists activities, financial and cyber crimes, drug trafficking, which are all non-traditional issues that any individual country cannot effectively curb and resolve, have been on the increase.





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Establishing a Parliament, representative of the 4.4 billion people of Asia is a prerequisite on many counts, out of which I deem the following ones of key significance:

- **Health, Education, poverty alleviation, fostering political dialogue, reinforcing cooperation, and promoting synergies and all areas of economic and social uplift by prioritizing human dimension.**
- **Towards creating an environment that is mutually beneficial and conducive for the common good of the nations of this very important region of the world.**





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The quest for an Asian Parliament is also important because parliaments embody the will of the people, and also play a vital role in conflict prevention and dispute resolution that our region direly needs.

As for the composition and contours of the envisaged Asian Parliament, I see equal country representation – irrespective of the demographic considerations – in the main body of the parliament.

The main body may be further supported by regional chapters such as South, North East, West and Central Asian chapters, each mandated to work on different agendas and objectives.

Ladies and Gentlemen!





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member states to for a strong basis to build upon a potent and effective Asian Parliament.

Before leaving we must eulogize all those who played the pioneering role, provided intellectual and political leadership, supported the idea, whole heartedly, and successfully nurtured it during the last ten years.





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Statement

His Excellency **Dr. NGUON NHEL**

Second Vice-President of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia

At 7th Plenary Session of Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA)

“Quest for Asian Parliament in Asian Century”

1-3 December, 2014, Lahore, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

- **His Excellency Mr. Syed Nayyer Hussian Bokhari, Chairman of the Senate of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and President of Asian Parliamentary Assembly/APA**
- **His Excellency Dr. Haddad Adel, First APA President,**
- **His Excellency Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Chairman of Organizing Committee,**
- **His Excellency Dr. Mahammad Hussain Nejad Hosseinian, Secretary General of APA**
- **Honorable Head of Delegates and Delegates of APA Member Parliaments,**
- **Distinguished delegates and friends,**

1. First of all, on behalf of **Samdech Heng Samrin**, President of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and on my own, I wish to express my heartfelt thanks and sincere gratitude to His Excellency **Mr. Bokhari**, Chairman of the Pakistan Senate and APA President, as well as the people of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for their warm welcome and great hospitality extended to the Cambodian delegation in this beautiful city of Lahore.
2. On behalf of the Cambodian Parliamentary Delegation, I wish to deeply thank and highly appreciate the Hon. Mr. Chairman of the Senate, the House of





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Representatives of Pakistan, the Government and all leaders of Pakistan for their great efforts and wise leadership in hosting this historic 7th Plenary Session of Asian Parliamentary Assembly.

3. In addition, I also wish to thank and highly commend His Excellency Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Chairman of Organizing Committee, Dr. Hossenian, APA Secretary General and his colleagues for their hard-work and great achievement in helping to develop APA from its beginning. In addition, I wish to express my deep thanks to the Islamic Consultative Assembly of Iran for their on-going support both financially and technically to the work of APA since its establishment.

Excellency Mr. Chairman and honorable delegates,

Ladies and gentlemen

4. We recognize and are delighted with the achievements made by this young institution since it was established in 1999, known as Asian Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (AAPP), and then transformed into Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) in 2006 until now, and hope that it will turn into an Asian Parliament one day soon, thus reflecting our common future aspirations and vision. Those achievements include:
 - The Tehran Declaration, which established a cooperative framework to promote and strengthen closer cooperation and solidarity of all members in Asia, and which clearly pointed out the vision of close Asian integration.
 - The 2013 Islamabad Declaration and other important resolutions were approved and are very relevant to our contexts, in particular, the resolution on the promotion of close cooperation between APA and Governments, with the aim to build and maintain peace, solidarity and prosperity in our region.





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- The Troika-Plus meeting in Pakistan in May 2014 clearly illustrated this vision through establishing a foundation document for an Asian Parliament.
 - The Ad-hoc Committee meeting in Phnom Penh last June discussed and adopted the resolution on Staff and Financial Regulation which are necessary tools for strengthening the APA Secretariat in order to help achieve the transformation of APA into an Asian Parliament. Taking this opportunity, I wish to thank all delegates who participated in this ad-hoc meeting, and we believe that you had a joyful and wonderful stay in Phnom Penh.
 - Recently, the First Executive Council Meeting in Switzerland in October of this year considered and adopted 19 draft resolutions that are very crucial and relevant to the current context of our region for us to consider and adopt at this Plenary Session.
5. However, although remarkable achievements have been made so far, a number of obstacles and challenges are still lying ahead of us. These include the following:
- The resolutions adopted by APA have either not yet been implemented, or have been implemented improperly or ineffectively.
 - The Troika Plus meeting, which is a key mechanism in accelerating the work of APA, has been slower than expected.
 - The current developments of our region include the political crisis in Ukraine, issues in the South China Sea, poverty, corruption, terrorism and violent extremism, illicit drug trafficking and energy crisis. These issues are of major concern and may affect the progress of our efforts in achieving our dream: of establishing an Asian Parliament.

***Honorable Mr. Chairman, Honorable Delegates of APA member parliaments,
Distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,***





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6. Subsequently, the chosen theme of this 7th Plenary Session on “Quest for Asian Parliament in Asian Century” is very significant and relevant to the progress of APA and current development in the region and the world. Of course, to accomplish our goals and aspirations in moving APA into an Asian Parliament, we face numerous challenges and obstacles on this long path. We all need to begin, strengthen and accelerate our joint efforts and close cooperation. Only then will the common vision be achievable. In this regard, on behalf of the Cambodian Delegation, we would therefore appeal to all APA member Parliaments:

- To continue to promote and encourage all APA member parliaments to implement as many of the adopted resolutions as possible, in particular the Resolution on “Promotion of Cooperation and Interaction between APA and Government through organizing a regular and agenda-focused meeting for discussion and deliberation.
- To promote the cooperation and interaction between APA and other Parliamentary forums or other related regional and global organizations, including the EU, Pan-African Parliament, ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA), Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), and ICAPP, in order to achieve peace, security and inclusive development in the areas of economy, energy, culture and environment in our region.
- Enhance and accelerate the formation of an Eminent Persons Group to work more actively and effectively in developing strategy, plans and a roadmap for transforming APA into an Asian Parliament in a successful and smooth manner, as well as the transformation of AAPP into our existing APA.
- Encourage and gather the political commitment from all APA member countries in the region, from the Executive and Legislative branches, and the peoples in order to accelerate the evolution of APA.





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- Continue to promote and enhance peaceful dialogues, respect of the democratic principles and rule of law towards solving any kinds of challenges, especially regional and global conflicts, to ensure peace and political stability, as they are the prerequisite and indispensable tools for development and prosperity in the region.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

7. Once again, on behalf of the Cambodian Parliamentary Delegation, I wish to express our profound gratitude to His Excellency **Mr. Bokhari**, APA President and Chairman Senate of Pakistan and Secretary General of APA for the excellent arrangements of this 7th APA Plenary Session, and I strongly believe that with your active participation and prominent delegates who are present here today, we will make this meeting successful and fruitful.
8. Before concluding my remarks, I wish to express my best wishes to His Excellency **Mr. Bokhari**, APA President and Chairman Senate of Pakistan, Hon. Senator Musahid , Chairman of Organizing Committee, APA Secretary General as well as his colleagues, in particular, the government and people of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan with best wishes of health, prosperity and success in their noble mission.
9. Last but not least, on behalf of the Cambodian delegation and the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia I wish to appeal to all APA member Parliaments to continue and enhance their support and active participation in working together for achieving our common vision: the establishment of an Asian Parliament in the future, which will be an effective regional parliament representing the peoples of Asia to live in peace, stability, and prosperity.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.





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Syrian Arab Republic
People's Assembly
The Speaker



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Mr. Syed Nayyar Hussain Bukhari, President of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, Chairman of the Senate of Pakistan

Dr. M. H. Nejad-Hosseinian, Secretary General of Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Speaker of parliaments and Heads of delegations,

Dear Colleagues,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Last year we met here, in this deep-rooted country that we respect and appreciate its efforts in activating the work of APA. From this platform, we had notified and conveyed the Syrian government warning to the whole world: That what some of the world States-that differ politically with Syria- and what some neighboring countries are doing by supporting terrorist armed extreme groups facilitating their access to Syria will destabilize the Middle East region throughout long decades.

Today, our colleagues, I believe that there is no case deserves to be a main item on our agenda more than the case of international terrorism that is spreading like cancer in the Middle East, especially Syria, Iraq and their neighborhood. From our side, we have warned more than once in different international forums, we had pointed to the catastrophe that some terrorist powers are gathered, supported by regional and western states known to everyone. Here, we are warning one more time in front of you the danger of spreading terrorist organizations that escaped the constraints of supporting countries and became a danger, not just on Syria and Iraq but they are threatening the international peace and security.

For additional warning of the danger of the continuation of "alliance allies" led by Washington against what is called (ISIL) to ignore the UN SC Resolutions ;starting by 1371 not ending with 2170 and 2178 that all emphasize on the need of international cooperation in facing terrorism and draining its resources and following the foreign fighters





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Syrian Arab Republic
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in order to prevent their border cross. We are alarming from the attempts of some states to exploit this alliance to strike the infrastructure in Syria and to impose flight ban zone and other devilish purposes, aiming not to fight terrorism but to fight the Syrian State and the Syrian Arab Army that has been fighting terrorism for almost four years instead of the whole world. I believe all of you know the conditions of the Turkish Government in this alleged alliance.

Dear Colleagues,

After a decade and a half of wars lunched by US under what is called "fighting terrorism", terrorism and terroristic crimes increased and multiplied, and spaces dominated by these organizations were expanded as well. How long the world will move in the wrong direction imprisoned in the US policy, which brought nothing to the world but destruction and woes? How long the people in the region will pay the price of US policies that have contributed to the creation of the hotbeds of tension and increased expansion of terrorism? Everyone knows that without Western intervention and support for extremists in Syria and Iraq by known States under false pretenses and absurd slogans, ISIL and Al Nusra Front could not extend to this limit. Everyone also knows that ISIL and Al Nusra Front were born from the womb of the organizations supported financially and in the media by west, and got tons of arms and ammunition to fight the Syrian and Iraqi armies under the pretext of supporting democracy and freedom and other false slogans.

Today, the US Administration with its allies are working on passing a devilish project under the pretext of fighting terrorism. This project comes under what is called training and arming what is called "moderate opposition" under the pretext of fighting ISIL, but the truth is to fight the Syrian Arab Army. Turkey has flagrantly declared that its priority is that the alliance should fight the Syrian Government more than combating the terrorist organizations Listed on UN terrorist list. So is it possible the Turkey would train militants on its territory to fight





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ISIL? We should not forget that Saudi Arabia has declared that it wants to train what they call the moderate opposition to fight the Syrian Army. These are some of the priorities of the neighboring countries participating in the international alliance to fight terrorism. These might be undeclared priorities to other states participating in this alliance. You can conclude what an alliance they pretend to fight terrorism! From here we assure that anyone thinks or works on training any Syrian militants outside the Syrian state frame, is a partner to terrorism. That is because all the terrorist organizations in Syria were born from the womb of militant groups supported and financed by the West for the last four years. As well as any support to a Syrian militant group will be an actual participation in supporting terrorism and a flagrant violation to UN charter and SC Resolutions. Let everybody know that any movement of this kind would not pass without react, and the participating states will be unable to endure repercussions.

Dear colleagues,

In parallel with these suspected movements , last week diplomatic efforts were raised some of them come under the international umbrella , and some others through good international movements aiming to decrease fighting in Syria providing atmospheres with them the diplomatic efforts could regain their impulse to initiate a dialogue between the Syrian parts . One of these efforts is the visit of the UN's special envoy De Mistura to Damascus presenting an initiative to freeze fighting in some Syrian regions starting from Aleppo. The Syrian leadership has declared its readiness to study the plan when it is completed as a way to decrease fighting and enabling the diplomatic efforts to take place. Especially, that the Syrian state, itself, has started these kinds of reconciliations in more than one area in Syria, and what has happened in Homs is a clear example of the Syrian state precedence in this regard. As well as one of these international movements was the thankful efforts of Russian federation to revive the political solution





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path by bringing together all the Syrian parts to a dialogue table from which a base of an applicable solution could come out .

Syria welcomed any true effort aiming to put an end to the Syrian bleeding and keep the Syrian unity and sovereignty. Here we should confirm in front of you that any political solution could not success unless it is connected to a real movements and good intuitions to face terrorism and extreme Takfiri ideology, which is supported by Arabic media broadcasting grudge and hatred between the same people, and financed by organizations and governments in the region and outside it. This move should be started by applying pressure on states that arm and finance the armed groups in Syria in order to stop supporting the terrorist and extremists, also controlling the borders to stop the foreign fighters who enter Syria through the Turkish borders easily.

We also emphasize that the war on terrorism in Syria whatever the major Western powers mobilize for will not succeed in eliminating terrorism. It would be unable to defeat terrorism and eradicate it unless a coordination and cooperation happened with the Syrian and Iraqi governments in the framework of Security Council Resolutions away from the narrow immediate interests of some governments. The war on terror, today, is a war of values of civilization against the forces of evil and darkness. If we were able to stop these forces and eliminate them, we would be able to make a better future for our peoples and our children. Otherwise, we are handing over the future to the cutters of heads and machetes holders. It is up to your discretion, wisdom, and conscience.

We, out of this platform, are looking forward to the Asian Parliamentary Assembly with everything it consists from the good forces to mobilize efforts in the path of fighting terrorism according to a binding comprehensive international strategy for all and with the participation of everyone. Trans-border terrorism cannot be defeated by hits here and there, or by air strikes of unknown targets, but it needs a comprehensive response , and the legal basis to fight it exists in the





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Security Council Resolutions. Let us move today not tomorrow, tomorrow may be too late.

Finally, we would like to express our sincere thanks and great appreciation to the Republic of Pakistan and the Parliament of Pakistan; the Senate and the National Assembly for efforts to host this meeting. As well as, we thank the Secretariat for the good preparation for this meeting, and we wish success in taking decisions and recommendations contribute to strengthen the cooperation and solidarity among Asian countries and the coordination of approaches between Asian governments to address issues of concern to the continent and its peoples.





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7TH APA PLENARY SESSION Lahore, 1-3 December 2014

PLENARY SESSION

"Quest for an Asian Parliament in an Asian Century"

(Mr. Nicos Tornaritis, MP, Cyprus)

- I would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to the Parliament and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for organizing and hosting this meeting, which brings together the elected representatives of the people of Asia to deliberate on issues of common interest and concern. It was here in Pakistan, in December last year, that representatives of our respective Parliaments participating in the 6th APA Plenary Session, expressed their resolve and determination to work towards further establishing APA as a credible, representative and institutional voice for the people of Asia.
- The issues at hand, on which we are called to approve relevant resolutions, represent a vast scope of competencies. We have indeed moved a long way since the inception of the Association of Asian Parliaments for Peace almost two decades ago.
- Today, we live in a globalized, inter-connected world, where every single one of our actions and decisions has a direct or indirect impact on millions of people. In this respect, we must act in synergy with other regional players. It is now time for Asia to claim the role it deserves in international parliamentary affairs.
- As Europe is currently embroiled in an unprecedented economic crisis that has also brought about social and political turmoil, both on the continent itself and far beyond, Asia has a significant role to play, in helping move the West and ultimately the world, beyond the current crisis.
- Today's challenges and threats cannot be tackled by countries individually. Collective action is essential and is a prerequisite to achieving the goals of peace, justice, security and economic and social prosperity, as set out in the preamble of the Charter of the APA.





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- Issues of common concern range from dealing with the effects of climate change to fostering sustainable development and from working for the elimination of poverty to combatting terrorism and promoting safety and security. The Asian continent is rich in resources and has a vast economic potential that must be harnessed wisely for the benefit of its people.
- Strengthening regional cooperation is a crucial step in efforts to further enhance the development of Asian economies. Improved governance and a focus on greater access and inclusion within the economies, with sustainable development placed at the heart of policy planning, can lead the economy and people of Asia to progress and prosperity, while minimizing collateral costs.
- As legislators, we can promote, through our legislative scrutinizing functions, policies that will have a direct beneficial impact on the quality of life of millions of citizens.
- In our efforts towards furthering interaction and enhancing collaboration, parliamentary diplomacy is of the utmost importance, as it makes it easier to draw upon common experiences and challenges to foster political, economic and cultural cooperation. As we work together to set out a plan of action towards enhancing regional integration, our common goal should be to harmonize efforts and adopt a common stance on non-controversial issues that affect all of us, such as climate change and the illegal export and movement of cultural goods and artifacts. This would indeed be a tangible first step in the right direction.
- It should be stressed however that an Asian Parliament need not be a structure with a complex organizational setup imposing unnecessary administrative, financial and procedural burdens. It should rather be a flexible body that will reflect the diverse and rich character of APA member states, able to respond to our multifaceted needs.
- Asia's challenges remain formidable and its future prosperity must be earned. Our determination and proactive cooperation in embracing the right policy choices today can indeed make this the "Asian century".





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Asian Parliamentary Assembly

The Seventh Plenary Session
Lahore - Pakistan
1-3 December 2014

Statement by Honorable Sayed Mohammad Hassan Abutorabi
Fard
The First Vice Speaker of The Islamic Parliament of Iran
(Majles)





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In the Name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful

**Dear Colleagues;
Honorable Speakers and members of Asian Parliaments;
Honorable Secretary General;
Ladies and Gentlemen;**

At the outset I would like to express my warm appreciation to the parliament, government and people of brotherly and neighbor country of Pakistan. I also should express my sincere congratulation to Honorable Syed Nayyer Hussain Bokhari, Chairman Senate of Pakistan and head of the Seventh Plenary Session of Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA). I wish his sincere attempts for advancement of APA's objectives will be auspicious.

Mr. Chairman;

The developments have taken roots from extremism and violence in some regions of the world, are painful, gloomy, and tragic. Now a days, war, insecurity and homelessness have surrounded some areas in Asia, Africa, and Europe. No doubt, the Middle East is the core of anti human waves of violence and massacre of thousands of civilian who are separating from the trees of life, like the autumnal leaves falling down on the ground. An active confrontation against extremism and terrorist groups such as DAESH is inevitable, but to find out reasons and causes of extremism and violence is substantial. It also is a human and moral obligation. On this ground, by getting advantage of scientific methods, it is possible to make attempts in order to control such destroying flood. It goes without saying that different reasons and causes lead some individuals and groups to violence and terrorism. Among most fundamental and important reasons and causes of this phenomenon, the following can be mentioned:

1. Exertion of discrimination and inequality in the national, regional, and global realm;
2. Lack of supply of basic needs among lower classes and vulnerable people including security, food, accommodation, health service, education, and occupation.





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3. Marginalization of disadvantaged groups, and ignoring their demands, proposals, protest, and criticisms.
4. Religious and ideological sectarianism, especially within the framework of absolutism and totalitarianism;
5. Theorization and sanctification of violence as a good deed, and prescribing it to the fabric of society;
6. Ultra nationalism and ignorance of the rights of sects and religious minorities;
7. Political and economic monopolization, and negation of pluralism amongst human communities through exertion of force within the hegemony of uppers over lowers.

The reasons and causes that I explained, underlie personal changes and behavioral signs among some individuals and talented groups. Gradually these peoples as dissatisfied turn to desperate, and then to isolation; afterwards they fall into the state of anarchy and destroying authorized order as “Others”. Mobilization of youth and berserk people towards negation of dominant tyranny through revenge by using violence, infringement a terror. Misusing such forces as mercenary by regional and global powers to the fulfillment of hegemonic political objectives is another tragic quncequence.

Whatever I said on the reasons and causes of extremism and violence, is not more than a brief expression of this complicated problem. I suggest that my dear colleague study and evaluate these fundamental issues which are laid with the security, liberty and development of great nations of Asia. The outcome of this study within the framework of concrete program could be helpful to restrain extremism and violence.

Dear Audience;

Doubtless, whatever among other things is going on in Asia and Africa, is displacement of millions of peoples, invasion against lands, annihilation of economic infrastructures on the one hand, and offensive confrontation against Abraham religions, in particular Islam on the other. Some sects or groups, execute their antihuman and shameful actions, from beheadings, kidnapping girls to slave trade and brutal sectarian massacres, in the name of Islam by the slogan of following Holly Quran and prophetic tradition. It is a bright truth that the teaching of the Holy Quran, tradition and governing experience of the prophet Mohammed indicate that since mankind- including believers and non- believers-, are human





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beings. They enjoy intrinsic dignity, because it is made clear in Holy Quran that: “Verily we have honored the Children of Adam.”(Al-asra/70).As we know, in early Islam, the prophet of mercy and tolerance, abrogated the ignorant custom of buried alive babies, including girls and boys. Furthermore, he issued a command after liberation of Mecca, by which he called the day of victory as “the Day of Mercy”.

Dear colleges;

In addition to international support, the main paths to cope with the problems emerge from extremism, war, and insecurity is unity and cooperation between countries of the region. Besides the regional crisis, different problems in Asia have always been our main and serious concerns.

From its foundation till now, APA has draw attention to important subjects such as globalization, information and communication technology ,collaboration on health equity, corruption, rights of migrants, promotion of cultural diversity, coordinating meeting of APA women parliamentarians, combating the smuggling of cultural items, and combating illicit drug trafficking. Moreover, our Assembly has also issued resolutions on measures and methods of militarization of principle of friendship and cooperation, engage in APA with Asian governments and inter-governmental organizations, terrorism and extremism, political development, integrated energy market, financial affairs, environment, and poverty. These resolutions are revised and updated in different meetings of the Assembly.

Now, it is a time that lofty, positive, and developing ideas reflected in these resolutions come, one by one, into practice through adoption of an action- oriented policy. Such an approach makes us more determined and hopeful in order to gradually exert the vital idea of Asian Integration. Undoubtedly, Asian Integration is enforced through consultation, sympathy, and common participation. In parliamentary dimension, Asian Integration means collaboration in the framework of making necessary laws as well as continuous observation towards consolidation of common identity. Furthermore, it requires political, economic, social, and cultural cooperation by Asian countries.

It is necessary to be emphasized that Asian citizens play important role for enhancement and deepening of Asian Integration. In public sphere, citizens increase cooperative capacities among Asian nations through establishment of parties, civil society, and non- governmental organizations (N.G.Os). Moreover,





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Asian Integration needs political will on the one hand, and commitment to structural requirement on the other to prepare irrevocable trust to the interest and capability of individual, civil society and N.G. O.s.

The cornerstone of Asian Integration is cooperation on the basis of some fundamental principles the most important of which are as follows:

1. Education and skills development;
2. Applied researches based upon knowledge and specially focusing on universities;
3. Expansion of innovations in the field of industry and technology;
4. Investment in infrastructure and its development;
5. Empowerment of women activities through distributive justice and equality of opportunity;
6. Endeavour to the environmental issues and promotion of the culture and the right of environment;
7. Empowerment of the structure of regional trade from a focus on raw materials or semi- finished products to those higher up the value chain.

Whatever is crucial regarding realization of Asian Integration would be the reflection of initiatives and innovation, in the sphere of action. Even if our movement begins and continues by small steps, it would eventually develop to big steps through the process of joint cooperation.

For us, it is important to endeavor further and to unite together. Our identity, our common fate, and realization of our objectives depend upon our dynamism and moving forward. We all know Mohammad Iqbal(1877- 1938) as a philosopher , a great scholar of Islam and a poet who wrote most of his poems in Persian language. Iqbal- whom we now have gathered together in his beautiful city, Lahore -, believes that our human existence depends to our movements and activities. In his "Message of the East" (Payam-i-Mashriq), Iqbal through a dialogue between shore and wave, writes:

"I have lived a long, long while", said the fallen shore;

"What I am I know as ill as I knew of yore".

Then swiftly advanced a wave from the Sea upshot:

"If I roll, I am", it said ; "if I rest, I am not".





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Dear Member Parliaments;

I hope this meeting would achieve its fundamental and important goals. I also wish that implementation of adopted resolutions on political, economic, cultural and social affairs boost whatever APA hold as its great responsibility. Last but not least, it is worthy that I express my warm gratitude and appreciation to honorable Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed for his attempts and sincere cooperation with Asian parliamentary Assembly.

Thank you for your kind attention.





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Your Excellency Mr. President,

Dear Colleagues:

It is a great pleasure to gather with you in Lahore. First of all, please allow me to extend my sincere gratitude to Chairman of the Senate Honorable Bokhari and the National Assembly of Pakistan for the considerate arrangement of this annual session!

Today, the international landscape is undergoing profound and intricate changes, the world economy is recovering slowly, local conflicts and regional hot spot issues keep flaring up, and non-traditional security challenges, such as terrorism and massive infectious diseases, are increasingly mounting, which calls for joint response of the international community. It is pleased to note that the overall development of Asia has picked up a sound momentum, and Asia boasts the greatest development vitality and potential in the world in spite of the complicated international situation. Asia boasts one third of the global GDP and ample supply of labor force. It enjoys distinct advantages as a late comer and has tremendous untapped development potential. Peace, development and win-win cooperation remain the mainstream theme of the region, and it is the principal policy choice of the regional countries to peacefully resolve differences through consultations and negotiations. Asia is enjoying a rising position in the world, and is bound to play a significant role in





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building a multi-polar world, promoting greater democracy in international relations and advancing regional economic integration. Meanwhile, Asia still faces multiple challenges in such areas as development and poverty reduction, urbanization process, environmental governance and counter-terrorism. The future of Asia is at a crucial crossroad. The realization of Asian Century depends on the decisions and actions we make today. Against this backdrop, we gather in Lahore to discuss how to put into greater play the role of parliaments, which is of vital significance to safeguarding regional peace and stability, promoting sustainable development of Asia and jointly creating an Asian Century.

Dear Colleagues,

Since the establishment of Asian Parliamentary Assembly eight years ago, APA has become one of the most influential inter parliamentary organizations in this region thanks to the concerted efforts and proactive promotion of parties concerned. It plays an active role in enhancing understanding, coordinating positions and building consensus among parliaments and parliamentarians of various countries. As representatives of our people, we are responsible for the people of this region, and we are obliged to make positive efforts to create and realize the Asian Century. It is important for us to put into full play the function of parliaments, urge and support our respective governments to adhere to peaceful development path, advocate the spirit of Big Asian Family, and work





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together to promote prosperity and progress of Asia. It is imperative for us to play a constructive role in furthering friendly exchanges, boosting trade and economic cooperation, strengthening connectivity, and advancing people-to-people exchanges between our countries.

I'd like to share with you a few thoughts on this aspect:

First, we shall firmly uphold the security of Asia. The fundamental reason of Asia's rapid development is the existence of an overall peaceful and stable regional environment. Asian countries, as direct beneficiaries of regional peace, should staunchly safeguard the security of Asia. It is vital for us to strengthen communication and coordination on major regional and international issues, adhere to resolving disputes through dialogue and negotiation, abide by the purposes of the UN Charter and basic norms governing international relations, and to safeguard the core role of UN in handling international issues. China advocates an Asian security concept that features common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security, and it is striving to develop an approach to Asian security that features joint efforts, shared benefits and win-win results, so as to provide a strong institutional guarantee for the lasting peace and stability of Asia.

Second, we shall work together to build an open economy in Asia. In the grand trend of world multipolarity, economic globalization, cultural diversity and information-based society, a country can only develop by





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staying open to the outside world. Openness brings progress while close-door policy leads to backwardness. Keeping open to the outside world is a major prerequisite for achieving Asia's sustainable growth. It is important for Asian countries to deepen openness within our respective economies to give full play of labor, knowledge, technology, managerial expertise and capital flow, while remain opening-up to the outside so that the diversity and variety of member economies can be turned into potential and driver for development. While endeavoring to bring regional economic integration to a higher level and promoting relevant free trade arrangements, we should also remain committed to open regionalism and work for new and open economic institutions and regional cooperation architecture.

Third, we shall cooperate to build full-dimensional connectivity. Under current circumstances, a new round of industrial and technological revolution is poised to take off, all major economies are dedicated to structural adjustment, reform and innovation. Asia needs to cultivate new economic growth points and competitive edges, to which connectivity holds the key. We need to integrate our national strategies and plans, identify the priority areas and projects in the field of infrastructure, and pool together our resources for coordinated progress in implementation. This will help bring down the logistic costs, give play to our comparative advantages, secure favorable position in the global supply chain and





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value chain, and raise our comprehensive competitiveness. We need to follow an incremental approach and address the easier issues before tackling the more difficult ones, and resolve through consultation such issues as institutions, policies and standards that affect connectivity, so as to reduce the costs and time required for cross-border flows of production elements. We need to always put people first, listen to the views of the people at the grassroots, ensure a better life for them and address practical problems in their daily life through connectivity programs. We need to draw our peoples closer to one another for exchanges of ideas, minds and hearts, and cement the social foundation for jointly building an Asian Century featuring peace, strength and prosperity.

Dear Colleagues,

Last year, China's state leaders put forward the initiatives to build the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road with Asian countries, namely, the "Belt and Road", which has won positive responses from the leaders of international community, especially of Asian countries. It is widely known that the historic Silk Road was a road of peace, friendship and cooperation, which is the precious heritage and priceless fortune shared by Asian countries. Today, as a major engine for driving global economy, the ancient Asian continent is embracing a brand new Asian Century. The essence of the "Belt and Road" proposed by China is to carry forward the spirit of the ancient Silk Road, and make greater





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contribution to the peace, cooperation and development of Asia and world' prosperity.

Asian Parliamentary Assembly is a parliamentary organization covering the entire Asia, which boasts a broad geographical coverage and a convincing representation. Many ideals upheld by the assembly coincide with the "Connectivity in Five Areas" stressed by the "Belt and Road", namely, connectivity of policy, roads, trade, currency and the heart of the people. APA could become a major platform of discussion and exchanges for the "Belt and Road", through which we can promote the connectivity of Asia, jointly dedicate to safeguarding regional peace and tranquility, and achieve mutual benefit, win-win results and common development, so that we will work together to build a beautiful Asia.

Looking to the future, the development and prosperity of Asia and world at large face both unprecedented historic opportunities and ever more complex risks and challenges. We are willing to work with Asian countries to conform to the trend of the times, build new type of comprehensive partnership, and strive to realize the bright vision of the Asian Century.

Thank you!





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السُّعْدِيَّةُ الْبُرْجَانِيَّةُ الْكُوَيْتِيَّةُ
دولة الكويت

السيد الرئيس ،

المحترمين

السيدات والسادة الزملاء ،

" بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم "

((رب اشرح لي صدري ويسر لي أمري ، واحلل عقدة من لساني يفقهوا قولي)) صدق الله العظيم .

بالأصالة عن نفسي ونيابة عن سعادة الأخ رئيس مجلس الأمة / مرزوق علي الغانم وزملائي أعضاء الوفد البرلماني لمجلس الأمة في دولة الكويت أتقدم بالشكر إلى مجلس الشيوخ في جمهورية باكستان الإسلامية الصديقة والشكر موصول إلى الأمانة العامة لجمعية برلمانات آسيا على حسن الاستقبال وكرم الضيافة ورعاية وتنظيم المؤتمر العام السابع لجمعية برلمانات آسيا والذي يتناول العديد من القضايا والمواضيع الحيوية والهامة

ومنها اتخاذ التدابير والأساليب التي تجسد مبادئ الصداقة والتعاون في آسيا ، ومحاربة الإرهاب والتطرف العنيف ، حماية وتعزيز التنوع الثقافي ، مكافحة الفساد ، التخفيف من حدة الفقر ، حماية وتعزيز حقوق العمال المهاجرين ، ومكافحة الاتجار غير المشروع بالمخدرات .





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دولة الكويت

النسبة (الرجوع ، السيدات ، والسادة الزملاء)

إن الحوار والتعاون بين دول قارة آسيا هو مطلب استراتيجي وأساسي لتعزيز السلم والأمن والازدهار في دول القارة من هذا المنطلق نستذكر مبادرة حضرة صاحب السمو أمير دولة الكويت الشيخ / صباح الأحمد الجابر الصباح بالدعوة إلى قمة حوار التعاون الآسيوي التي عقدت في شهر أكتوبر عام ٢٠١٢م بدولة الكويت والذي جاء في بيانه الختامي بتأكيد الدول المشاركة على تمسكها المستمر بالقيم البناءة لحوار التعاون وشددت الدول على أهمية تقديم الدعم للدول الآسيوية عند تعرضها للأزمات الاقتصادية ، وتم التأكيد بأن وجود حضارات وثقافات وأديان متنوعة في آسيا من شأنه أن يساعد في إثراء عناصر التعاون والتناغم المنشود بين شعوب القارة وعبر البيان بأن الديمقراطية واحترام الحريات الأساسية وحقوق الإنسان وفقاً لمبادئ القانون الدولي وميثاق الأمم المتحدة تساعد على تعزيز الأمن والاستقرار في دول أعضاء حوار التعاون الآسيوي ، وفي هذا السياق نشيد ببيان إسلام آباد لاجتماع "الترويكا بلاس" للجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية الذي عقد بتاريخ ٢٧ مايو ٢٠١٤ الذي أشار بأن تنعم آسيا بمزيد من السلام والازدهار والتنمية ، والإدراك بالأهمية المتزايدة لآسيا على المستوى العالمي من حيث النمو الاقتصادي والوزن السياسي والتراث الثقافي والحضاري والموارد الطبيعية والأهمية الإستراتيجية ، ونشيد كذلك في بيان الترويكا الذي يشجع الدول الآسيوية على بناء الإرادة السياسية الجماعية لتصبح أكثر مشاركة في عمليات التكامل الإقليمي في آسيا .





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السيد الرئيس ، السيدات والسادة الزملاء ..

وحول التطورات السياسية الهامة إذ ندين بشدة عمليات التوغل الإسرائيلي في الحرم الشريف والأماكن المقدسة في القدس الشريف متحدين بذلك القانون الدولي ومشاعر المسلمين في سائر أنحاء العالم ، وبشأن التدابير التي تم اتخاذها من قبل الكيان الإسرائيلي في الأراضي الفلسطينية المحتلة إذ نؤكد بأنها سوف تقوض عملية السلام وتؤدي إلى حدوث عواقب كارثية إنسانية ، واقتصادية واجتماعية ، وإن اعتداء الكيان الإسرائيلي على غزة والذي أسفر عن مقتل أكثر من ٢١٤٧ فلسطيني ونسبة ٨١% منهم مدنيين ما بين أطفال ونساء وشيوخ وتدمير المساكن ودور العبادة يعتبر جريمة حرب ضد الإنسانية .

وحول الإرهاب فإن دولة الكويت تعرب عن أملها في تضافر الجهود الدولية لتمكين السلطات العراقية من مواجهه تنظيم " داعش " ونعرب مع الأسف لتضمن أسم هذا التنظيم الإرهابي كلمة الإسلام وإن الإسلام بريء من هذا التنظيم وأفكاره المتخلفة وعناصره الإرهابية لأن الإسلام دين السلام والمحبة والتسامح ونبذ التعصب .

وتؤكد دولة الكويت تعاونها مع المجتمع الدولي في مكافحة للإرهاب بكل إشكاله وصورة .

السيد الرئيس ، السيدات والسادة الزملاء ..

لعل من المفيد في بداية الحديث حول الأوضاع في سوريا أن نقف على ما جاء في كلمة حضرة صاحب السمو أمير دولة الكويت التي ألقاها خلال قمة منظمة التعاون الإسلامي التي عقدت بتاريخ ١٣ أغسطس ٢٠١٢م في مكة المكرمة حيث قال سموه " أن ما تشهده سوريا الشقيقة وبشكل يومي من قتل ودمار يبعث على الحسرة والألم فقد بات مألوفاً وبكل الأسى





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والأسف مشهد طفل يتيم فقد أبوه^{أباه} ومأواه وأم تكلى يعتصرها الألم على أعز ما فقدت ومعالم مدن أصبحت أشباحاً من هذا الدمار " .

وعلى أثر ذلك جاء المؤتمر الدولي للمانحين الأول لدعم الوضع الإنساني في سوريا بدولة الكويت في ٣٠ يناير ٢٠١٣ بمبادرة من سمو أمير البلاد الشيخ صباح الأحمد الجابر الصباح لاستضافة هذا المؤتمر ، ثم جاء المؤتمر الثاني للمانحين لدعم الوضع الإنساني في سوريا وأيضاً تمت الاستضافة في دولة الكويت وبمبادرة من سمو أمير البلاد في ١٥ يناير ٢٠١٤ وذلك ليس بالأمر الغريب أن يحصل سمو الأمير على لقب القائد الإنساني ودولة الكويت مركزاً للعمل الإنساني من قبل الأمم المتحدة .

السيد الرئيس ، السيدات والسادة الزملاء ،

إن تحقيق الأمن والسلام والاستقرار والتنمية والازدهار في دول العالم عامة ودول قارة آسيا خاصة يتطلب منا نحن أعضاء جمعية برلمانات آسيا أن تدفع باتجاه توطيد الصداقة والتعاون في آسيا من خلال دعم مشروع قرار " بشأن تدابير وأساليب تجسد مبادئ الصداقة والتعاون في آسيا " وتأكيدنا على ما جاء في بيان المؤتمر الدولي حول إعلان مبادئ الصداقة والتعاون في آسيا الذي عقد خلال الفترة من ٢٧-٢٩ سبتمبر ٢٠١١م في مقاطعة جاوه الوسطى في جمهورية اندونيسيا الصديقة ، وأيضاً اجتماع اللجنة الدائمة للشؤون السياسية الذي عقد في تركيا خلال الفترة من ١٤ - ١٥ مايو ٢٠١٤ ، وفي هذا السياق كان مجلس الأمة سابقاً في تأسيس مجاميع الصداقة البرلمانية مع الدول الصديقة والشقيقة منذ عام ١٩٩٦م حيث بلغ عدد الدول التي شكلت من خلال لجان صداقة برلمانية ١٣٠ دولة وذلك بهدف تعزيز وتوطيد العلاقات الثنائية على كافة الأصعدة مع الدول الصديقة والشقيقة ، والتنسيق حول القضايا ذات الاهتمام المشترك في المحافل البرلمانية الدولية .





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الجمهورية العربية السورية
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السيد الرئيس، السيدات والسادة الزملاء،

كما أشرنا بأن جميع مشاريع القرارات التي سوف تصدق في مؤتمرنا العام السابع لجمعية برلمانات آسيا لها نفس درجة الأهمية وأنها تكمل بعضها بعضاً ، لذلك فإن الصداقة والتعاون في آسيا لا يتحقق إلا من خلال مكافحة الإرهاب والاحتلال الأجنبي مستذكرين بهذا الصدد قرار الجمعية العامة للأمم المتحدة بشأن إستراتيجية الأمم المتحدة العالمية لمكافحة الإرهاب الصادرة بتاريخ ١٣ أكتوبر ٢٠١٠م ونشيد كذلك بمشروع القرار بشأن البرلمانات الآسيوية لمكافحة الإرهاب والتطرف الذي صدر من اجتماع اللجنة الدائمة للشؤون السياسية الذي عقد مؤخراً في تركيا .

السيد الرئيس، السيدات والسادة الزملاء،

في ختام كلمتنا إذ نكرر شكرنا وتقديرنا لجمهورية باكستان الإسلامية وللأمانة العامة لجمعية برلمانات آسيا والأمانة العامة لمجلس الشيوخ الباكستاني على حسن التنظيم والاستقبال والاستضافة .

والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته ،،،





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7th PLENARY SESSION OF ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
(APA)

LAHORE

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN

2 DECEMBER 2014

REMARKS BY MR. YUKSEL OZDEN

HEAD OF THE APA DELEGATION OF TURKEY





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SPEECH OF MR. YÜKSEL ÖZDEN
HEAD OF THE APA DELEGATION OF TURKEY

ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
1-3 DECEMBER 2014, LAHORE, PAKISTAN

**Chairman Organizing Committee
APA Secretary General
Chairman of Senate
Honorable Parliamentarians,
Ladies and gentlemen,**

It is a great privilege for me to address such a distinguished audience. Allow me to begin my intervention by thanking our Pakistani hosts for their warm hospitality.

The world is going through a rapid and vast transformation. With new players, rising powers and shifting balances, old rules are breaking or becoming irrelevant. Therefore, there is an irresistible need for a new global order that dovetails with the new dynamics at play in the world. Located in one of the important intersections of different foreign policy dynamics, this extraordinary process also shapes Turkey's basic foreign policy issues. The Afro-Eurasian geography where Turkey is situated at the epicenter is an area where such opportunities and risks interact in the most intensive way.

Under these circumstances, to follow a stable and constructive Turkish foreign policy has become all the more important. It is with this understanding that Turkey pursues a dynamic and visionary foreign policy with a view to steering the developments in a positive direction, in a region where the impact of global changes is greatest. In this context, Turkey's multi-dimensional, constructive, proactive, realistic and responsible foreign policy is one of the most important assets in realizing its national and international goals.

We see opportunities to foster stronger bilateral and multilateral ties and to contribute positively to the resolution of problems in different parts of the world. This is the basis of our policy of reaching out to distant geographies like Southeast Asia, Latin America as well as to Africa. Indeed, in so far as the number of established foreign missions is concerned, Turkey has one of the largest diplomatic representations in the world.

In today's world, power keeps flowing from the West to the East and South. The rise of Asia is one of the defining characteristics of the 21st century. As the

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SPEECH OF MR. YÜKSEL ÖZDEN HEAD OF THE APA DELEGATION OF TURKEY

biggest continent on Earth which contains some of the most populous countries worldwide and the majority of the fastest growing economies, cultures, religions, it is fair to say that Asia has a large role to make the world what it is today. Therefore, it should not be surprising for anyone to see eastern and southern nations, which represent ancient civilizations beginning to reassert themselves economically and politically, as well as in a cultural sense, and taking their rightful place on the international stage.

As Asia gets bigger and richer, it will have to play a much bigger role in global governance. Thus, identifying Asia's strengths and challenges is crucial. By promoting mutual understanding and economic cooperation among Asian countries and setting common goals for the achievement of Asian integration, APA could become an important platform in this regard. We should coordinate and combine our efforts for an effective and result-oriented engagement among the countries of the continent.

Honorable Parliamentarians, Ladies and gentlemen,

Turkey's cultural heritage is deeply rooted in Eurasia. We highly value our historic, linguistic and cultural ties with a wide range of countries along the ancient Silk Road. Our government has set a clear foreign policy goal, which is first and foremost the advancement of peace, prosperity and security in our neighborhood and beyond. We are determined to intensify our relations through effective multilateralism. As a result of this approach, Turkey today is forging closer ties with all countries and increasing its engagement with the region as a reliable partner.

We intend to enhance and institutionalize our cooperation with the countries in the region. Our main tools for such cooperation are effective usage of mechanisms like joint economic commissions and business councils. Turkey has also accelerated its efforts toward social-cultural exchanges and dialogue among civilizations. Moreover, Turkish Airlines has increased its destinations and flight frequencies in the region. TİKA (Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency) has enhanced its development projects, especially with regard to the Pacific Island countries and the Least Developed Countries of the region through our wider initiative to reach out to the LDC's worldwide.

Of course, expanding and deepening our outreach as such made us even more sensitive to the conflicts in those regions and propelled us to be more active in helping their resolution. At the heart of all the hotspots, spanning from Central





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Asia to the Caucasus, from the Middle East to the Balkans, Turkey feels the direct impact of every development in this wide area. Our two immediate neighbors, Syria and Iraq have been dragged into chaos and a deep instability over the last couple of years. We have been trying to warn the international community since the beginning that the prolongation of the conflict in Syria would have detrimental results for the security and stability of the entire region.

As for Iraq, sectarian politics and spillover effects of the Syrian crisis severed the political deadlock in the country and made it susceptible to the operations of extremist groups. Now these two countries have become a single theater for the operations of a terrorist group called DAESH. The rapid advance of DAESH in Iraq and Syria and the brutality of its actions showed us the extent to which these groups could exploit any power vacuum.

The conflicts in our two neighbors occupy our agenda not only from a security point of view, but equally from a humanitarian point of view. We have embraced an open-door policy towards Syrians who fled the violence and brutality of their regime and took shelter in Turkey. The number of Syrians that we have been hosting has reached 1,5 million as of today. We have spent more than 4 billion USD to meet their needs.

On the other hand, many Iraqis have also fled the violence of DAESH in the country. We sheltered on our soil more than 200 thousand of them. We would never let anyone regardless of their ethnicity or religion to suffer at our doorstep; however it should be noted that our resources are not limitless. We expect the international community to be more involved both politically and financially in addressing the humanitarian tragedy in this region.

Turkey is striving to instill in this troubled neighborhood, whatever positive influence on the side of lasting stability, prosperity and socio-economic development. While doing so, we are always cognizant of the wealth and inherent richness of the people that live in this wide geography. We believe that long-term peace and stability in the region can only be maintained through democracy. Highest contemporary standards of democracy, respect for the rule of law, fundamental rights, civil liberties, transparency and gender equality are all universal expectations. All nations deserve to have these expectations met. Indeed, these universal values are neither Western nor Eastern, but belong to the humanity as a whole.





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STATEMENT OF THE HEAD OF DELEGATION IN THE PLENARY SESSION

by H.E. Mr. Fadli Zon

(Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia)

Assalamualaikum.Wr. Wb.

Good Morning Mr. Chairman,

It is an honour and great pleasure to be here today, this is my first APA Assembly, and I look forward to working together with prominent political figures of Asian Countries in this seventh Plenary Session of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA), held in the rich historical and cultural city of Punjab Region, Lahore.

Mr. President;

Distinguished delegates;

The idea in bringing the unity of Asia is timely as we are on the era of Asian Century. APA envisages that Asia will be in a unity, closer than ever before with a view of integration into an Asian Parliamentary Union. It is within that respect, the APA has consistently promoted a discourse on this idea. I also learnt, the last APA Troika, held in May 2014, in Islamabad, also discussed such issues of integration.

The quest for an Asian Parliament first and foremost requires a political approval of all Asian Countries. We need to recommend our respective Governments to make actions, coordinate efforts in bringing together the political will of integration.

I believe, we need a greater coherence, interdependence between Asian nations through greater campaign that Asia is one. Therefore we need to have a greater campaign on the Asia unity. We do also need to foster contact with our inter-governmental forum counterpart such as: the Asia Cooperation Dialogue, ASEAN, SAARC, to conduct a campaign on Asian Unity, promoting greater cooperation among Asian Countries, and other regions.





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By doing so, the sense of ownership to the region will be greater and in the end, there is a need for integration in a community or in a union: a single Asia.

Indonesia therefore would like to suggest each APA Member Parliaments to have a more direct involvement to their respective government, in the work of multilateral discussion of Asia Cooperation Dialogue. I believe, in the long run, the ACD may serve as the first gate of our work towards the establishment of Asian Parliament.

*Mr President,
Distinguished Delegates,*

The road towards such integration is not an easy task to do. The differences among nations, such as resources, level of democracy, social and cultural issues, economic growth and political development, and further commitment and involvement of the people. These should be addressed.

And foremost, an integration requires peace and stability. A pro-longed conflicts, violence and instability are daunting challenges for this region.

Asia needs peace and stability to harvest political supports. These supports are essential in the realization of the so-called Asian Parliament. It is therefore, I kindly suggest all parties related to take actions in promoting dialogue, resolve the differences and refrain themselves from any actions which may disengage the bond of friendship among Asian nations.

In this regard, we shall recall the principles of friendship embodied in the Declaration of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia which was adopted by this organization few years ago.

Distinguished Delegates,

In this monumental assembly, I would like to draw your attention to the issue of Palestine, as they are also our friends and families. As a big family of Asia, Palestine





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receive immense moral supports to their quest of the righty independences—their inalienable rights.

We have agreed on numerous resolutions to condemn, in our strongest term, to what Israeli has been done to Palestinian. And still there is no change. Israeli is consistent to deliberately and repeatedly violating the international law through their unilateral actions.

I have recently made a hearing with the UN Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in the Occupied Palestine Territory since 1967, an Indonesian fellow of mine, Mr. Makarim Wibisono. He gave us a shocking fact, that Israeli, in a statement they made at the Security Council, claimed that they are not the Occupying Power.

They claimed that they are in their own land, a righteous one for the Jewish. The Security Council at that time does nothing.

We cannot let that happen.

In this respect, Palestine as part of our big family of Asia, urgently need our support. We need to send a strong message, the strongest one, that Palestine deserves their sovereignty over their own land and their independence.

A parliamentary solidarity through a series visit to Palestine, Gaza, West Bank may provide a further message that we as parliamentarians, the representatives of the people, are signalling their support for the independence of Palestine.

I strongly urge all of my fellow parliamentarians to do so. To have a first-hand opportunity in Palestine so we can share their pain. Indonesia has done so, and will be happy to do so again in near future.





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Mr. President, Distinguished Delegates,

I should also mention that we applauded the continuing meeting of women parliamentarians in APA meetings, the idea that was initiated by Indonesia few years ago. I believe that with increased participation and contribution of women parliamentarians, we can strengthen the work of APA.

I also take note that few young parliamentarians attend this assembly. Presently young people represent one fourth of the total world population, and as seen in many parts of the world; youth role and influence in socio-political transformation are increasingly becoming significant. Hence, youth participation and engagement should be highly taken into account in political and development process.

Mr. President, Distinguished Delegates,

To conclude, I would like to place on record my appreciation to the parliament of Islamic Republic of Pakistan for the warm hospitality extended to me and my delegation. I am happy to be here today. My delegation and I look forward to fruitful deliberation during this plenary and in each of APA meetings.

I thank you

Wassalamualaikum Wr. Wb.





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المملكة العربية السعودية
مجلس الشورى
الشعبة البرلمانية

كلمة مجلس الشورى
بالمملكة العربية السعودية
خلال أعمال الجمعية العمومية السابعة لاتحاد
البرلمانات الآسيوية

باكستان - لاهور

٩ - ١٢ / ٢ / ١٤٣٦ هـ الموافق ١ - ٣ / ١٢ / ٢٠١٤ م





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المملكة العربية السعودية
مجلس الشورى
الشعبة البرلمانية

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

الحمد لله رب العالمين ، والصلاة والسلام على أشرف الأنبياء والمرسلين نبينا محمد
عليه وعلى آله أفضل الصلاة وأزكى التسليم..

أصحاب المعالي والسعادة..

الحضور الكريم..

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته.. وبعد..

يطيب لي باسمي ونيابة عن زملائي أعضاء وفد مجلس الشورى بالمملكة
العربية السعودية أن نتقدم بالشكر الجزيل للإخوة الكرام في مجلس الشيوخ بجمهورية
باكستان الشقيقة على كريم استضافتهم لأعمال هذه الدورة، وما حظينا به من حسن
الوفادة وكرم الضيافة، وعلى رأسهم معالي رئيس مجلس الشيوخ الأستاذ/ سيد نيار
بخاري وهذا ليس بمستغرب على أبناء هذا البلد المعطاء ، ونهنئ معاليه على رئاسته
لأعمال الدورة السابعة لهذه الجمعية، سائلين المولى - عز وجل لهم العون والتوفيق
والسداد ، وللشعب الباكستاني الشقيق دوام الأمن والرخاء .

كما نشكر سعادة الأستاذ/ نجاد حسينيان الأمين العام للجمعية البرلمانية
الآسيوية و زملاءه في الأمانة العامة على جهودهم في سبيل إنجاح العمل البرلماني
الآسيوي المشترك، والتحضير لأعمال هذه الدورة وأنشطتها الأخرى، متمنين لهم دوام
التوفيق.





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الجمهورية العربية السورية
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السادة و السيدات:

إن اتحاد البرلمانات الآسيوية الذي نجتمع اليوم تحت مظلته يجب أن يشكل لنا فرصة مناقش من خلالها جميع القضايا التي نؤرقنا وتحاكي همومنا وتطلعاتنا في ظل ما نشهده اليوم من أحداث متسارعة ، فالسلام الذي ينشده هذا الاتحاد لا يتأتى إلا بالعمل الجاد والنوايا الصادقة والاحترام المتبادل والالتزام بالمواثيق والمعاهدات وترسيخ القيم الإنسانية المشتركة .

ولا ريب أن دول هذا الاتحاد بما تتمتع به من ثقل سياسي واقتصادي وتراث حضاري كبير بإمكانها أن تصنع الكثير في هذا المجال وأن تلعب دوراً محورياً مهماً في تعزيز مبادئ العدالة وشيوع الأمن وتحقيق الرخاء.

يؤكد وفد مجلس الشورى مجدداً على أهمية مواكبة المستجدات والمتغيرات على الساحة الدولية خاصة في ظل تطورات سياسية وأمنية عاصفة، ساهمت في نشأة وانتشار قوى التطرف والإرهاب في منطقة الشرق الأوسط بما شكّل تهديداً صريحاً للأمن والسلم الدوليين، هذه الآفة التي عودتنا عبر التاريخ أنها لا تخضع لحدود الجغرافيا، وتستدعي من المجتمع الدولي ومنظماته الدولية المتعددة التعاون المثمر والبناء لمكافحة هذه الآفة ومحاربتها وفقاً لقراري مجلس الأمن الدولي رقم ٢١٧٠ و ٢١٧٨ .

وأود أن أشير هنا إلى أن المملكة العربية السعودية حرصت على تجسيد ما تتمسك به من قيم ومبادئ إسلامية صحيحة، والتي أساسها قيم التسامح والإخاء والعدالة والدعوة إلى الحوار ونبذ التطرف والعنف ومحاربة الإرهاب.





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الجمهورية العربية السعودية
مجلس الشورى
الشعبة البرلمانية

وفي الشأن العراقي رحبت المملكة باختيار رئيس للدولة ورئيس البرلمان ورئيس الحكومة، كما سبق لحكومة خادم الحرمين الشريفين الإعلان عن تخصيص مبلغ (٥٠٠ مليون) دولار أمريكي لتغطية الاحتياجات الإنسانية للشعب العراقي وتشارك بفاعلية في الجهود الدولية التي تحافظ على وحدة العراق.

أيها الإخوة..

إن ما نأمله وننشده من اجتماعنا هذا أن نخرج بما يجسد رؤيتنا المشتركة نحو النهوض بالعلاقات بيننا إلى المستويات المأمولة.

وإن مجلس الشورى في المملكة العربية السعودية من هذا المنبر ليتطلع إلى أن يقوم هذا الاتحاد بدوره نحو ترسيخ قيم الحوار في معالجة الموضوعات المطروحة حتى يتحقق لهذا الاتحاد أهدافه التي أنشئ من أجلها.

وفي ختام كلمتي هذه لا يسعني إلا أن أكرر الشكر والتقدير للأشقاء في مجلس الشيوخ في جمهورية باكستان على ما حظينا به جميعاً من حسن استقبال وكرم ضيافة وعمل دؤوب لإنجاح أعمال هذا الاجتماع والشكر موصول مرة أخرى للإخوة في الأمانة العامة لاتحاد البرلمانات الآسيوية على ما يقومون به من جهد.

والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته..





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Speech by the Leader of Bangladesh Delegation on the 7th Plenary Session of APA

Honourable Chairman, Excellency Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Excellency Senators, Member of National Assemblies, Honourable Speakers, distinguish delegates, Assalam-o-Alaikum, Good afternoon.

At the outset of my deliberation, I would like to convey my thanks and gratitude to the organizer for APA Conference to this historic city of Lahore. May I also convey our heartfelt and sincere thanks for the hospitalities extended to me and my delegation by your Excellency.

It is regretted that due to his prior commitment, our Honourable Speaker of the National Assembly could not participate at this Plenary Session of the APA.

Mr. Chairman, May I mention that our efforts has been to make the parliament the centre of all activities. Bangladesh has always make sure that people's voice is inclusive so that the democracy takes deeper roots in every sphere in people's life.

We have always strived to ensure good governance through the setting up of parliamentary standing committees and enacting effective laws and rule of law.

Bangladesh attaches importance towards its relations with APA and for that matter I would suggest frequent exchange of visits among the APA parliamentarians.

The present Government under the Prime Minister Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina, daughter of our Father of the Nation Bongo Bandu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman has taken various programmes for uplifting the quality of the life of our people through establishing rule of law, democratic practice, human rights, justice, genders' equality and women empowerment.

Mr. Chairman, may I have this opportunity to convey our sincere thanks to all the members of CPU and IPU to elect our Speaker and Member of Parliament Mr. Saber Hossain Chaudhry respectively as its Chairman.

Excellency, as I have stated that Bangladesh attaches great importance of APA and for that matter we are committed to extend our all cooperation for the activities of APA.

Before I conclude, I would like to thank you once again and I wish for the success of the conference with assurance that Bangladesh will work for the benefit of the region in all these forums.

Thank you





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ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

قال تعالى

راء تصحوا بحمل الله حملاً ولا تتدروا

صنف الله الذين

(أ) رئيس مجلس الشيوخ الباكستاني

رئيس الجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية

سيد تيزين بخاري

(ب) عضو مجلس الشيوخ الباكستاني

شاهد حسين سيد

٦ ابريل عام





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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

واعتصموا بحبل الله جميعاً ولا تفرقوا

رئيس مجلس الشيوخ الباكستاني
سيد نعيم حسين خان
رئيس الجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية
عفت محمد الطوع

السيدات والسادة المحترمين

بالإضافة إلى عمدة نيش ونيابة عمه أخواني أعضاء الرئس
البرلماني الأوردني ، أتقدم بالشكر الجزيل إلى مجلس
الشيوخ في جمهورية باكستان الإسلامية الضيفين
والتي تربطها علاقات قوية مع المحكم الأردني
الأخوي ، والشكر موصول إلى الأمانة العامة
للجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية وكذلك كل الجهود التي
سأهت في إنجاح هذا المؤتمر العام السابع
للجمعية برلمانية آسيا والذي يأتي في مرحلة مهمة
و دقيقة تمر بها المنطقة والإقليم وبالذات في
منطقة الشرق الأوسط .

إننا نقدر لرئيس مجلس الشيوخ الباكستاني عمدة هذه
المؤتمر في هذه المدينية التاريخية الجميلة ونشكرهم على
هم الاستقبال وحنافة التكرم أو نقدر حالياً الإنجازات
التي قامت بها الجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية فعلمه بالرؤيا الجديدة
للبرلمانات الآسيوية والعمل الجاد والخلص من رئيسين
والمصادر الجمعية وانشائها العامة لتوحيد الأصوات المشتركة
للقارة الآسيوية ريث يرتفع الحوار والتعاون وتقوية الأمن والسلام
في دول القارة .





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السيدات والسادة
 نحن في الأردن نؤمن إيماناً واثقاً بقيم
 الاعتدال والوسطية، ونشعر بحالة الإسلام
 الصافية، التي ترفض الإرهاب والنفور التكفيري
 واسم إيمان الشعب الأردني، رتباً وتهيئة الحكيم بالقيم
 الدائمة للأهل والأحباب والتكوير مكنت الأردن استبانة
 ما أصطلح على تسميته بالربيع العربي ومن نواكبه بوعي
 وهدوء
 واثقاً في الأردن نعمل على تطوير القوانين النافذة للحياة
 السياسية بتدنية وواقعية
 وباتزال قيمة التمدنية والتكوير في هذا المجال والمجالات
 الأخرى تير على قدم رسامة
 واثقاً في الأردن نعتبر القضية الفلسطينية هي أساس
 الصراع وعدم الاستقرار في الشرق الأوسط، وتعتبر
 القضية الرئيسة والمحورية في الشرق الأوسط، واثقاً في
 الأردن نقدر ونتمنى عالماً بوقف الجمهورية الباكستانية الإسلامية
 للقضية الفلسطينية منذ بدايتها وهو الموقف الذي ننص
 من الجميع أنه يتفق موقف باكستان لأنه سهل الكثير من
 قضايا الإرهاب والقتل والصراعات وهو ما يؤكد
 عليه ملك الأردن في كافة المحافل الدولية
 وأنه من جهة الشعب الفلسطيني أنه يتبع بجمعه في أقاليم
 دولته على أرضه المحتلة عام ١٩٦٧ وعاصمتها القدس
 ونه حل الدولتين بشكل يضمن الأمن والعيش للجميع





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ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY



ان الانتهاكات التي تقوم بها الجماعات المتطرفة الاسرائيلية
للمتدسات الاسلاميه والمسيحيه بعد انتهاكا واضحا
رسميا لكانه الاعتراف والعهود والمواثيق الدوليه
التي تحمي الحق في الامم الذي يتدعي منا جميعا لرد
اسرائيل ووقفه هذه الاعترافات الصارخه على المتدسات
وانتياف اله الحربه الاسرائيليه على الشعب الفلسطيني
في المقفه القريبه وقطاع غزة .

السودان والساحل
ان الحربه التي عانتها المنطقه وغاب السلام والديمقراطيه
والثمنه وحقوقه الانسان وشيوع الظلم ادت
الى شعور الكثيرين بالاضباط . واسهمت في قيام حركات
راديكاليه الثواريه كتحرك ذاتها ومجتمعاتها
واله من الظلم زبل ذلك الحركات بدين واحد .
حيث قام قبل لها في ظل اديان عديده .

* ان الاردن رغم شح اكانته يقوم باستقبال اعداد كبيره من
الاشقاء السوريين والاستفاد العراقيين ، واننا في الاردن
نامل من الجمعيه البرلمانيه الاسويه الوقوف مع الاردن ومحايله
من الظلم ومؤسساته لدعم الاردن وخدم اللاجئين الى ان
يعودوا الى اوطانهم . وان الاردن يؤمن بانه الحل السياسي
هو الحل الوحيد لمنع التآكل في الجمهوريه وعلى جميعنا دعم هذا التوق .





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اتنا نتطلع الى مزيد من التقارير والحوار حول
كافة القضايا التي هم شغوبنا، سواء كانت
سياسية او اقتصادية واجتماعية ونتطلع الى نقل
التجارب الناجحة بين الدول الاعضاء، وانه ساهم
لانه الدول الاعضاء بما في ذلك على الجمعية البرلمانية الاسوية
واحدة لما سيكون له من اثر كبير في تقوية اواصر التعاون
والاحاد بين دول القارة الاسيقية.

ونقدر عاليا للجمهوريه الباكستانية الاملاسه وللمجلس
الشيوخ الباكستاني والجمعية البرلمانية الاسوية
والامانه العامة للجمعية على حسه الاستقبال والتنظيم
والاستضافه.

والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته.





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Statement by Hon. Nader Khan Katawazai
Member of the International Affairs Commission of the Wolesi Jirga (House of People)
National Assembly of Afghanistan

Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA)
The Seventh Plenary Session
"Quest for Asian Parliament in 'Asian Century"
1-3 December 2014
Lahore – Pakistan

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Hon. President APA and Chairman Senate Pakistan,
Hon. Speakers, distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen;

اسلام و عليكم و رحمه الله و بركاته!

It's a matter of great pleasure and honor to be part of this unique gathering. At the outset, please allow me to convey the warm greetings and best wishes of the people and members of the National Assembly of Afghanistan to you all respected participants.

We are a family and live in a continent, the challenges, troubles and disasters of every individual of us shall be the problem of all of us.

It's worth mentioning that, the major objectives and goals of the APA is coordination of activities of the APA member states to promote freedom, equality, justice and social welfare, security, stability, friendship and integration in the Asian region.

The main task of the APA is to further strengthen the parliamentary diplomacy and higher up the role of parliaments in key areas of decision-making in major issues in Asia, Similarly, the study of issues such as peace and friendship in Asia, cooperation between the governments and parliaments of the member countries, financial crisis and its serious consequences, the consequences of globalization and environment, energy,





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combating the rising level of corruption, poverty alleviation, justice in health sector, cultural diversity, protection of rights of the people of Palestine, supporting the rights of migrant workers as well as the fight against terrorism and drug trafficking are the issues that are being considered by the APA.

These are the issues very pervasive, crucial, valuable and comprehensive and require several workings groups and specialized committees to coordinate and put into action all the goals with institutions associated with it.

Distinguished delegates,

As you know that, we are representing a parliament which is under serious threat and intimidation by the opponent elements and the strain of constant threats siege our minds and mentality. There is hope for the future among our people that has strengthened the courage of our people. The formation of national unity government in the country has ended the electoral deadlock and will further help tackle the challenging issues. Peace, stability and security is a top priority for our new formed government of national unity, since security is the key to progress and development not only in Afghanistan but it's interlinked to the region's prosperity.

Our people are still facing security challenges and rising suicide attacks by the opponent elements, taking the lives of civilians and injuring many more, a recent suicide attack in a volleyball match killed over hundreds of young people and children while injuring more 200 others in the Yahya Khail district of Paktika Province.

Distinguished delegates,

Drug trafficking is another serious challenge that threatens our region, drug trafficking is not an issue of Afghanistan only but it's a global phenomenon which is not only affecting our country but the affecting the countries in the region and other countries in the world.

Therefore, we suggest that we the Asian nations shall join all our efforts on devising an effective and pervasive strategy to combat the illegal drug trafficking and address the rising terrorist activities and extremism in the region.





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Distinguished delegates,

The political and parliamentary leadership of Afghanistan remains committed to contribute in our common quest to make **Asia** a peaceful, stabilized and developed region and supports the idea of forming an "**Asian Parliament**" with great fond and enthusiasm.

To conclude, I also take the opportunity to extend my sincere gratitude to the Pakistan Senate, its political leadership and its people for the warm welcome and the hospitality they have provided us during our stay here in the city of Lahore.

I thank you very much for the kind attention.





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Statement
Deputy Speaker Giorgidi B. Aggabao
House of Representatives
Republic of the Philippines

**“On the Creation of an Asian Parliament in the Asian Century”
7th APA Plenary Session, December 1-3, 2014
Lahore, Pakistan**

His Excellency **Syed Nayyer Hussain Bokhari**, Chairman of the Pakistan Senate and APA President,
Honourable **Mushahid Hussein Sayed**, Chairman of the Organizing Committee,
Dr. Nejad Hossenian, APA Secretary General,
Distinguished Guests and Ladies and Gentlemen.

On behalf of the Philippine delegation, I would like to extend my warmest greetings of friendship and appreciation to the Senate of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for their warm welcome and excellent preparations and hospitality extended to all the delegates of this Meeting.

Mr. President, the vision of APA constituting itself into an Asian Parliament—a legislature of a one Asian Community – is a formidable project. Unlike our colleagues in Latin America and Africa, who have established continent-wide regional parliaments, we in Asia have reached a juncture in our collective history when we must come





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together to explore the feasibility of setting up our own regional legislature.

Imagining the Future

Aware that we live in a very diverse region with differences running across our history, cultures, political-economic systems, languages, among others, makes the establishment of an Asian Parliament challenging. Yet we live in global village where everything is interconnected and the problems we face are increasingly borderless, compels the peoples of Asia to work with one another to overcome common concerns.

With more than four (4) billion people, Asia is the biggest and the most populated continent in the world. The 'next billion consumers' in the global economy will be based largely in Asia and the region's middle class will increase five-fold quintuple in size by 2030. Asia already accounts for 40% of the world's GDP and about 65% of global growth.

The 21st century is aptly dubbed the "Asian Century," mainly because of the emerging tilt of economic wealth and power from North America and Europe towards Asia which would entail a significant shift in favour of Asia in terms of political weight and power in world affairs.

As regional cooperation in different parts of the world expands, Asia has also experienced remarkable growth in regional cooperation. In addition to bilateral relations, Asian countries cooperate with each

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other in various other groupings such as ASEAN, South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP), the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA), the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Asian Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) and the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council.

While potential for expansion of Asian integration is considerably high, the actual process of integration has faced many impediments. Politically, Asian Nations share many goals and aspirations and face many common threats and dilemmas.

Common threats and challenges, which have a potential unifying role, are numerous, ranging from eradicating regional poverty to rooting out international terrorism. However, there are significant areas of political divergence, which have constrained closer cooperation among Asian countries. Historical misunderstanding and mistrust, exacerbated by on-going territorial disputes, constitute the root cause of insufficient political congruence. Divergent levels of economic and social development are also among other significant impediments to integration.

The formation of an Asian Parliament therefore is key to inspire and promote further integration in Asia. Integration in Asia should be considered as a prelude to further peace, prosperity, democracy and justice in Asia. This could only be achieved if both Asian Parliaments and Governments would assume a role to play in the promotion of this





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ideal goal and a fair share of responsibility in facilitating and materializing its requirements

In this context Mr. President, the Philippine is committed and supportive of the ideal of organizing and operating a supra national legislature. A decade and a half ago, the Philippines proposed the idea of parliamentary integration in Southeast Asia through the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization (AIPO), which it helped transform into the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) in 2006. However the establishment of an ASEAN Parliament has yet to be realized but we remained hopeful and confident that we will rise up to the occasion and meet the challenges head-on.

The Way Forward

In the new global order, we have “to bring a sense of common purpose to our Asian community.” Our annual dialogues, exchanges and cooperation will prepare the ground for elevating our arrangement to the next level.

The journey will be long and paved with obstacles, but the time to imagine has arrived. For our part, the Philippines supports the idea of moving in a gradual and inclusive manner. Like all regional parliamentary groupings, our vision can not be built in a day. The process of integration proceeds step by step. Beginning perhaps with the creation of a study group within the APA which will carefully undertake a feasibility study on the possibility of establishing an Asian

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Parliament. We can discuss the membership and terms of reference of the *Preparatory Committee for the Creation of an Asian Parliament*. This Committee shall be tasked to draw up the steps, the mechanism and the timeframe for the transformation of APA into the Asian Parliament.

To be sure, it may take a while before a formal regional parliamentary structure in Asia is established. This is why the role of APA in engaging parliamentarians and providing for a venue for dialogue is highly commendable.

It is hoped that, as we endeavour to cobble and craft an Asian parliament, the enormous benefits to be reaped by such a supranational parliament would be shored by the peaceful initiatives aimed at easing geopolitical tensions. I urge my fellow parliamentarians to firm our commitments to expedite the resolution to recent threats to the political stability and security in the Southeast Asia. I urge the APA, in demonstration of its leadership to call for a cessation of activities that escalate tension in the South China Sea. Finally, I urge APA to support the Philippine paradigm for dispute resolution which is to bring disputes to international arbitration to bring the problem to a final and enduring resolution in accordance with international law.

We begun by saying that creating an Asian Parliament is a formidable objective but we are entering a new age of transformation when in our diversity we may create for us a Pan Asian unity built on the common values and principles. In a journey of a thousand steps, today we take

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the first steps with sustained cooperation towards the birth of an Asian Parliament.

Thank you very much and Mabuhay.





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Azerbaijan

Dear ladies and gentlemen!

First of all, I'd like to express my gratitude to the State of Pakistan, the Government of Pakistan and Pakistani people for holding high-level 7th plenary session of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly and hospitable reception. I wish to the friendly fraternal Pakistan the stability, development and success to you - my dear colleagues and session activity. The holding of this Assembly is of great importance to Asia in such very hard and intense days and we all together should make and strengthen more efforts for better and nice future for our region, our countries and peoples. There very important issues will be discussed and I ask you to focus on the issue raised by me during discussions and adoption of documents and to emphasize in resolutions and documents to be adopted.

Dear friends!

I speak here on behalf of Azerbaijani parliament and 1 million Azerbaijani refugees and internally displaced persons who are not able to return to their native lands and homes for 20 years and it is the most gross violation of human rights in the Asian zone. Being a representative of one of the frontier regions between Azerbaijan and Armenian, I would like to bring to your notice the issues existing in the region last days and to urge the Assembly to increase its attention to this issue also. As you know the Armenia has occupied 20 percent of the territory of Azerbaijan and it's more than 20 years that does not withdraw its troops from the lands of Azerbaijan and does not allow Azerbaijani internally displaced persons to return to their homes. Besides, the Armenian Armed Forces have regularly violated the cease-fire and the Armenian snipers shoot the civilians living in adjoining villages from their positions. A lot of civilians was killed and wounded due to the shooting maid by Armenian Armed Forces to there houses. Against Azerbaijani citizens - Shahbaz Guliyev and Dilgam Ahmedov taken prisoner by Armenia this August there were taken inhuman steps that contradict to the international rules. Tortures against Dilgam Ahmedov and Shahbaz Guliyev are being applied. A man whose home, land is under Armenian occupation for over 20 years went to see his home and he was subjected to inhuman actions and Dilgam Ahmedov and Shahbaz Guliyev is being still kept in captivity. It is already 22 years. The Azerbaijani refugees and internally displaced persons can not return to their native homes. Every year hundreds people pass away by longing for returning to their homes. Is there any other tragedy like this?

We call Asian Parliamentaray Assembly to require Armenia to stop the actions causing damage to the negotiations conducted towards the regulation of Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. The Armenian Armed Forces have violated the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan which is recognized all over the world and it is already





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more than 20 years they hold one part of the lands under occupation and they ignore the resolutions adopted by UN Security Council, Parliamentary Assembly of Council of Europe, the Organization for Islamic Conference and other organizations and today they do not leave the occupied Azerbaijani lands and do not allow 100 thousands of internally displaced persons to return to their native lands and snipers continue to shoot the civilians. The people living in the battle front call the Assembly to discuss seriously this topic also and to accelerate its efforts in this direction. They want the Asian Parliamentary Assembly to demand from Armenia to withdraw its troops from occupied Azerbaijani territories and to express this issue in resolutions to be adopted. We express our gratitude to lots of our friends here in the lead of Pakistan and Turkey and their countries for support of Azerbaijan's fair just position in international organization at any time and we believe that you'll be always side by side to those who can't return to their homes and facing big suffers and focus on this issue within this session too.

Dear Colleagues!

The Azerbaijani refugees and internally displaced persons are waiting more from you. I call the respectable Assembly to approach seriously to these people. I urge our Assembly to discuss this issue also during our session. Because regardless of their location we should pay serious attention to the situation of refugees and internally displaced persons and provide them with assistance.





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The Armenian Armed Forces committed a genocide against civilians in Khojaly town of Azerbaijan and annihilated this town. Today at the place of Khojaly town you can see completely destroyed town. In general during the occupation of Azerbaijani lands over 20,000 Azerbaijanis have been killed by Armenia. I express my gratitude to the Pakistani State, supporting always the just in the issue related the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and the Parliament of Pakistan and personally Mr Mushayit for the adoption of documents on recognition of the Khojaly genocide and sharply condemning on the behalf of civilians of Khojaly who family members have been subjected to the genocide. During these awful genocide too little people could escape and it is already 20 years that family members of those who have been subjected to the genocide cannot return to their homes. We believe that these and countries that support justice and are against such crime against the mankind will support just decisions defending human rights taken by the Parliament of Pakistan and other countries and will increase their efforts directed to the account of the offenders of this crime. Because people subjected to the Khojaly genocide were Azerbaijanis and Muslims and at the same time human beings and we should condemn such kind of crimes against humanity regardless against what people and nation it has been committed and strengthen our efforts to prevent such crimes. We must do our best for better future.

Dear friends!

The Armenian Armed Forces are trying to destroy and eliminate historical, cultural, religious monuments belonging to Azerbaijanis, mosques and cemeteries in the lands of Azerbaijan, to destroy all traces belonging to Azerbaijanis and it's very terrible. If you want to see realities in video and photos I can show and present them. You can see a part of them in these videos, films, and books.

Dear colleagues!

Regardless of belonging to any nation we must protest against destruction of historical, cultural, religious monuments. As these monuments are a part of world culture and history and we must fight against it regardless where they are happening. We should fight strictly together against separatism, extremism, terrorism, killing of civilians and destruction of historical, cultural, religious monuments. And I believe that we have the same point in these issues and we'll strengthen our common efforts in these issues.

Dear colleagues!

Our Sufi ancestors told that the world is our home. Yes, Asia is our common home and we have to do our best together for stability, development and future of this region regardless ethnicity, nationality, religion, different ideological and political thinking and I wish success to the Assembly in this direction.

Dear colleagues!

We must be concerned with intense situation in the Middle Asia and South Caucasus. We should strengthen our common efforts for the solution of Palestine, the Nagorno-Karabakh, Kashmir problems, regulation of intense situations in Iraq, Syria and in some Asian regions and Afghanistan related issues.





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OMAN

التسكروالتفدير للجمعة المنطوية والمسطيفة
التعريف والتأكيد على ظرفية المكان والزمان
الذي يتعقد فيه هذا الاجتماع للجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية
لما تخر به الدول الآسيوية من إمكانيات بشرية
وجغرافية وموارد طبيعية تصطبغ أن تشكل -تكاملاً-
بين الدول الآسيوية. كما نؤكد على ضرورة العمل على
اشراك الشعوب في العمليات السياسية. نؤكد أنه
لدمقر من السعي نحو تحقيق السلم وتبذ العنف فهو السبيل
الوحيد طباعة أمية ومطمئنة للشعوب والسبيل الوحيد
للنقدم في الحياة.





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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

STATEMENT ON THE OCCASION OF PARTICIPATION IN THE MEETING OF THE ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

**Y. E. Mr Syed Nayyer Hussain Bokhari, Chairman, Senate of
IRP / President APA**

**Y. E. Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Chairman,
organising Committee,**

**Y. E. Dr M Hussain Nejad Hossainian SG of APA
Honourable delegates**

On behalf of the National Assembly of the Sudan and the Council of African Political Parties (CAPP) I'm indeed honored to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation, to the organising Committee, the people and government of Pakistan for the invitation extended to us to attend this historical, 7th Plenary Session of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA), taking place here in the great Pakistani City of Lahore.

The commitments undertaken so far, by the representatives of Asian Parliaments, will put Asian continent in the right path of peace, tranquillity, prosperity and human dignity. The resolutions that you have adopted will help Asian people and member states to meeting their aspirations. In this regards I'm glad to cease this opportunity to congratulate Asian Parliaments for this great leap to transform APA into an august regional body that will put the huge potentials Asia enjoys into the right perspective.

In Africa, we shall never forget the Asian unwavering





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commitment to keep high, the banner of Afro-Asian solidarity, since the establishment of NAM in Bandung, (Indonesia) sixty years ago. This had facilitated the process of African liberation from the colonial yoke, thus better placing Africa, than ever, in right course to enjoy its political, economic, social and cultural human rights.

We reiterate the strong African will to continue building of a more formidable foundation, for a profound cordial relations, with Asia. We are proud that the productive partnerships established with Asia are helping both sides to achieve a sustained GDP growth, remarkably at minimum, 3.4 % annually in Africa.

Chairman

In cementing further the Afro-Asian cooperation, deepen region to region ties, we will leave no stone unturned to maintain strong cooperation with the anticipated Asian Parliament. In this regards we will forward the decisions of this historical meeting to the Pan African Parliament, the National Assembly of Sudan and the Council African Political with Parties.

Its my sincere hope, Mr Chairman, that our participation in this important meeting, will help both sides to further strenghtening cordial relations between our institutions, build new horizons for people and nations.

Finally Mr. Chairman I wish to congralute you in person and APA, for organising four meetings during one year which indicates your commitment to Asian cause.

THANK YOU ALL





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بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ



Speech of H.E. Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol KILIÇ

Secretary General of the Parliamentary Union of the OIC Member States
(PUIC)

At the Seventh APA Plenary Session

Lahore – Islamic Republic of Pakistan

1-3 December 2014





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السلام عليكم و رحمة الله و بركاته

I would like to offer my sincere thanks and appreciation for your kind invitation to us to participate, in an Observer capacity, in the seventh Session of the APA which is held in this historical and beautiful city – Lahore. This participation shall enhance the bonds of already existing friendship and cooperation between our two organizations. Also I would like to express our firm wish to achieve our common objectives aimed at promoting democracy and good governance, and which contribute to achieving and consolidating the efforts of international peace and security as well as realizing the hopes of our peoples and nations of the entire world in development and prosperity.

Mr. Speaker,

Ladies and Gentlemen

The slogan of your meeting i.e. "Quest for Asian Parliament in Asian Century", reflects a strategic vision of a parliamentary endeavor which is capable of gearing up its parliamentary activities and actions for the sake of positive and constructive interaction with the challenges and horizons of the "Asian Century".





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Your attachment to your continent remains a conscious strategic option which is elucidated by your genius initiative to take well-studied steps through which you are able to realize your sublime objectives.

The world around us is passing through crucial periods in its modern history which makes it necessary for our parliaments to assume their full role as representatives of the hopes and aspirations of their respective peoples for a world pervaded by security, peace and prosperity. Parliamentary diplomacy, therefore, has a substantial role which should not be ignored but made use of due to the extent of its ramifications. This role is complementary to governmental roles in the comprehension of any issue or question with implications that may imperil peace and security.

World problems are interconnected, and in order to avoid the problems of our current age in which extremism and intolerance constitute a major element, we must take precautionary and preventive steps to steer clear from the devastating consequences caused by immoderation.

Perhaps we concur that extremism which leads to sedition and conflict has no linkage with any religion or belief or race. In our view the strategies for improving socio-economic conditions as well as eliminating poverty and exclusion constitute an important framework for drying out the sources of extremism, violence and terrorism.

While hailing your generous and thoughtful initiative, we wish your proceedings to be crowned with success.

May peace be with you.

