



Asian Parliamentary Assembly

**Report of the Secretary-General to the
Special Committee of Creation of Asian Parliament
(SCAAP)**

Islam Abad, Pakistan

14 March, 2017

Mr. Chairman,

Distinguished Delegates

"Asian Parliament" has been the ultimate goal of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly since its foundation in 2006. APA has promoted the notion of Asian integration and Asian Parliament as the pivotal theme of its goals and objectives. In early 2014, the APA Secretariat prepared a special and substantive report on the idea of the Asian Parliament entitled: *The Foundations of an Asian Parliament*. The report was most welcomed by the 7th Plenary and many aspects of the idea were deliberated upon. It was decided by the 7th Plenary that the report should be given further consideration by all APA Member Parliaments and certain measures should be taken for taking the initiative steps further.

The APA 7th Plenary thus decided to set up a Special Committee on the Creation of Asian Parliament (SCCAP) to further consider the notion of Asian Parliament and develop ways and means for its promotion and creation.

The esteemed Senate of Pakistan took care of this initiative and has been successful to lead this committee which was mandated to develop strategies, to move the initiative forward by submitting result-oriented and time-bound reports and to reflect its achievements to the APA Political Standing Committee for consideration.

Concurrent with the meeting of the APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs in the 9th Plenary, the APA Special Committee on the Creation of Asian Parliament (SCCAP) held its meeting on 29 November 2016 and discussed various ideas and points of view by the participating delegates. All delegates expressed their general support for the promotion of the notion of Asian parliament in the light of the great potentials which exist in Asia and particularly in Asian Parliaments. Meanwhile, they underlined the formidable challenges and crucial prerequisites facing the creation of an Asian Parliament. They all emphasized that the creation of Asian Parliament is a long term project with various aspects of which needs to be explored in many discussions, conferences, and meetings to come. It was also pointed out that the feasibility of the project should be conducted in coordination with all APA Member Parliaments. The participating delegates undertook the responsibility to raise the subject matter to respective authorities of their own parliaments and governments and send their feedback on *The Foundations of an Asian Parliament* to the APA secretariat as soon as possible.

In July 2016, Honorable Mian Reza Rabbani, the Chairman Senate of Pakistan suggested a proposal to the effect that five sub-regional-groups be set up within the APA member parliaments to explore and ponder on the objectives, prerequisites, structure, and procedures of establishing an Asian Parliament and to hold meetings at the sidelines of the APA meetings in order to formulate a comprehensive document to be submitted to the APA Political Standing Committee for consideration and appropriate decision.

Today, we are here in Islam Abad to discuss and deliberate the details of the proposal and how we want to realize the idea of “Asian Parliament” step by step. At the end of deliberation, we adopt the text of resolution as the draft.

Thank you Mr. Chairman