



## **Asian Parliamentary Assembly Report of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs**

**30 October 2018  
Gwadar - Pakistan**

**APA/Political/Rep/2018/02  
30 October 2018**

1. The Meeting of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs convened in Pearl-Continental Hotel in Gwadar at 11:00 hours on Monday, 30 October 2017.
2. Delegations from Bahrain, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Lao PDR, Lebanon, Oman, Nepal, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Syria, Thailand, Timor Leste, and Turkey attended this Meeting.
3. In Inaugural Ceremony, there were eight speakers as follows:
  - Welcome remarks by Mr. Amjed Pervez, Secretary Senate of Pakistan
  - Remarks by Dr. M. R. Majidi, Secretary General of APA
  - Remarks by Madam Asmun Erdogan on behalf of APA President
  - Remarks by H. E. Mushahidullah Khan, Representative of Leader of Opposition
  - Remarks by H.E. Mr. Syed Shibli Faraz, Leader of the House, Senate
  - Remarks by H.E. Mr. Martin Chungong, Secretary-General of IPU
  - Remarks by Amanullah Khan Yasinzai, Governor of Balochistan
  - Opening Address by Honorable Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani, Acting President of Pakistan and Chairman Senate of Pakistan

The texts of speeches are attached.

4. The next meeting was Special Committee for Creation of Asian Parliament. Honorable Shibli Faraz who was nominated by Acting President of Pakistan and the Chairman of Senate as the Chairman of the Political Standing Committee opened the meeting and asked Dr. Khorram to deliver the report of Secretary-

General. Deputy Secretary-General pointed out that the APA Secretariat substantive report on the idea of the Asian Parliament entitled: *The Foundations of an Asian Parliament* has been the basis for further consideration of all APA Member Parliaments. He mentioned that the (SCCAP) has held its meetings on different occasions. All Member 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. Dr. Khorram expressed that they also underlined the formidable challenges and crucial prerequisites facing the creation of an Asian Parliament and 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. Dr. Khorram raised some questions and answered them for the consideration of Member Parliaments. For example, should the Asian Parliaments have forum nature or executive characteristic? Whether its legislatives are compulsory for all APA Member Parliaments or not? Are APA Member Parliaments ready to delegate a part of their sovereignty to Asian Parliament? He proposed that we should try to test budget-making project at first in APA and then transfer the best practice to the future Asian Parliament. At present, we have some difficulties to get the reactions and responses of all APA Member Parliaments to the Model of Payment or Assessed Contribution. Overcoming this difficulty and providing the budget be prior to budget-making project of Asian Parliament. Dr. Khorram added that Asian Parliament is the ultimate goal of Asian Parliamentary Assembly and we are thankful to the Senate of Pakistan for its continued efforts to promote this idea. At the end he said, APA Member Parliaments were requested to send their communications to the APA Secretariat for more deliberation in SCCAP Meeting after incorporating their government's point of views on Asian Parliament.

5. The Chairman opened the Meeting for discussion on Asian Parliament. Member Parliaments deliberated the topic at hand. They discussed range of models from Council of Europe to Arab Union, EU and etc. Few Members stressed the necessity of establishing a sub-Committee under the umbrella of APA Secretariat and also to nominate a person to attend such open ended working group.

6. The SCCAP Meeting opened the Resolution on "Towards an Asian Parliament" and Delegation of Pakistan presented new amendments. Due to the

fact that those amendments were not presented in time it was agreed to defer the consideration of new amendments during the next Political Standing Committee.

7. On Tuesday 30 October 2018, the Political Standing Committee was opened and Dr Khorram presented the Agenda for its adoption. After the adoption of the Agenda, the following members of Bureau were elected:

Senator Shibli Faraz was elected as Chairman on the basis of APA customary procedure. General Nipot of Thailand as Vice Chair and Senator Chhit Kim Yeat of Cambodia as Rapporteur.

8. Deputy Secretary-General announced that on the basis of proposals raised in SCCAP Meeting, APA Secretariat will communicate to all Member Parliaments to get their views on the establishment of a working group on Asian Parliament. He added that such measure will be conducted in close consultation and coordination with the Chairman of Political Standing Committee.

9. H.E. Dr. Khorram, mentioned that the Standing Committee had 8 Resolutions for consideration and adoption as the draft.

- ✓ Draft Resolution on “Towards an Asian Parliament”
- ✓ Draft Resolution on “Good Governance”
- ✓ Draft Resolution on “Good Parliamentary Practices”
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Rule of Law and Judicial Empowerment
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Advancing Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments and Governments Together for Prosperity in Asia
- ✓ Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments’ Unwavering Support For The Palestinian People
- ✓ Democracy for Development.

10. The Resolution on Democracy for Development, which was tabled by the Senate of Pakistan assessed that needed more discussion and deliberation so Dr Khorram recommended deferring it to the next Political

Standing Committee for further consideration. The participants supported the recommendation and the Chairman decided so.

11. The other seven draft resolutions were presented one by one and after some discussions and applying some modifications, they were finalized to be forwarded to the Executive Council.

12. Concluding Session:

- a) The Report of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs was presented to the Meeting by H.E. Mr. Chhit Kim Yeat, Rapporteur
- b) The Gwadar Chairman Statement was presented to the Meeting
- c) Most of delegations thanked the Host for very enjoyable hospitalities.

13. All seven Resolutions, Speeches of Inaugural Ceremony, the SG Report to SCCAP Meeting and other statements are annexed to this Report.



## **Draft Resolutions of Standing Committee on** **Political Affairs**

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Version 3

As of 30 October 2018



## Draft Resolution on “Towards an Asian Parliament”

SC- Political/ Draft Res/2018/17  
29 October, 2018

**We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,**

*Recalling* the document titled “Foundations of an Asian Parliament” prepared by the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) Permanent Secretariat in May, 2014;

*Further recalling* the Lahore Declaration adopted on 3rd Dec, 2014 by APA Plenary that established the Special Committee on the Creation of the Asian Parliament (SCCAP), to consult with Member Parliaments in order to formulate a road map for Asian Parliament, reflecting the emergence of the Asian Century;

*Emphasizing* that the creation of an Asian Parliament is a long term objective, various aspects of which need to be explored as stipulated in the report of APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs held on 2 June 2016 in Jordan;

*Welcoming* the decision made in the meeting of the SCCAP convened in Jordan in June 2016 and approved by the 9<sup>th</sup> APA Plenary meeting in 2016, that the SCCAP will function under the APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs;

*Recalling* the discussion of the SCCAP meeting held on 29 November 2016, Siem Reap, Kingdom of Cambodia;

**Therefore,**

1. **Reiterate** our resolve to continue efforts and support the fulfilment of SCCAP’s objectives;
2. **Support** the step by step and inclusive efforts of the SCCAP in promoting cooperation through consultation with Member Parliaments on common issues such as environment, poverty alleviation, trade and regional connectivity amongst others;
3. **Support** the creation of sub-regional groups in the APA for providing input to the SCCAP. The Sub-Regional groups for the purpose of the Asian Parliaments shall submit their input through the APA secretariat to the SCCAP which will place a report containing the proposals before the Standing Committee on Political Affairs before every plenary;



## Draft Resolution on “Good Governance”

SC- Political/ Draft Res/2018/18  
29 October, 2018

**We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,**

*Realizing* that good governance is inextricably linked to sustainable development which leads to stability and prosperity;

*Recalling*, UN Commission on Human Rights Resolution No.2005/68 of 20 April 2005, UN Human Rights Council Resolution No.7/11 of 27 March 2008 on “Good Governance for the Promotion of Human Rights” and as well as the “United Nations Millennium Declaration”;

*Recognizing* the importance of good governance in the achievement of SDGs as one of means to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies;

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948, the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination, 1969, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1976, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 1976, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 1979, the Convention against Torture, 1987, the Convention on the Rights of Child, 1990, which provides every citizen, irrespective of gender, religion or race, a right to take part in the public affairs;

**Therefore,**

1. **Reiterate** that good governance is a key to achieving inclusive economic, social and institutional development;
2. **Recognizes** that transparency in all its forms and manifestations, free, responsible media, right to information, popular participation in government, and a vibrant civil society are the pillars of good governance;
3. **Suggests** that Member Parliaments may provide indicators for good governance;
4. **Stresses** upon the Member Parliaments to identify gaps in governance which may lead to poverty, injustice and terrorism resulting in the weakening of democratic institutions;
5. **Calls upon** Member Parliaments to ensure as appropriate enhanced participation of women, youth and persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities in the national political process;



## Draft Resolution on “The Rule of Law and Judicial Empowerment”

SC- Political/ Draft Res/2018/19  
29 October, 2018

**We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,**

*Recalling* the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, which are indispensable foundations for a more peaceful, prosperous and a conflict free world;

*Recognizing* that the rule of law is essential for all states equally, and respect for and promotion of the rule of law and justice are the guiding principles for every state;

*Further recognizing* that all persons, institutions and entities, public and private, have a right to be accorded equal protection of the law and to be treated in accordance with the law, without any discrimination;

*Recommending all members States Reaffirming* the duty of all Member States to settle their international disputes through peaceful means, including, negotiation, dialogue, mediation, conciliation, arbitration and judicial settlement;

*Further reaffirming* that the rule of law is essential for independence of judiciary and the protection of human rights can be realized through the empowerment of the judiciary;

*Convinced* that the rule of law and sustainable development are inextricably linked and mutually reinforcing, and are an essential prerequisite for the realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

**Therefore,**

1. **Stress** the importance of civilian capacity development through rule of law;
2. **Stress** the importance of institutional strengthening by maintaining the rule of law;
3. **Urge** Member Parliaments to ensure compliance with international humanitarian laws, as they are an indispensable prerequisite for improving the situation of victims of armed conflict, through enactment of appropriate legislation and development of oversight mechanisms;
4. **Commit** to ensure that impunity is not tolerated for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity or for violations of international humanitarian law and gross violations of human rights law, based on the principles of international cooperation and non-interference of States in the internal affairs of other States, in accordance with international law;



5. **Encourage** the promotion of a system of justice which incorporates the full range of judicial measures to ensure accountability, justice, provide remedies to victims, reconciliation, and establish independent oversight;
6. **Reiterate** our strong and unequivocal condemnation of terrorism, violent and extremism in all its forms and manifestations, committed by whomever, wherever and for whatever purposes, as it constitutes one of the most serious threats to the rule of Law; and
7. **Emphasize** the importance of our continued efforts for promotion of the rule of law in all its aspects, and to take steps to strengthen the rule of law for realization of peace and security, human rights and development.



## Draft Resolution on “Good Parliamentary Practices”

SC- Political/ Draft Res/2018/20  
29 October, 2018

### **We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly:**

*Noting* the ever increasing and assertive role of parliaments in public affairs and in the promotion of democratization for ensuring good governance;

*Taking* into account the fact that 181 states have adopted parliamentary systems for managing their national affairs;

*Noting* the cardinal role that parliaments play in a democratic polity and in addressing issues of public importance;

*Recognizing* that parliaments must be truly representative, transparent, accessible, accountable and effective in its functions;

Therefore,

1. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to adopt transparent modes of public communications, through ensuring access to their administrative system and to develop their own websites and broadcasting channels;
2. Further **urge** APA Member Parliaments to devise effective outreach mechanisms for engagement with public, including, civil society, with a view to ensure their meaningful contribution in the legislative processes;
3. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to adopt measures for ensuring public confidence in the integrity of parliamentarians, through enforceable codes of conduct and transparency in managing the affairs of political parties and their funding;
4. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to streamline their legislative process by encouraging public hearing in respective constituencies;
5. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to ensure their effective participation at regional and international forums with a view to promote transnational collaboration amongst Member Parliaments, and to devise a strategy towards this end by the APA;
6. **Also call upon** APA Member Parliaments to ensure their oversight of the executive, particularly, in the formulation of international policy, and to make recommendations to their respective governments towards a peaceful settlement of international disputes;

7. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to adopt positive measures for ensuring a meaningful participation of women, minorities and marginalized communities in their working;
8. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to promote inter-parliamentary cooperation through formation of friendship groups and working groups on issues of common interest;
9. **Further Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to encourage developing democracies through sharing their experiences and best parliamentary practices and provide technical and other required support with a view to facilitate their process of democratization.



## **Draft Resolution on Building Prosperity in Asia Through Friendship and Cooperation**

SC- Political/ Draft Res/2018/21  
29 October, 2018

*We the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

SC- Political/ Draft Res/2018/22  
29 October, 2018

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

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

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

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

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

4. **Request** APA Member Parliaments to identify and describe their priority desirable topics for receiving training, as well their capabilities to offer training and best practices, and share them with other Parliaments through the APA

Secretariat, in order to organize training programs on exchanging best practices and learning from each other;

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



## **Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments’ Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People**

SC- Political/ Draft Res/2018/23  
29 October, 2018

*We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,*

*Recalling* APA Resolutions on Supporting Palestinian State and Protecting Rights of Palestinian People, (APA/Res/2013/03, 9 December 2013); Violations of International Humanitarian Law in the Palestine and the War Crimes Committed By the Zionist Regime in Gaza (APA/Res/2009/01, 8 December 2009); and Humanitarian Crisis in Palestine Particularly in the Gaza Strip (APA/Res/2008/08, 29 November 2008); and the catastrophic humanitarian impact of the aggressive war on the Gaza Strip in July 2014

*Also recalling* the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council, including resolutions 242 (1967), 252 (1968), 267 (1969), 298 (1971), 446 (1979), 465 (1980), 468 (1980) and 1322 (2000), 2334 (2016), and resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and other relevant international documents;

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

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

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

*Supporting* the struggle of Palestinian nation against Israeli occupation by its all means to liberate its land and establish an independent Palestinian State with al-Quds al-Sharif as its capital;

Denouncing the transfer of the American Embassy from Tel-Aviv to Jerusalem in disregard of the principles and rules of international legitimacy and UNSC Resolutions;

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



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

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

1. **Urge** all Members of the APA to support and treat the State of Palestine as a full member of the United Nations
2. **Denounce** all violations of international law which threaten international peace and security including all acts of terrorism and organized crimes; and violations of human rights committed by the Israeli occupying forces in Palestine.
3. **Encourage** all members of the international community to take up with the pressure on Israel to immediately release all the Palestinian prisoners including the Members of the Palestinian Parliament and condemns the Israeli Knesset's failure to respond to the fact-finding and investigation committees established by the Inter-Parliamentary Union on prisoners in Israeli jails as evident in the International Parliamentary meeting in St. Petersburg; dismantle all illegal settlements as well as the entire separating wall and put an end to confiscating Palestinian lands.
4. **Declare** all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, including expropriation of land and properties which tend to change the legal status of Jerusalem as invalid and bearing no legal effect on their original status.
5. **Condemn** Israel's continuation of building settlements defying applicable international law particularly Security Council resolution 2334 of December 2016; disregarding the legitimate rights of the Palestinian People including their right to resist and protest against foreign occupation of their lands; and hampering international efforts towards achieving a just and lasting peace in the region;
6. **Express** grave concerns on the suppression and injustice, as well as continuing violence practiced against the Palestinian people, particularly women and children, in the occupied Palestinian territories under the Israeli occupation including East Jerusalem, and in the Syrian Golan occupied by Israel;
7. **Call Upon** all members of the APA and the United Nations as well as all regional and international organizations concerned, particularly the United Nations Security Council and the International Criminal Court to address, under the UN Charter and the Rome Statute, the crimes against humanity and the war crimes committed by Israel in Palestine which threaten the international peace and security;
8. **Condemn** the closure of the PLO diplomatic mission in Washington in retaliation for the membership of Palestine to the International Criminal Court;

9. **Praise** the decision taken by the European Union not to purchase any products produced in the settlements based in the occupied territories and call on states of the APA Member Parliaments to act in a similar way and affirm the full support for international boycott movement against Israeli occupation;
10. Rejecting attempts practiced by the Zionist entity to change the historical, cultural and demographic characters of the occupied Palestinian land, especially the city of Jerusalem in general and Al\_Aqsa mosque, in particular, also refuse the Knesset bill in attempt to divide Al\_Agsa mosque both in time and place,
11. **Reject** the unlawful resolutions adopted by the Israeli Knesset such as Judaization of the Jerusalem, the Citizenship Loyalty Law, denying the State of Palestine, the rights of Palestinian People in the occupied territories, the Jewish Nation-State Law and the deduction funds for Palestine State which violate Articles 89 and 98 of Geneva Convention;
12. **Reject and condemn** US decision to end its financial contribution to UNRWA.
13. **Call Upon** the international community to fulfill its pledges to rebuild infrastructure and rehabilitate people in Gaza, which have been destroyed by Israeli forces, and to support the Palestinian economy in the occupied Palestine.



**ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (APA)**  
**Meeting of Standing Committee on Political Affairs**  
**&**  
**Special Committee on Creation of Asian Parliament**

**Gwadar**  
**29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> October,**  
**2018**

**Inaugural Ceremony**

**DRAFT WELCOME SPEECH**

By

**Mr. AMJED PERVEZ MALIK**  
**SECRETARY SENATE**

- **Honourable Acting President and Chairman Senate.**
- **Honourable Speaker National Assembly.**
- **Honourable Secretaries-General of APA and IPU.**
- **Honourable Speaker**
- **Elected Members and official delegates of APA Parliaments, Observer delegations and Special Invitees.**
- **Distinguished Guests.**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen!**

**Assalam-o-Alaikum:-**

**Greetings and a Very Good Morning!**

On behalf of the Secretariat of Pakistan Senate, I am privileged to extend a very warm welcome to our guests, friends and partners from APA Member countries and other Parliamentary Organisations and Regions at this inaugural ceremony of the APA meetings.

I am, personally and institutionally, obliged to leaders and friends who have come and added value, meaning and purpose to our endeavours in the meetings at the port city of Gwadar.

I am thankful to the Speaker of Djibouti, Secretary General IPU, and President of Pak-France Friendship Group for attending on the special invite of Chairman Senate.

Inter-parliamentary cooperation and advancement of democracy, peace and prosperity are shared objectives between Pakistan Senate, Asian Parliamentary Assembly and Inter Parliamentary Union.

**Excellencies**, your generous patronage and guidance can materialize much needed convergence of shared values and pursuit of common goals.

My sincerest appreciation goes to Honourable Chairman Senate, Janab Sadiq Sanjrani sahib for taking the out of box challenging decision and moving such an important international gathering out of comfort zone of capital cities. Holding these meetings in the port city of Gwadar posed quite a few challenges, but it contributes to the concept of regional inclusivity and connectivity as per APA's charter. It is a big leap forward in Senate's bid to reach out to a federating unit as the House of Federation.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**As the democratic journey in Pakistan moves forward promisingly under a new democratic government and a prop-people parliament, the geo-political vicissitudes and fluidity of international relations coupled with domestic and regional security, peace and development imperatives offer both challenges and opportunities.**

**On the domestic front, inequities and disparities in socio-economic progress have set the developmental clock back for many**

areas. On the external front, the complexities of interconnected geopolitical, strategic and bilateral issues are altering the whole contenance of traditional diplomacy approaches.

This scenario has placed the institution of parliament right in the centre of the modern foreign relations chessboard. Parliamentary diplomacy is now a new force to reckon with due to its potential in rallying international gatherings in the country even in times of diplomatic isolation so as to dispel media-hyped myths and misconceptions.

Sentient of these challenges and possible new avenues of change and progress, the political and administrative leadership of the Senate of Pakistan is defining contours of a progressive multifaceted socio-economic development and parliamentary diplomacy paradigm.

The holding of these APA sub-committee meetings here in Gwadar is in continuation of this new domestic and regional policy vision of the Upper House of Pakistan Parliament.

Conceptually speaking, the elected and administrative leadership of Pakistan Senate had three-pronged objectives behind organizing this APA event here in this important port city of Gwadar.

**Firstly**, to establish and enhance linkages between House of Federation and its federating unit to facilitate governmental efforts of unleashing huge untapped potential of Balochistan and Gwadar. **Secondly**, to bring the emerging economic hub and trade route into national and international limelight. And, **thirdly**, to afford an opportunity to Asia and

other Region's friends and partners to witness first-hand the huge investment and trade potential that Gwadar offers to not only the region but much beyond.

The overarching guiding principle or objective is to introduce harmonious development which means taking along all areas and segments and pursuing development through synergy.

Due to limited resources and manpower of Senate Secretariat, it was a challenge from the organizational as well as logistics points of view. **At the organisational level, the successful holding of this event helped dispel some misperceptions about Senate Secretariat's capabilities and teamwork. It also helped drive home the importance of synergizing Local, Provincial and National efforts horizontally and vertically in tiding over national challenges.**

Holding of this international event in a befitting manner, despite huge challenges, became possible only due to national synergy and collaboration between Parliament, Federal and Provincial governments as well as Security and Defence Institutions of the country.

I like to extend our gratitude to the Prime Minister of Pakistan for giving a national and state ownership to these APA engagements by approving VVIP / State Guest status to the delegates, which made possible comprehensive security arrangements.

We are also indebted to the Provincial Governments of Sindh and Balochistan especially Chief Secretary Balochistan, besides local Senators, and MPs. Local Administration, law-enforcement agencies, Army, Air

Force, and especially the Navy and the Southern Command, for their support and cooperation.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Standing at this esteemed forum here in Gwadar, is like a dream come true. During my long administrative career with civil service and parliamentary service, I have seen the parliamentary evolution vis-à-vis executive's developmental efforts over decades.

**All along, I had envisioned a time when the institution of Parliament would be able to win the hearts and minds of the people by becoming a proactive socio-economic developmental catalyst on ground for the under privileged. And this would not mean displacing or duplicating the role of Local or Provincial Governments mandated to do so, but creating an enabling environment and removing barriers and hurdles rooted in misperceptions or lack of information and communication.**

With this APA event being held in Gwadar, Pakistan Senate has taken the first stride towards adding a new dimension of facilitating regional and local development by showcasing to the world the peaceful ground situation as well as huge untapped potential of the port city.

For what I am particularly happy is that the efforts by Senate leadership compelled the concerned federal department to greatly increase Gwadar's internet bandwidth from previously limited internet services. Chairman Senate will also soon inaugurate the Gwadar fiber optic line. Whether it is alternate sources of power or overhauling of roads and



infrastructure, any such advancement is a source of pride for me. However, these initiatives are but a small step towards a sustainable and long-term progress in the region.

There is another dream, of our great Asian continent regaining its lost glory. Throughout ages, Asia has been a cradle of wisdom and knowledge. Our diverse history, our unique cultural variations, our rich literature, art and architecture have been a cause of envy and praise for the whole world. This glory was lost for some of our own acts of omission and commission besides the colonial forces and approaches with different terminologies and forms.

Although, the 21<sup>st</sup> Century is again witnessing the rise of the Asian continent in international affairs; yet we have a long way to go in bridging developmental gaps and wide-ranging socio-economic inequities and disparities.

Establishing an Asian Parliament may appear a goal in distant future, but the reality is that gradual integration on socio-economic and sustainable development front is no longer a choice. It is more of a compulsion considering our extraordinary circumstances and evolving peace and development paradigms.

This **ladies and gentleman** is the rationale or my understanding of the theme of this session “Parliamentary Leadership for regional Peace and Development”.

With these words, I again welcome all our distinguished guests.

I wish you a comfortable stay with assurances that the Pakistan Senate Secretariat will be here for your kind assistance and convenience so as to enable you to make the most out of these meetings.

**Thank You!**

**Standing Committee on Political Affairs and Meeting of SCCAP  
29 OCTOBER 2018, Gwadar, Pakistan**

Honorable the Acting President of Pakistan and The Chairman of Senate  
Mr. Chairman,  
Distinguished delegates,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great privilege for me to participate on behalf of APA President in the inaugural session of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs and the meeting of Special Committee for Creation of Asian Parliament of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly. Allow me to begin my address by thanking our Pakistani hosts for their initiative and their warm hospitality.

The venue of our meeting is significant, as Gwadar is an important and promising industrial hub.

Turkey as APA President is very enthusiastic to support and accommodate every meeting including the Political Standing Committee.

We expect to hold the Plenary very soon in Istanbul.

From now we welcome your participation and your documents and resolutions.

We participate in this august meeting very actively and we respect the chairman of Senate for holding this meeting.

Today, October 29, marks the 95th anniversary of the foundation of our latest state, the Republic of Turkey proclaimed under the leadership of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk.

The Turkish nation, which has never given in to bondages and dictations, crowned the war of liberation that it launched against the invaders targeting its liberation.

After this glorious victory, on 29 October 1923, we established the Republic of Turkey on the principle of "sovereignty belongs unconditionally to the nation" and with the aim of raising our nation above the level of contemporary civilizations.

Also, I would like to inform you to we are having an amazing celebration ceremony of our National Day in Istanbul today in the inauguration of our new airport which is the 7<sup>th</sup> biggest airport of the world.

We are all aware that the behavioural norms of the 20th century are now out of date. Our world in general, and Asia in particular, face numerous new risks and threats which often have global dimensions like never before but Many countries have achieved significant advances in development, production and prosperity.

However, this prosperity has not been shared equitably. Our world and Asia have not become safer. A new and functioning international order based on better cooperative relations in tackling global issues is yet to be attained.

Turkey has close parliamentary contacts with other countries as we consider the democratically elected parliaments as the principal legitimate bodies representing the people's will.

Our National Assembly constituted interparliamentary friendship groups with many countries and participates actively in the work of international and regional parliamentary unions and we are one of the principal countries contributing to the work of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly.

In order to explore the optimum way to address the creation of an Asian Parliament, we believe that priority should be given to improving the effectiveness of the APA, its working mechanisms and implementing its decisions more efficiently.

As being the representatives of our nations, we are carrying a special responsibility for the preservation, continuation and enhancement of constructive, peaceful and forward looking relationship among our nations and cultures. Confrontation is the easy option, while conciliation is the difficult one. I firmly believe that we will accomplish the difficult option through our genuine and determined efforts.

Thank you very much for your attention.



# ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Meetings of Standing Committee on Political  
Affairs  
& Special Committee on Creation of Asian  
Parliament

**GWADAR**  
29 – 30 October, 2018

## **Inaugural Ceremony**

Remarks

by

**Senator Mushahid Ullah**  
Parliamentary Leader, Senate

- **Honourable Mr. Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani, Acting President and Chairman Senate.**
- **Honourable Mr. Shibli Faraz, Leader of the House in the Senate;**
- **Honourable Justice (R) Amanullah Khan Yasinzai, Governor Balochistan;**
- **Honourable Secretaries-General of APA and IPU**
- **Representatives of APA Member Parliaments and Observer Delegations.**
- **Distinguished Guests.**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen!**

**Greetings and a Very Good Morning!**

On behalf of Pakistan Senate, I extend a very warm welcome to our APA friends and colleagues at this inaugural ceremony.

I am certain that your invaluable participation in these meetings will yield positive outcomes in line with the APA ideology.

I take this opportunity to congratulate **Honourable Sadiq Sanjrani, the Chairman Senate**, for his APA Vice-Presidency. He is an able leader who will surely play a significant role in upholding the APA vision.

I am also thankful to the Baloch leadership in particular, for their utmost hospitality towards our distinguished guests.

Gwadar is surely turning into a gateway to prosperity in the region, and our gathering here only complements our future aspirations of regional integration, and particular inclusivity of developing regions.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen!**

To achieve our objectives, cooperation and comprehensive integration on socio-economic, security, and sustainable development front is no longer a choice, but a compulsion.



We must also work towards strengthening dialogues, coordination and synergies with a view to removing any hurdles to our progress related ambitions.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen!**

I am confident that our discussions during the course of these two days will help evolve suitable ideas and proposals towards a more realistic and conducive course of action.

With these words, I again wish all our distinguished guests the best of luck.

Let us all work together to achieve all that we aspire from this august forum. **Thank You!**



# ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Meetings of Standing Committee on Political  
Affairs  
& Special Committee on Creation of Asian  
Parliament

**GWADAR**  
29 – 30 October, 2018

## **Inaugural Ceremony**

Remarks

by

**Mr. Syed Shibli Faraz**  
Leader of the House, Senate

- **Honourable Chairman Senate.**
- **Honourable Governor Balochistan.**
- **Honourable Secretaries-General of APA and IPU.**
- **Distinguished Representatives of APA Member Parliaments.**
- **Dignitaries and Friends.**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I feel privileged to have been given the opportunity to propose a vote of thanks on behalf of Pakistan Parliament and people to all our distinguished guests and participants here in Gwadar.

I commend the Honourable Chairman Senate and APA Vice-President for holding these meetings in Gwadar, thereby bringing this important hub of regional connectivity into Asian limelight.

As Leader of the House in Senate and also a representative of the ruling party, I would like to emphasize that the present government puts premium on human development and prosperity in underdeveloped provinces and areas.

Balochistan and Gwadar are on our top priority. This is due to the fact that socio-economic and infrastructural developed here has a direct and positive bearing on the prosperity of not just Pakistan but the whole region.

Therefore, to have Asia's visionary leaders here in Gwadar, united in purpose to change the fate of the teeming millions, to improve our present for a better future, is a sight to behold and a step towards a common destination.

I convey our sincere thanks to representatives of APA Member and Observer countries.

**Excellencies**, we are deeply appreciative for your invaluable participation in these important APA sub-forum meetings. I have no doubt that cooperation holds the key to fulfilling expectations and aspirations that people of Asia associate with parliamentary democracy.

I also convey special commendation to **Honourbale Sadiq Sanjrani, Chairman Senate**, for having assumed the prestigious portfolio of APA Vice-President and Chair of Standing Committee on Political Affairs and SCCAP.

**Mr. Chairman**, I am confident that under your able stewardship, these two committees would show

more progress in realizing their respective mandates, especially that of forming a grand Asian Parliament.

And last but not the least, I would like to acknowledge the hard work and commitment by Secretary Senate Mr. Amjed Pervez Malik and his officers and staff as this is instrumental to the successful hosting of this event.

Once again, **Ladies and Gentlemen**, please accept our heartfelt welcome with abiding sentiments of goodwill. May you have a comfortable stay and a mutually rewarding experience.

**Thank you!**



# ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Meetings of Standing Committee on Political  
Affairs  
& Special Committee on Creation of Asian  
Parliament

**GWADAR**  
29 – 30 October, 2018

## **Inaugural Ceremony**

Remarks

by

**Justice (R) Amanullah Khan Yasinzai,**

Governor Balochistan



- **Honourable Mr. Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani, Acting President and Chairman Senate,**
- **Honourable Secretaries-General of APA and IPU.**
- **Honourable Members of Parliaments from Asian countries.**
- **Distinguished Guests.**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen!**

### **Assalam-o-Alaikum!**

With sincerest sentiments of goodwill and friendship, I welcome you all to Gwadar, Balochistan.

On behalf of Balochistan, I extend our deepest appreciation to the **Honourable Chairman Senate and the Honourable Speaker National Assembly** for granting Balochistan the opportunity to host such distinguished members of Parliaments from all around Asia.

Gwadar in Balochistan defines the triumph of developmental cooperation between Pakistan and China with positive regional



implications. It is from here that we must build upon the notions of cooperation, and propel its effects deeper into the Asian region. I am confident that this very port city will play a critical role in the APA's pursuit of Asian prosperity in the future.

Your presence here is an expression of confidence in Pakistan and this beautiful doorway to future progress.

## **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Our great continent that is home to more than half of the planet's population is undergoing an extraordinary transformation, especially on geo-political, security and developmental fronts.

Our continent on the whole is playing an increasingly important role in the global economy, international security, and the collective efforts to advance human development.

Asia's rise on the world stage depends on economic, geo-political, and sociocultural pillars that will be crucial in reaching the common goal of a peaceful, prosperous and stable region.

It is here that I commend the Senate of Pakistan's efforts as the House of Federation, to guard the rights of its federating units. This grand intra-continental meeting here in a developing port city of Gwadar thus grants immense significance to the all-inclusive development agenda.

I firmly believe that building trust and understanding based on mutual respect must be our priority being indispensable to regional integration. At the same time, we must also crush any prevailing stereotypes and discrimination based on geography, religion or creed, and encourage interfaith harmony and dialogue.

Forming a grand joint parliament of Asia offers best guarantee to address the common challenges being faced by Asian nations and build a sound and bright future for our peoples.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen!**

Parliamentarians are uniquely positioned to play a significant role, especially in promoting the ideals of peace and prosperity in the region, and to help put Asia on global centre-stage.

With a view to maximizing our economic partnership, underdeveloped areas demand a special attention of Asian leadership so

as to lift them out of poverty, illiteracy and extremist tendencies, and help them moved forward on the road to prosperity.

I am confident that our endeavours will prove to be successful in achieving all objectives on our present agenda, leading to further deepening of cooperation among Asian nations on the basis of equality and mutual respect.

**Thank You!**



# ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Meetings of Standing Committee on Political  
Affairs  
& Special Committee on Creation of Asian  
Parliament

**GWADAR**  
29 – 30 October, 2018

## **Inaugural Ceremony**

Keynote Address

by

**Mr. Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani**

Acting President / Chairman Senate



- **Honourable Mr. Shibli Faraz, Leader of the House in the Senate.**
- **Honourable Justice (R) Amanullah Khan Yasinzai, Governor Balochistan.**
- **Honourable Secretaries-General of APA and IPU.**
- **Distinguished Members of Parliament from 23 countries.**
- **Excellencies, Guests.**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen!**

### **Assalam-o-Alaikum!**

It is indeed a privilege to welcome and address leaders, legislators and public representatives from across the Asian continent at this ceremony arranged in conjunction with the Meeting of Special Committee on Creation of Asian Parliament and APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs.

I am also pleased to have learnt that this esteemed forum of Asian parliamentarians has been making tremendous progress in forging

regional partnerships towards achieving the shared ideals of peace, democracy, stability and development.

However, for me, the most important achievement of APA is entrenchment of parliamentary cooperation. This is reflective of parliamentary supremacy prevalent in Pakistan. This is because parliament is the best forum for dispute resolution, creating political consensus, and promoting progress.

I am confident that this esteemed forum of seasoned parliamentarians and visionary leaders from all over Asia will be able to guide us as to what novel approaches can be adopted and initiatives taken to further strengthen parliamentary democracy and pluralistic politics.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Early this year, Pakistan has undergone a remarkable political transition following general elections that not only strengthened democratic process and parliamentary democracy, but also the deep democratic ethos of Pakistani society.

Strengthening federation by improving federal-provincial developmental synergy is a priority area for us, and Balochistan is a

special focus in this regard. This province, despite its immense wealth of minerals resources and economic potential to change the destiny of not just Pakistan but the whole region, has struggled in terms of development in past.

In this regard, socio-economic, human and commerce development as well as trade activities are being given priority in the province so as to alleviate poverty and deprivation there, and also making it the mainstay of Pakistan's economic trajectory.

I am also elated that this APA meeting has been arranged in Gwadar, an important port city located at the cross junction of international shipping and oil trade routes. We aim at further development of Gwadar as a hub of economic prosperity and regional connectivity. I like to commend the leadership role being played the Parliament, especially Senate, to this effect.

With a 60 per cent population comprising youth, large and growing middle class and a consumer market that is over 200 million strong, Pakistan will soon be a bridge connecting markets in the Middle East, Africa and Europe with convincing reduction in cost and time.

I, therefore, take this opportunity to wholeheartedly welcome all countries across APA spectrum and elsewhere in Asia to join Pakistan and be partners in our endeavor to see an economically, socially and culturally integrated Asia ready to lead the world, as also aspired and envisioned by the APA charter.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

We are aiming at equitable development, equality, inclusivity, improved and accessible health and educational facilities, non-discrimination towards minorities, women and disadvantaged, good governance and tolerance.

At the regional and global level, we seek friendly relations with all, especially our neighbours.

We believe that peaceful settlement of longstanding disputes together with developmental cooperation will be vital towards regional development by helping each other realize our true economic potential with mutually beneficial outcomes.

It is an incontrovertible reality that as we find ways to strengthen mutual cooperation, we would be experiencing shared prosperity.



## **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Coming to the theme of this meeting **“Parliamentary Leadership in Promoting Peace and Development”**, all me to say that today, the APA Member states are facing somewhat common challenges and opportunities on key fronts of peace, security, development, environment, energy, trade, health and education, basic amenities, human rights, and regional conflicts.

Extremism, food insecurity, water shortage and pollution are issues that are not endemic to one particular state, carrying much wider implications for the whole region.

In particular, the adverse socio-economic impacts of terrorism can hardly be overemphasized. Pakistan being the frontline state in the global war on terror has rendered great sacrifices for both domestic and global peace and stability.

Despite over 70,000 Pakistanis having been either martyred or injured in the war on terror, and our economic losses amounting to \$126.79 billion during last 17 years, our people, our parliament and our armed forces stand united and resolute in defeating terror.

For Asia to fully realize the shared vision of Asian Century and become true economic, cultural and technological leader of the world, we must join hands across all possible avenues like clean energy, sustainable development, science and technology, agriculture, education and culture for mutual dividends.

I believe that we need to create a better understanding and awareness of the guiding principles of the resolutions of the Political Affairs Committee, especially with regard to Good Governance, Rule of Law and Judicial Empowerment to name but a few.

Moreover, the Special Committee on Creation of Asian Parliament is also a praiseworthy endeavor towards addressing intricacies of integration and leveling the ground for a grand parliament that is representative of a unified Asia.

It is indeed a long and step-by-step task, but Pakistan's Parliament, especially, Senate, has the honour of playing a leadership role in defining its vision and taking important steps in this regard.

This is indeed a challenging task, but by no means, and impossible feat, and these meetings constitute an important headway to this end.

I once again like to extend my appreciation to Senate Secretariat for excellent arrangements. By assembling a truly Asian gathering of parliamentarians here in Gwadar, Senate has really played its role as the “House of Federation”.

I was looking forward to preside the meetings of SCCAP and Standing Committee on Political Affairs, however, since I had to assume office of the President of Pakistan, I am nominating Senator Syed Shibli Faraz, Leader of the House in the Senate, to chair the meetings on my behalf.

**With these remarks, I hereby declare the meetings open.**

**Thank You.**

-

**Pakistan Painsdabad.**



# ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Meetings of Standing Committee on Political  
Affairs  
& Special Committee on Creation of Asian  
Parliament

**GWADAR**  
29 – 30 October, 2018

## **Meeting of Standing Committee on Political Affairs**

Remarks

by

**Mr. Amjed Pervez Malik**  
Secretary, Senate

- **Distinguished Delegates,**
- **Guests,**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen!**

### **Assalam-o-Alikum**

Before starting the formal and official business of the Standing Committee of APA, the host Parliament with the concurrence of APA HQ had arranged a special presentation that Senate of Pakistan has arranged on the ongoing developmental activities in Gwadar.

The briefing will help to understand the backdrop why we have arranged these APA committee meetings here in Gwadar. Promoting regional inclusivity and socio-economic mainstreaming of peripheral areas of Federating Units is in the current and emerging functions of the Upper House of Pakistan Parliament, the House of Federation.

Moreover, interconnectivity and regional integration is a joint quest for both APA and Pakistan. In this regard, Gwadar carries an enormous significance in furthering our ‘shared prosperity’ agenda a potential economic, trade and energy hub in the region, that will open doors for inter and intra-regional trade among different continents.

## **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The demographical canvas and development of a civilization have always been sketched by pragmatic facets like geography and history. Civilizations have always developed along the waters, which served as trade routes. Changing world economy, Globalization has ushered in the era of 'Borderless Civilization', whereby sea trade has become a major component of modern trade.

Pakistan being a gateway to the strategically important 'Strait Of Hurmoz' is laying a special focus on developing Gwadar Port.

Asia has many landlocked countries for whom availability of viable shortest routes for international trade is of vital importance. Gwadar's location to this end is ideal. It can fulfill the requirement of three strategically important regions, that is, the oil rich Middle East, heavily populated South Asia and Western China, and the economically emerging resource-laden region of Central Asia. It offers virgin areas and fields for investment ranging from construction to oil refineries and wide ranging seminars.

The port is likely to open up new vistas of cooperation and development in the region by providing facilities such as warehousing, transshipment, transit, coastal trade, and commercial and industrial facilities for international export-import trade.

It is in this perspective that this upcoming presentation has been arranged so as to create more awareness among our esteemed Members

about the potential and significance of Gwadar for inter and intra-regional integration which as a result can lead to peace and development, a core objective of APA and its Committees.

With these words, I now invite the GDA representative to take the floor.

**Thank You!**



# ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Meetings of Standing Committee on Political  
Affairs  
& Special Committee on Creation of Asian  
Parliament

**GWADAR**  
29 – 30 October, 2018

## **Meeting of Special Committee on Creation of Asian Parliament (SCCAP)**

Opening Remarks by Vice President or Nominee

**Mr. Syed Shibli Faraz**

Leader of the House, Senate





- **Honourable Members of Parliaments;**
- **Representatives of APA Secretariat;**
- **Excellencies;**
- **Distinguished Guests;**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen.**

I would like to extend my appreciation to all the Members for their commitment towards the creation of Asian Parliament. I am hopeful that this committee will catalyse our intentions and actions towards the creation of an Asian Parliament.

There is no doubt that our meetings under the SCCAP always generate positive vibes towards the target of the Asian Parliament. I take this opportunity, however, to urge all our honourable delegates to sensitise their governments back home, and especially to bring their parliaments on board the goal of the Asian Parliament with parliamentary feedback.

Simultaneously, the Senate of Pakistan is working on a detailed proposal on the roadmap for Asian Parliament, building upon an earlier document of APA titled “*Foundation of an Asian Parliament*” which would be presented in the SCCAP Meeting at the 11<sup>th</sup> Plenary. This study

will help synchronise the committee's approach towards SCCAP's ultimate goal.

Subject to approval of the recommendations by the Plenary, the Senate of Pakistan also proposes that a Speakers Conference of APA Members may be convened to attain a clear parliamentary consensus and approval towards the establishment of Asian Parliament.

**Ladies and Gentlemen!**

In this backdrop of Gwadar, the doorway to regional cooperation, let us all look beyond any differences and cooperate to find common ground.

With these words, I wish all the respected delegates the best of luck with their efforts and contributions that are to follow in this meeting. And I also hope that the outcome of today's meeting will tangibly catalyse the objectives of SCCAP.

**Thank you!**

## **Gwadar Statement**

30<sup>th</sup> October, 2018

The Standing Committee on Political Affairs and Special Committee on Creation of Asian Parliament (SCCAP) of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) met in Gwadar, Pakistan, from 29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2018. In its journey towards becoming a model port city of the world, this gathering of countries from all over Asia witnessed first-hand and appreciated the potential that Gwadar offers to the region and beyond.

The high-level delegations comprising of parliamentary leaders, senior officials, and diplomats from 23 countries participated in the meeting, including China, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Iran, Sri Lanka, Qatar, Indonesia, Bahrain, Oman, Thailand, Cambodia, Nepal, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Samoa, Lao Peoples Democratic Republic, Timor-Leste, and Bhutan. The opening plenary witnessed participation from the Chair of Pakistan-France Friendship Group, from the French Senate, as well as the Secretary General of the Inter Parliamentary Union, signifying the growing potential and global recognition of the ideals and goals of APA. The attendance was recorded as the highest participation ever in any APA Standing Committee Meeting.

The meeting of the APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs further strengthened the resolve towards enhanced cooperation on areas of convergence, including strengthening economic, trade, cultural, and political linkages among the countries of the largest continent.

At the same time, the meeting of SCCAP helped guide the APA member nations in taking forward the deliberations on the creation of an Asian Parliament and towards an Asian Century of peace and prosperity. Continued exchanges,

deliberations, and cooperation among APA states would further facilitate attainment of the common goal of sustainable development.

It is critical to highlight the fact that our Asian vision is not just limited to trade, politics, economic markets' integration, and energy, but also carries a much-needed heed to help adapt to climate change and preserve the environment. To mark this historic gathering, our distinguished delegates also lent a hand in our national drive towards tree plantation campaign. This effort received a boost by China's contribution of one million trees for a greener Gwadar.

While we all have our national priorities and goals, we must continue to take our cooperation forward, synergise our resources and efforts, and support each other for the collective development of Asia.

# SENATE SECRETARIAT

## Details of APA delegates

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18.	Engineer. Al-Rawahi Majid Bin Said Bin Salim	Mp	Oman	212
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20.	Mr. Socheat Nguon	Mp		216
21.	Mr. Khlang Oudam	STAFF		214
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23.	Hon. Nima,	MP-HOD	Bhutan	218
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25.	Mr. Jigme Samdrup	Mp		220
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27.	Hon. Ms. Mukta Kumari Yadav,	Mp		325
28.	Mr. Ganga Dhar Pandey	Staff		326
29.	Dr. Hani Khashoggi,	Mp	KSA	230
30.	Dr. Saad Alangari	Staff		229
31.	Dr. Mohamed Ali Mohamed Alkhozai	Mp-Hod	Bahrain	411
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33.	Dr. Abdulaziz Hasan Ali Abul	MP		416
34.	Mr. Mohamed Ismaeel Abbas Ahmed Alammadi	Mp		425
35.	Mr. Sayed Ali Mohamed Sulman Ahmed Mohamed	Staff		412
36.	Mr. Saleh Hamdi	Staff		415
37.	Ms. Maria Terezinha Da Silvia Viegas,	Mp	Timor Leste	226
38.	Dr. Mariano Sabino Lopes,	Mp		227
39.	Mr. Julio Tomas Pinto	Staff		228
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42.	Mr. Fadel Wardeh,	Mp		304
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44.	Mr. Samer Shiha,	Mp		303
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68.	Mr. Zuhair Rashad Awad Sanduqa	Mp		224
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70.	Mr. Martin Chungong	Secretary General	IPU	222
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