



## Report of APA Coordination Meeting at the sideline of 136<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly 2 April 2017 Dhaka – Bangladesh

Report- Coordination/2017/02  
8 April, 2017

1. In Implementation of APA/Res/2008/07, the APA held a Coordination Meeting on 2 April 2017 at the side of the 136th IPU Assembly in Dhaka – Bangladesh. Honorable, Mr. Nhem Thavy, the Distinguished Representative of the National Assembly of Cambodia chaired the meeting. The meeting had before it a draft agenda which was adopted without amendments. The Agenda for the Coordination Meeting is reproduced as **Annex I**.
2. Member Parliaments from Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Palestine, Kuwait, Laos, Russian Federation, Thailand and Turkey took active participation in the APA Coordination Meeting.
3. The chairperson welcomed the delegates and briefed them on the agenda items. He also provided a detailed Report on APA activities under the presidency of Kingdom of Cambodia during the 2016- 17.
4. The Secretary-General made an opening statement and highlighted the APA events in 2017 as the followings:
  - The meetings of APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs and Special Committee for the Creation of Asian Parliament (SCCAP) were held on 14-17 March 2017 in Islamabad – Pakistan. The representatives of 23 Member Parliaments participated and have



- approved 7 draft resolutions to be presented to the 1<sup>st</sup> APA Executive Council meeting.
- The meeting of APA Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development Affairs is scheduled to be hosted by the Council of representatives of Kingdom of Bahrain on 24-27 April in Manama. All APA Member Parliaments are invited to expedite confirming their participation and sending the Registration Forms by 9<sup>th</sup> April 2017.
  - APA Standing Committee meeting on Staff and Financial Regulations will be hosted by the Federal Council of UAE on 21-24 May 2017 in Abu Dhabi. The invitation letter and other related documents will be sent to all APA Member Parliaments soon.
  - APA Standing Committee meeting on Social and Cultural Affairs will be hosted by the National Assembly of Bhutan. As the representatives of host Parliament informed the meeting, it will be held on 30 August to 3 September 2017 in Thimphu.
  - The APA Secretariat in coordination with the President will announce the exact date for organizing the 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Council meeting in Phnom Penh- Kingdom of Cambodia as the President of APA.
  - Secretary General also briefly referred to other activities of APA Secretariat. Text of Secretary-General statement is attached as **Annex- II**
5. The chairman requested participants to exchanged views on the five items proposed to IPU for inclusion in the agenda of 136<sup>th</sup> Assembly. The representative of Palestine has presented a detailed report on the Israel legitimization of the settlement by the so called “Regulation Law” and called for the repeal of this law. The law violates international law and constitutes a great danger and negatively affects the peace process in the Middle East, Internationally, namely the achievement of a two-state solution. Since there was no more idea it was decided to request appreciation APA Member Parliaments to support the Emergency Item proposed by Palestine,
6. The Chairman and the Secretary-General expressed appreciation to all delegations that attended the meeting and contributed to the discussion.



## Annex -I

### **APA Cooperation and Coordination Committee Meeting**

At the side of 136<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly

Sunday, 2 April 2017

**10.00 – 11.00 a.m.**

Media Bazar,

on the ground floor of the BICC (venue of the 136<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly)

#### **Draft Agenda**

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Remarks by Honorable Mr. Nhem Thavy, Representative of APA  
President
3. Remarks by APA Secretary-General
4. Consideration and discussion on the Emergency items on the IPU  
Agenda
5. APA events of 2017, preparation and active participation
6. Any other matter.



## **Annex –II**

**Statement by His Excellency Dr. Mohammad Reza Majidi  
Secretary-General of Asian Parliamentary Assembly  
APA Coordination meeting at the sideline of  
The 136<sup>th</sup> Assembly of IPU**

**2 April 2017  
Dhaka- Bangladesh**

**Mr. Chairman,  
Distinguished delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen**

I am very pleased to welcome you all to this Coordinating Committee of APA. As the new Secretary-General of this prestigious organization, it is my first time to meet you in the side line of IPU Assembly but I know that tens of such gatherings have been held with very fruitful outcomes.

As you are all well aware, APA's core goals can only be achieved when all Member Parliaments join together to implement the decisions and resolutions which already have been adopted in our previous 9 Plenary sessions. To this end, APA Secretariat is willing to act as a bridge among Member Parliaments to ensure fruitful communication and to promote understanding. Therefore, I believe it is necessary to enhance our activities including exploring ways to unite our voices against any unpleasant circumstances threatening peace and security, social and economic developments in Asia as the largest and more populated continent.

On the other hand we need to raise APA's profile around the world, promoting the organization as the greatest parliamentary body in Asia and I believe our presence in this Assembly is a unique opportunity to introduce our works to all other similar organizations from every corner of the world.



This will also lead us to increase future cooperation and to focus on our goals.

Now I wish to present a brief report on recent APA activities. The 9<sup>th</sup> APA Plenary session was held early December 2016 in Siem Reap – Kingdom of Cambodia. It was a very successful meeting and I wish to express my gratitude to the Honorable Heng Samrin, President of APA for excellent hospitality extended to all participants. In this Plenary four Member Parliaments were elected as the Vice Presidents as the following:

1. Senate of Pakistan as the Vice President for chairing the Standing Committee on Political Affairs
2. Council of representatives of Kingdom of Bahrain as the Vice President for chairing the Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development Affairs
3. Federal National Council of United Arab Emirates as the Vice President for chairing the Standing Committee on Staff and Financial regulations
4. National Assembly of Kingdom of Bhutan as the Vice President for chairing the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs

The Senate of Pakistan has organized the meetings of Standing Committee on Political Affairs and the Special Committee for Creation of Asian Parliament (SCCAP) on 13 to 17 March 2017 in Islamabad. Presence of representatives from 23 APA Member Parliaments and approval of 7 draft resolutions is a good indication that our Member Parliaments are deeply accountable and are ready to cooperate on such important issues. My sincere thanks go to Honorable Mian Reza Rabbani, Chairman of Senate of Pakistan for his able leadership.

The APA Standing Committee meeting on Economic and Sustainable Development is scheduled to be held on 24-27 April 2017 in Manama – Kingdom of Bahrain and we expect to come out with constructive deliberation on sensitive economical issues. Important subjects such as affordable and clean energy, clean water and sanitation, eradication of poverty, international financial issues as well as the environmental issues shall attract the views of participants. Securing the sustainable developments in Asia, needs full attention of parliamentarians to end poverty and create a life of dignity and opportunity for all. The official invitation letter and other



related documents have been forwarded to all Member Parliaments and we are waiting for feedbacks.

The Standing Committee meeting on Staff and Financial Regulations will be hosted by the Federal National Council of United Arab Emirates in Abu Dhabi, most probably on 21 – 24 May 2017. The ways and means of assessed contribution to the budget of APA, revision of some rules and regulations and other administrative issues will be discussed. I hope also this meeting can propose certain binding regulations on the participation in the regular events to secure the legitimacy of APA decisions.

The APA Secretariat is in close contact with the Honorable Speaker of National Assembly of Bhutan to set the date and venue for the APA Standing Committee meeting on Social and Cultural Affairs.

Finally, the 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Council meeting of Asian Parliamentary Assembly will be held in Phnom Penh – Kingdom of Cambodia in early August. The exact date shall be conveyed to all Member Parliaments shortly.

I would like to take this opportunity and invite all distinguished APA Member Parliaments to actively participate in these meetings to enrich the deliberations, promote cooperation among Asian Parliaments and to protect the rights of Asian people to live in a more reliable world.

**Mr. Chairman,  
Dear delegates,**

While express once again my sincere gratitude for participation in this meeting and hopefully conveying my request for being more active in APA events to your relevant authorities, now floor is open for discussion and decision on the favorite choice of APA Member Parliaments to be included in the agenda of 136<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly as the “Emergency Item”.

**Thank you.**