



ГОСУДАРСТВЕННАЯ ДУМА
ФЕДЕРАЛЬНОГО СОБРАНИЯ РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ
СЕДЬМОГО СОЗЫВА

ДЕПУТАТ
ГОСУДАРСТВЕННОЙ ДУМЫ

05 07 20 18 г.

№ 2011-4/003

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

Following to our conversation during the 8th APA Plenary Session in Istanbul, November, 2017, and the International Parliamentary Forum in Moscow, June 2018, concerning the need to improve APA statutory documents I am glad to transmit the amendments to the APA Charter, Rules of Procedure and Financial Regulation.

You are kindly requested to distribute these amendments among the APA member parliaments in order to discuss them within the nearest forthcoming meeting of the APA Standing Committee on the Staff and Financial Regulations.

Also I kindly ask you to include into the Draft Agenda of the Standing Committee on the Staff and Financial Regulations forthcoming meeting the following questions:

- 1) The renaming of the Standing Committee on the Staff and Financial Regulations to the Standing Committee on the Statutory Documents, Staff and Financial Regulations;
- 2) The consideration of Amendments to APA Charter, Rules of Procedure, Staff and Financial Regulations.

I and the Secretariat of the Russian Delegation to APA remain at your disposal to answer any related questions you may have.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely yours,


Mikhail Emelyanov,

First Deputy of the Chairman of the State Duma Committee on the State Construction and Legislation, Head of the Russian Delegation to APA

H.E. Mr. Mohammad Reza Majidi,
Secretary General, Asian Parliamentary Assembly
Tehran

**FINANCIAL REGULATIONS
AMENDMENTS***

Ser. No.	Current revision	New revision	Notes
1	<p>ARTICLE -1</p> <p>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.</p> <p>ARTICLE -2</p> <p>The fiscal year shall run from the first day of May to the last day of April.</p>	<p>Unchanged</p>	
2	<p>ARTICLE -3</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>New revision:</p> <p>The General Secretary shall draw up a draft annual budget and submit it to the Standing Committee for Budgeting and Procedure Rules for consideration but not later than 30 days prior to the first meeting of the Executive Board.</p> <p>The Standing Committee for Budgeting and Procedure Rules shall prepare recommendations on the draft budget.</p> <p>The final budget shall be approved by the Executive Board.</p>	
3	<p>ARTICLE -4</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>New revision:</p> <p>Expenses cannot exceed the threshold amount stipulated by the budget.</p> <p>The General Secretary is liable for any expenses exceeding the threshold amount stipulated by the budget.</p>	
4	<p>ARTICLE -5</p> <p>The budget and the Secretariat accounts shall be drawn up and kept in Euro and Iranian Rial.</p>	<p>Unchanged</p>	
5	<p>ARTICLE -6</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Deleted</p>	
6	<p>ARTICLE -7</p> <p>All payments to the APA under any category,</p>	<p>Unchanged</p>	

	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.		
7	<p>ARTICLE - 8</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>8.3 All such transfers shall be reported in the explanatory information referred to in Article 4, together with an explanation of the circumstances.</p>	<p>New revision</p> <p>8.3 Every redistribution of resources shall be accompanied by an explanatory note justifying a need in such redistribution.</p>	
8	<p>ARTICLE - 9</p> <p>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.</p> <p>ARTICLE - 10</p> <p>10.1 The annual budget, which shall be approved by the Plenary and will not exceed 1,000,000 US dollars (one million US dollars), 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 being an indispensable attachment of these Regulations</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>10.5 The Secretary General shall submit to the Executive Council a report on the collection of contributions.</p>	<p>Unchanged</p>	

9	<p>ARTICLE – 11</p> <p>11.1. The Secretary General shall be responsible for administering the APA funds.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>11.3 To this end, the Secretary General shall issue directives, set procedures and take the following steps:</p> <p>11.3.1 To check that all expenditure is in conformity with the credits and other fiscal measures approved by the Plenary.</p> <p>11.3.2 To ensure that payments are made only on production of vouchers for services rendered and/or goods received.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>New revision</p> <p>11.1. The General Secretary shall manage the budget execution and is liable for disposal of the APA financial resources.</p> <p><i>Other sub-clauses shall remain unchanged</i></p>	
0	<p>ARTICLE -12</p> <p>APA funds shall be kept in Banks of the APA Headquarters.</p> <p>ARTICLE -13</p> <p>13.1 The Head of Human and Financial Resources Department shall maintain documents to show:</p> <p>13.1.1. Amounts authorized, commitments undertaken, payments made, and available balances of authorizations with respect to each item in the budget.</p> <p>13.1.2 Assessed contributions of all Member Parliaments, together with the payments received from them and the balances remaining due.</p> <p>13.1.3 Miscellaneous income.</p> <p>13.1.4 Cash balances and balances at banks.</p>	<p>Unchanged</p> <p>New revision:</p> <p>13.2 The General Secretary shall submit financial reports on the APA financial status to the Financial Control Committee twice per year.</p>	

	<p>13.1.5 Other assets and liabilities of the APA.</p> <p>13.2 The Secretary General shall present to the Executive Council biannual financial reports on the APA financial situation.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>ARTICLE -15 The APA funds shall be made up of:</p> <p>1- Payment of assessed contributions by Member Parliaments in accordance with approved attachment.</p> <p>2- The grants, endowments and donations in cash and in kind accepted by the Secretary General.</p> <p>3- The Interests/profit granted on funds and deposits of the APA accounts.</p>		
1	<p>ARTICLE -16</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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:</p>	<p>New revision:</p> <p>Cl. 16.1 deleted</p> <p>Cl. 16.2 deleted</p> <p>Cl. 16.3. New revision The Financial Control Committee (FCC) consisting of five auditors from among the parliament members shall be appointed by the Executive Board for two years according to the rotation principle so as the representatives of all the APA member-parliaments that make regular contributions could participate in the committee.</p> <p>Cl. 16.4. New revision The Financial Control Committee (FCC) shall hold meetings up to twice per year, conduct an annual financial</p>	

	<p>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.</p> <p>16.5 The local External Account Auditor shall abide by the conventional international rules and accounting standards.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>audit at the headquarters of the Secretariat, check the Secretariat's accounts for the preceding years, and draw up a report. The Committee shall submit this report to the Executive Board. This report shall include the following: a) comments on financial issues; b) a degree of efficiency of the financial and internal control procedures at the Secretariat; c) recommendations.</p> <p>Cl. 16.5 deleted</p> <p>Cl. 16.6. New revision The Financial Control Committee is entitled to request the General Secretary to provide explanations on financial issues.</p> <p>Cl. 16.7. New revision The General Secretary may submit a report containing its own opinion and observations concerning the Report of the Financial Control Committee (FCC) to the Executive Board.</p> <p>Cl. 16.8 New revision The cost of works and other expenses of the Financial Control Committee (FCC) shall be covered by the APA budget.</p> <p>Cl. 16.9 Unchanged</p>	
1	<p>ARTICLE -17</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Clause 17. New revision:</p> <p>Cl. 17.1. The Executive Board shall examine the reports of the Standing Committee for Budgeting and Procedure Rules at its first meeting. In case of discrepancies, it shall hear a report of the Financial Control Committee (FCC) and the General Secretary and makes a decision on whether to approve it. In case of non-approval of the financial report, the Executive Board shall continue considering the remaining issues until it finds a solution before the financial year closing.</p> <p>Cl. 17.2. The Executive Board shall pass a budget for the next year at its second meeting.</p>	

The numbering of clauses will be changed once the document is approved in full.*

THE AMENDMENTS TO APA CHARTER

APA / 2007/10
November 19, 2007

Charter Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA)*

No.	Current version	New version	Note
1.	<p>The Charter was adopted substantially at the first session of the APA Plenary meeting on November, 2006. The amendments were drafted at the meeting of the Executive Council on November 17-18, 2007 in Tehran and were recommended for adoption by the APA 2nd Plenary meeting. The APA 2nd plenary meeting held on November 19-21 in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, adopted its Charter in the attached version on Monday, November 19, 2007.</p>	<p>New version: The Charter was adopted substantially at the first session of the APA Plenary meeting on November, 2006. The amendments were drafted at the meeting of the Executive Council on November 17-18, 2007 in Tehran and recommended for adoption by the 2nd Plenary session of APA. The 2nd Plenary meeting of APA held on November 19-21 in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, adopted its Charter in the attached version on Monday, November 19, 2007, and the new version of the Charter was approved by the Executive Council on ____, 2019 (<i>city, country</i>), was approved by APA Plenary session on ____,2019 (<i>city, country</i>).</p>	<p>The time and place of adoption of the new version of the Charter are to be further determined.</p>
2.	<p><u>Premises</u></p> <p>Being convinced that the pursuit of peace based on justice and international cooperation is vital for preservation of the human society and civilization;</p> <p>Reaffirming the commitment of the Asian countries to the common spiritual and moral values constituting the shared heritage of their peoples and the true source of individual freedom, political freedom, the rule of law, the principles forming the foundation for any genuine democracy;</p> <p>Believing that there is a need for a greater unity among the Asian countries in order to preserve and further implement these ideals and for facilitating economic and social</p>	<p>The last sentence shall be deleted</p> <p><u>New version: Premises</u></p> <p>Being convinced that the pursuit of peace based on justice and international cooperation is vital for preservation of the human society and civilization;</p> <p>Reaffirming the commitment of the Asian countries to the common spiritual and moral values constituting the shared heritage of their peoples and the true source of individual freedom, political freedom, the rule of law, the principles forming the foundation for any genuine democracy;</p> <p>Believing that there is a need for a greater unity among the</p>	<p>The last sentence is no longer relevant</p>

	<p>progress;</p> <p>Responding to this need and expressing the desire of our peoples to this goal, we believe it is necessary to immediately establish the Assembly that would unite the Asian countries into a closer association with a view to their possible integration into the Asian parliamentary union;</p> <p>Proceeding from the aforesaid, we, the present members of the Association of Asian parliaments for peace (AAPM) see the need to transform the AAPM into the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) and hereby declare on behalf of the parliaments we represent as follows:</p>	<p>Asian countries in order to preserve and further implement these ideals and for facilitating economic and social progress;</p> <p>Responding to this need and expressing the desire of our peoples, we believe it is necessary to immediately establish the Assembly that will unite the Asian countries into a closer association with a view to their possible further integration;</p>	
3.	<u>General rules</u>	Unchanged	
4.	<p>Article 1: APA Education</p> <p>The Association of Asian parliaments for peace (AAPM) is hereby transformed into the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA), hereinafter referred to as the "Assembly". This Charter accordingly supersedes the AAPM Charter.</p>	<p>New version:</p> <p>Article 1. APA Education</p> <p>APA is formed by the parliaments of Asian countries (hereinafter referred to as the "members"), who are to send their delegations (hereinafter – the "delegations") consisting of the currently active deputies of the said parliaments for participation in APA activities. Deputies who are members of the Parliament delegation shall be hereinafter referred to as the "delegates".</p>	
5.	<p>Article 2: Principles of APA formation</p> <p>All participating member Parliaments;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasizing the equality of all members; • Recognizing the national rights, sovereignty, peaceful coexistence and non-interference into their internal affairs; • Believing in friendly relationship and peaceful settlement of conflicts; • Supporting and promoting human rights, fighting terrorism and recognizing the rights and freedom of nations; • Emphasizing the need for full cooperation for sustainable development and environmental protection; • Seeking to establish common organizations dedicated to provide infrastructure and promote economic development by using the advantages 	<p>New version:</p> <p>Article 2. APA Foundation Principles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - equality of all members - recognition of sovereignty and independence of APA member states - commitment to principles of peaceful coexistence and non-interference into internal affairs of other states - commitment to amicable settlement of conflicts - recognition of rights and freedom of nations - promotion of human rights - fighting terrorism - cooperation in achieving sustainable development and environmental protection - promotion of cultural, political and economic diversity of Asian countries 	

	<p>of regional communities;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Believing in the benefits of harmonized laws and judicial procedures of the Assembly members, taking into account the diversity of the Asian cultural, political and economic experiences, with a view to achieve commonality of legislative systems; <p>We express our readiness to establish the Asian Parliamentary Assembly</p>		
6.	<p>Article 3: The purposes of APA</p> <p>The purposes of APA are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supporting freedom, social justice, peace, security and friendly relationships to meet the Assembly objectives. 2. Collective use of advanced knowledge in multiple fields and promotion of such experience among members to facilitate progress and equality of its members. 3. Sharing vast human and natural resources and protecting the interests of all members, protection of their permanent rights to their natural resources. 4. Provision of social, cultural and household facilities to maintain health and supply foodstuffs to population of its members. 5. Promoting integration among the peoples of Asia in order to take advantages of the region. 	Unchanged	
7.	<p>Article 4: Membership in APA</p> <p>Membership in APA is available to national parliaments of the sovereign states of Asia.</p> <p>The national parliaments of the sovereign states of Asia may at any time submit their applications for admission to APA. Applications will be distributed among the member parliaments and shall be subject to approval by 2/3 majority of the Assembly members.</p>	<p>New version: Article 4. Participation in APA</p> <p>A parliament of a country who is fully or partially situated in Asia, is committed to APA principles and objectives, is ready to comply with APA Charter may become a participant of APA. The procedure for admission of new participants is regulated by APA Regulations.</p>	Bureau shall be excluded from APA bodies as it has never been established and has no real powers.
8.	<p><u>Core bodies and structure</u></p>	<p>New version: APA structure</p>	The new name eliminates the tautology
9.	<p>Article 5: The key bodies of APA</p>	<p>New version: Article 5. APA bodies</p>	

	<p>APA should include the following bodies: Plenary meeting, Executive Board, Bureau of the Assembly, Committees that may be formed and the Secretariat.</p>	<p>APA consists of the Plenary session, Executive Board, Chairman of APA, standing committees and Secretariat. Activities of APA bodies are governed by the Regulations. The formation of subsidiary bodies is governed by the Regulations.</p>	
10	<p>Plenary meeting</p> <p>Article 6: Participants of the Plenary meeting and Scrutineers</p> <p>As the most important body, the Plenary meeting shall be attended by appointed delegates of the member parliaments, who should be elected by their respective parliaments for two years term of office.</p> <p>Other parliaments of Asian countries, regional and international organizations may attend the sessions of the APA Plenary meeting as Observers subject to consent of the Executive Council.</p> <p>Article 7: Powers of the Plenary meeting</p> <p>The Plenary Meeting may adopt decisions, resolutions and declarations or submit for consideration reports on APA General policy and on other matters related to its activities.</p>	<p>This clause shall be removed</p>	<p>It is proposed to regulate the matters related to organization of APA bodies activities by the Regulations</p>
11	<p>Article 8: Number of votes</p> <p>Each APA member parliament has the right to vote according to the number of delegates attending a Plenary meeting. Each member parliament is entitled to two delegates plus some additional number of delegates, as to be determined as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Countries with population varying between 1 million to 50 million shall be entitled to two additional delegates, • Countries with population varying from 50 to 200 million will be entitled to three additional delegates, • countries with population varying from 200 to 500 million shall be 	<p>New version: Article 6. Number of delegates from one parliament.</p> <p>Each APA member parliament may send a delegation for participation in APA in the number of two delegates and may include some additional number of delegates to be determined as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Countries with population varying between 1 million to 50 million shall be entitled to two additional delegates, • Countries with population varying from 50 to 200 million will be entitled to three additional delegates, • countries with population 	

	<p>entitled to four additional delegates, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • countries with population of over 500 million will shall be entitled to five additional delegates. 	<p>varying from 200 to 500 million shall be entitled to four additional delegates, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Countries with population of over 500 million shall be entitled to five additional delegates. 	
12	<p>Article 9: Sessions of the Plenary meeting</p> <p>A plenary meeting shall have at least one regular annual session. Where it is strictly necessary, and if so requested by any parliament member and subject to consent of the majority of the member parliaments, an extraordinary session shall be convened.</p> <p>Article 10: Executive Council</p> <p>The Executive Council shall consist of APA delegates, one delegate from each APA member Parliament.</p> <p>The Executive Council shall convene its meetings at least biannually: one meeting shall be convened immediately before the Plenary meeting, and the second meeting shall be convened three months before the Plenary meeting and shall be held in the previous host country.</p> <p>Article 10: Bureau of the Assembly</p> <p>The Assembly shall have a President, four Vice-presidents and one Speaker, with allowance for equitable regional distribution. *</p> <p>The President of the Assembly shall be elected by majority vote of the delegates of the participating parliaments from among the presidents or speakers of the participating parliaments with a one-year or two-year term of office, depending on the appropriate decision to be taken by the host Parliament. The President shall be entitled to be re-elected for one term of office immediately following the first term of office.</p> <p>The President shall be elected at the first meeting for each term of office for the upcoming period.</p>	<p>This clause shall be removed</p>	<p>Issues related to organization of activities of APA bodies are proposed to be governed by the Regulations. We believe the Bureau to be excessive as a body.</p>

13	<p>Article 10: Bureau of the Assembly</p> <p>The Assembly shall have a President, four Vice-presidents and one Speaker, with allowance for equitable regional distribution. *</p> <p>The President of the Assembly shall be elected by majority vote of the delegates of the participating parliaments from among the presidents or speakers of the participating parliaments with a one-year or two-year term of office, depending on the appropriate decision to be taken by the host Parliament. The President shall be entitled to be re-elected for one term of office immediately following the first term of office.</p> <p>The President shall be elected at the first meeting for each term of office for the upcoming period.</p>	<p>New version: Article 7. Chairman of the Assembly</p> <p>The President of the Assembly shall be elected by a majority vote of the delegates of the participating parliaments from among the chairmen (speakers) of the participating parliaments with a one-year term of office. The President may be re-elected for a second term by decision of the Plenary meeting.</p> <p>The President shall be elected by majority vote of the delegates participating in the voting at a Plenary session.</p> <p>The powers of the President shall take effect at the time of election and shall terminate with effect from a new President elected.</p> <p>The Chairman shall direct the APA work, supervise the Secretariat activities, organize the plenary session of the executive councils in its home country and shall provide conditions for their work.</p> <p>The powers of the President and the conduct of his/her activities shall be governed by the regulations.</p>	We believe the Bureau is excessive body.
14	<p>Article 10: Legal entity</p> <p>The Asian Parliamentary Assembly is a legal entity represented by its President.</p>	<p>Article 8: The text is left unchanged</p>	
15	<p>Article 11: Voting</p> <p>All resolutions of the Assembly shall be passed by majority of votes of those present and voting delegates of the members' parliaments, unless a plenary meeting passes a resolution by simple majority of delegates' votes, to the effect that a greater majority of votes is required to pass a resolution on a particular matter.</p>	<p>New version Article 9. Voting</p> <p>At meetings of the standing committees of APA Executive Council the right to vote belongs to the delegation as a whole in line with "one delegation – one vote" principle. In case of dissents within the delegation the vote of the delegation head shall be casting vote.</p> <p>At a plenary session its resolutions shall be passed by majority of votes cast by the delegates participating in the voting in line with one delegate - one vote approach. Each delegate shall vote individually.</p> <p>Other voting matters shall be governed by the Regulations.</p>	Voting procedure shall be governed by the Regulations
16	<p>Secretariat Article 12: Temporary Secretariat</p>	<p>This clause shall be removed</p>	The Temporary Secretariat is an excessive body and it

	<p>The seat of the Secretariat shall be in the country of the elected Chairman of the Assembly.</p> <p>The host country is responsible for provision of the necessary conditions and facilities for the Secretariat and for the Assembly sessions to be convened.</p>		has never been formed before
17	<p>Article 13: Permanent Secretariat</p> <p>The key responsibilities of the Secretariat are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaising with participants and preparation of the Assembly sessions, • Monitoring the implementation of the Assembly resolutions, • Custody of APA documents, 	<p>New version: Article 10. Secretariat</p> <p>The key responsibilities of the Secretariat are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of resolutions of APA Plenary sessions, Executive Council and standing committees - execution of the APA budget and submission of budget execution report to APA Executive Council - preparation of draft resolutions and preparation of drafts versions of other decisions of APA on behalf of the Executive Council - timely informing the participating parliaments about plenary sessions, meetings of executive boards, standing committees to be held and other activities of APA to be carried out, and mailing of all documents related to these activities. - assisting the participating parliaments in plenary sessions, meetings of executive councils and standing committees to be held <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaising with participants and preparation of the plenary sessions of APA. • Preservation of APA documents, <p>APA Secretariat is headed by the General Secretary The status of the Secretary-General is determined by the APA Regulations and Regulations of APA staff.</p>	<p>The word "permanent" is proposed to be deleted, since the concept of the Temporary Secretariat has been removed. In the current version of the Charter, the responsibilities of the Secretariat are not fully listed. Additional provisions are proposed.</p>
18	<p>Article 14: Formation of special commissions</p> <p>The Assembly may form special commissions to consider matters in any field of interest.</p>	This clause shall be removed	This issue should be governed by the Regulations
19	<p>Article 15: Regulations of the Assembly</p> <p>The Assembly shall adopt its regulations to be consistent with the Charter.</p>	<p>New version: Article 11. APA Regulations, APA Financial Regulations and Regulations of APA personnel.</p> <p>APA regulations, APA Financial regulations and Regulations of APA</p>	

		personnel shall be adopted at a plenary meeting by majority vote of the participants of the meeting.	
20	<p>Official languages</p> <p>Article 16: APA official and working languages</p> <p>The official languages of APA are Arabic and English, the working (floor) language is English</p>	<p>New version:</p> <p>Official languages</p> <p>Article 12: Official and working languages of APA official languages of APA are Arabic, Russian and English, and the working language is English</p>	It is proposed to add the Russian language as an official language, because Russian language is the fifth top used language in the world, it is convenient for delegates of several member states of APA and for APA observers to use the Russian language
21	<p><u>Amendments</u></p> <p>Article 17: Amendments to the Charter</p> <p>The Charter may be amended subject to consent of at least 2/3 of the member parliaments present and voting at the appropriate Plenary meeting.</p>	<p>New version:</p> <p>Article 13: Adoption of the new version of the Charter and amendments to the Charter</p> <p>A resolution for amendments be made to the Charter or for a new version of the Charter be adopted shall be passed by resolution proposed by the Executive Council and passed by two-thirds majority of the votes cast at such meeting.</p>	
22	<p>* Revised for technical reasons.</p> <p>- Given the balanced regional representation, Asian countries are grouped into the following five subregions: 1-West Asia: Bahrain, Cyprus, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, ... 2-Southeast Asia: Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, ... 3-South Asia: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, ... 4-East Asia and the Pacific region: China, Fiji, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Kiribati, Mongolia, Palau, Republic of Korea, Tonga, ... 5 - Central Asia and the CIS: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, ...</p>	<p>This clause shall be removed</p> <p>- Given the balanced regional representation, Asian countries are grouped into the following five subregions: 1-West Asia: Bahrain, Cyprus, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, ... 2-Southeast Asia: Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, ... 3-South Asia: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, ... 4-East Asia and the Pacific region: China, Fiji, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Kiribati, Mongolia, Palau, Republic of Korea, Tonga, ... 5 - Central Asia and the CIS: Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, ...</p>	The current list of APA participants shall be verified.

TABLE OF AMENDMENTS TO THE APA PROCEDURE RULES

BLOCK I “Name and Structure of the Procedure Rules”

In this block, it is proposed to remove from the document name a mention of the Plenary Session as the revised document will not only determine rules for holding the Plenary Session but also govern the activity of other APA bodies (the Executive Committee, Standing Committees, and auxiliary bodies).

The internal structure of the document is modified for the same reason that’s why another table of content is proposed.

	Current version	Amendments	Notes
1.	Procedure Rules for the PLENARY SESSION of the ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (APA)	Procedure Rules of the ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (APA)	
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I. Participants • II. Sessions • III. Obligations of the Chairperson — Extended Bureau • IV. Standing Committees • V. Agenda - Resolutions - Discussions • VI. Amendments • VII. Speeches - Procedure - Procedural proposals • VIII. Quorum - Consensus - Voting • IX. Standing and Temporary Secretariats • X. Closing of the Plenary Session • XI. Adoption and Amendment of the Rules 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Participants II. Standing Committees and auxiliary bodies III. Executive Committee IV. Plenary Session V. Chairperson VI. Procedure for adoption of resolutions VII. Secretariat VIII. Amendment of the Procedure Rules 	

BLOCK I “Participants”

This block of amendments specifies those terms that are used in the Procedure Rules, rules for granting an observer status in the APA, and the procedure of their attending sessions and meetings of the committees. It is proposed to cancel appointment of delegates for a two-year term as this rules is not adhered to in practice.

3	I. PARTICIPANTS	Unchanged	
4	RULE 1 1. The Plenary Session shall be attended by valid members of parliaments of the Asian countries ¹ who are appointed by the parliaments being members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, hereinafter referred to as the APA, as delegates to the APA for a two-year term in accordance with Art. 6 of the Charter.	Cl.1 New revision: The APA consists of valid members of parliaments of the Asian countries ¹ who are appointed by the parliaments being members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, hereinafter referred to as the APA, as delegates to the APA in accordance with Art. 6 of the Charter.	The two-year term of permanent delegation in the APA is not observed in practice as the rotation of delegates can take place earlier or the APA sessions can be attended by delegates appointed based on their professional feature.
5	2. Every member-parliament is entitled to appoint 2–7 delegates to the APA in accordance with Art. 8 of the Charter.	Cl. 2 Unchanged	
6	3. The member-parliaments shall submit last names and contacts of their delegates to the APA to the General Secretary in writing within the shortest term possible but not later than one month before the start of the Plenary Session.	Cl. 3. New revision: The member-parliaments shall submit last names and contacts of their delegates to the APA to the General Secretary in writing within the shortest term possible but not later than one month before the start of the	

¹ “Asia”/”Asian” within the context of these Rules and the APA Charter shall mean any sovereign states belonging to the Asia-Pacific Group of Countries in accordance with the practice of the United Nations, as well as any sovereign states partially located in Asia.

		Plenary Session, meetings of the Executive Committee, and the Standing Committee.	
7	4. Before the end of a two-year term of appointment of the delegate to the APA, if such term has expired, or the national parliament has determined that he/she is unable to perform his/her duties as a member of the national parliament, or he/she has died, the abovementioned parliament shall appoint another delegate to the APA for a two-year term and send a corresponding notice thereof to the General Secretary.	Cl. 4 deleted	
8	RULE 2 1. The observing parliaments of the APA may attend open Plenary Sessions and meetings of the committees thereof as observers and deliver speeches solely at the Chairperson's invitation. They cannot vote or put forward candidatures for an elected position.	1. New revision The representatives of the observing parliaments in the APA may attend open Plenary Sessions and meetings of the committees thereof as observers and deliver speeches solely at the Chairperson's invitation. They cannot vote or put forward candidatures for an elected position.	The Plenary Sessions and meetings of the committees can be attended by the representatives of the parliaments but not parliaments on the whole. Besides, the observers can be represented by international organizations that shall be mentioned.
9	2. The representatives of regional and international organization or any Inter-Parliamentary Unions can be invited as observers to attend open Plenary Sessions as recommended by the bureau of the preceding Plenary Session and providing the Plenary Session they intend to attend is properly notified thereof.	2. New revision The representatives of other international or regional organizations can be invited as observers to attend open sessions of the APA as determined by the Executive Committee and providing the Chairperson is notified thereof in writing at least one month prior to the start of the session.	
10	3. The application for a member or observer status shall be submitted in writing to the Chairperson and considered at the next meeting of the	Cl.3 New revision The application for a member or observer status shall be submitted in writing to the Chairperson and	

	Executive Committee that shall develop recommendations for the APA Plenary Session for making a decision. Such application shall be accepted by a majority of voices of those delegates who are present and vote in accordance with Rule 34(3) of these Procedure Rules.	considered at the next meeting of the Executive Committee that shall develop recommendations for the Plenary Session for making a decision. The decision on admission of a new member or provision of an observer status shall be adopted by a majority of voices of those delegates who took part in the voting. CI.4. New paragraph The observers shall cover all costs related to participation thereof in the APA meetings.	
11	RULE 3 The APA member-parliaments may appoint former parliament members as well as representatives of any Non-Governmental Organizations, scientists and other prominent individuals as honorable members of their delegations.	CI. 1 The APA member-parliaments may appoint former parliament members as well as representatives of any non-governmental organizations, scientists and other prominent individuals as honorable members of their delegations. CI.2 The honorable members shall take part in the Plenary Session as observers. They shall not hold a voting right. They can be given the floor according to the decision of the Plenary Session. CI.3 The sending party shall cover all costs related to participation of the honorable members in the Plenary Session.	

BLOCK III “Standing Committees and Auxiliary Bodies”

In this block of amendments, it is proposed to more carefully outline the activity of the Standing Committees and auxiliary bodies. One rule (Rule 15) of the valid regulation is related to them. We believe that the Committees are extremely essential for developing the decisions of the Plenary Session so their activity shall be outlined in more detail.

12	IV. Standing Committees	II. Standing Committees, temporary committees, subcommittees and auxiliary bodies	
13	RULE 15 1. In addition to five Standing Committees, including the Committee for Political Affairs, the	RULE 4 CI.1 New revision The APA includes four Standing Committees, i. e.	The valid structure of

	<p>Committee for Peace and Safety Assurance, the Committee for Social Issues and Culture, the Committee for Economic Issues and Sustainable Development, and the Energy Committee, the Plenary Session can establish other Standing Committees, subcommittees, and auxiliary bodies that are deemed necessary for handling any relevant issues and considering problems included into the agenda thereof. These bodies shall submit their reports and recommendations to the Plenary Session for consideration and decision-making.</p>	<p>the Committee for Political Affairs, the Committee for Social and Cultural Issues, the Committee for Economics and Sustainable Development, and the Committee for Budgeting and Procedure Rules. The Committees shall be established by the Plenary Session as proposed by the Executive Committee. The Plenary Session acting according to the Executive Committee's proposal can establish temporary committees, subcommittees and other auxiliary bodies.</p>	<p>the APA Standing Committees, procedure of establishment thereof are stipulated.</p>
14	<p>2. On the proposal of the Bureau or at least 10 member-parliaments, an issue of establishment of other Standing Committees or subcommittees, commissions, or auxiliary bodies shall be included into the agenda of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee's recommendation therefor shall be approved by a majority of voices of delegates who attend and vote at the Plenary Session.</p>	<p>Cl. 2 New revision The Executive Committee shall consider establishment of a new committee, subcommittee or an auxiliary body if such proposal was submitted by at least 10 delegations of the APA member-parliaments. The delegation of the APA member-parliament will send a delegation member to participate in the work of any committee or auxiliary body of the APA. A delegation member sent by the respective delegation cannot be denied participation in the work of the committee or auxiliary body of the APA.</p>	<p>This paragraph is included in order to enhance guarantees of delegations' participation in the meetings of the committees.</p>
15	<p>3. The intersession meetings of subcommittees, commissions and auxiliary bodies shall be convened by the member-parliament holding the preceding Plenary Session, except when the Chairperson and the Permanent Secretary have</p>	<p>Cl.3 New revision The meeting of each committee shall be held annually. The venue and time of the meeting, agenda thereof shall be determined by the Executive Committee from among those countries that</p>	<p>The procedure for determination of terms and time of meetings of the committees is to</p>

	mutually agreed that the host party can be represented by another member-parliament.	expressed their willingness to take part in the meeting of the committee.	be specified.
16	4. The number of members of every subcommittee, commission and auxiliary body (taking into account a fair geographical distribution, duration and number of their intersession meetings) shall be approved at the Plenary Session,	Cl.4 New revision The meeting of the committee is legitimate if at least 7 delegations take part in it.	The rule for determining the quorum of the committee that has been developed in practice is officially stipulated.
17		Cl. 5 New paragraph The committee is presided by the Chairperson elected at the Plenary Session for one year by open voting. As a rule, he is a member of the delegation of the member-parliament, whose country holds a meeting of the committee. The Chairperson shall open, close and hold the meeting of the committee, ensure compliance with the Procedure Rules and give the floor to speakers. The Chairperson has the right to interrupt a speaker if he/she believes that the speech is away from the point or exceeds the established time limit. The speech time limit shall be determined at the beginning of each meeting of the committee by the decision thereof.	The procedure of appointment of the committee chairperson which is implemented by the APA in practice is officially stipulated. The Chairperson's powers are determined.
18		Cl. 6 The committee shall discuss draft resolutions, amendments, adopt a draft resolution on the whole and submit them to the Executive Committee.	The procedure of submission of draft resolutions to the committee and provision of the approved resolutions to the Executive Committee is specified. These norms correlate with

			the norms of the chapter defining the decision-making procedure in the APA.
--	--	--	---

BLOCK IV “Executive Committee”

In this block of amendments, it is proposed to more carefully outline the activity of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee is the most important body of the APA, however the valid Procedure Rules reflect its activity only in one clause. It is proposed to add a separate chapter to the Procedure Rules that will establish a procedure of creation and operation of the Executive Committee. According to the current practice, the Executive Committee shall hold its meetings twice per year, providing that one of its meetings shall be held directly before the session and the other — some three months before the Plenary Session.

The meeting of a separate Executive Committee held three months before the Plenary Session will result in an additional financial burden for the parliament of the presiding country as well as delegations of the parliaments of the member-states. It will also require additional time to be spent by the parliament members during a stressed period of their parliamentary activity. Not all parliament members have an opportunity of participating in this committee.

Judging by the analysis of the practice of holding meetings of the Executive Committees, the agenda of two Executive Committees coincide, the same issues are discussed, and at the second meeting of the Executive Committee the arguments voiced at the first meeting thereof are used.

It is proposed that the Executive Committee should hold its meetings **twice per year** directly before and after the Plenary Session, which will allow reducing expenses of the host party and time spent on delegates’ trips.

The first session of the Executive Committee before the Plenary Session is final. At this meeting, the annual report of the General Secretary on the APA operation is presented, the committees’ activities are outlined, resolutions developed by them are considered, decisions whether to recommend these resolutions for approval at the Plenary Session or return them to the committees for further elaboration are adopted, a final agenda of the Plenary Session is formed, its time limit is determined, the annual report of the General Secretary on the budget fulfillment is presented, and a decision on approval or non-approval of this report is adopted.

The second meeting of the Executive Committee is planning. At this meeting, the APA working plan for the next year, a preliminary agenda of the next Plenary Session developed based on the delegations’ proposals are determined; in accordance with this agenda, agendas of committees and auxiliary bodies are established, a budget for the next year is approved on the proposal of the General Secretary.

It is noteworthy that it is the Executive Committee that shall make a decision on final approval of the budget. It is not feasible to consider and approve the APA budget at the Plenary Session.

19	The section is missing.	III. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	It is proposed to introduce a new section “Executive
----	-------------------------	--------------------------	--

			Committee”.
20	RULE 7	RULE 5	
21	RULE 7 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of delegates, one delegate to the APA from each member-parliament.	Cl. 1 New revision The Executive Committee shall consist of delegates, one delegate from each member-parliament of the APA.	
22	2. The Executive Committee shall hold its meetings at least twice per year: directly before the Plenary Session and some three months before the Plenary Session.	Cl. 2 The Executive Committee shall hold its meetings at least twice per year: directly before and after the Plenary Session.	
23	3. The meetings of the Executive Committee mentioned above in Clauses 1 and 2 shall: * Guide the Secretariat’ work for assisting unimpeded and efficient holding of the Plenary Session. * Consider reports and documents developed by the Secretariat and respective recommendations for the Plenary Session for making a decision. * Consider draft resolutions and respective recommendations for the Plenary Session for making a decision. * Consider the Secretariat’s proposals for a preliminary draft agenda of the Plenary Session and recommend the Plenary Session such draft agenda. * Consider the APA budget and its financial issues and prepare respective recommendations for the Plenary Session for making a decision. * Recommend a candidature of the APA General Secretary to be approved at the Plenary Session.	3. New revision The Executive Committee shall: - guide and control work of the Secretariat for assisting the APA efficient operation; - recommend a candidature of the APA General Secretary to be approved at the Plenary Session; - hear an annual report of the General Secretary on the APA operation and decide upon approval or non-approval thereof; - consider a proposal of the Standing Committee Budgeting and Procedure Rules concerning the amendment of the Charter, Procedure Rules, Financial Regulations and Regulation on the APA Secretariat and recommend them to be included into the agenda of the Plenary Session or return for further elaboration; - consider a proposal for establishment of a new Standing Committee, temporary committee, subcommittee, and an auxiliary body of the APA; - consider an application for admission of new members or observers and develop respective recommendations for the Plenary Session for decision-making; - (at the meeting of the Executive Committee before the Plenary Session) decide upon a draft agenda of the Plenary Session and recommend it for the Plenary	

		<p>Session, consider draft resolutions prepared by Standing Committees and decide upon inclusion thereof into the agenda of the Plenary Session or return to such Standing Committees for further elaboration, determine a time limit of speeches and discussions, consider a report of the General Secretary on the budget fulfillment for the current year and decide upon approval or non-approval thereof;</p> <p>- (at the meeting of the Executive Committee directly after the Plenary Session) define the APA's working plan for the next year, a meeting schedule and a preliminary agenda for Standing Committees, a preliminary agenda for the next Plenary Session, consider a draft budget of the APA for the next year and approve it;</p>	
24	<p>4. If possible, any decision of the Executive Committee shall be adopted on a consensus basis. Otherwise the Executive Committee shall make a decision by a majority of the voices of all present participants and voting member-parliaments. Any special cases which require a two-third majority shall be determined by a majority of the voices of the present participants and voting parliaments.</p>	<p>Cl.4 New revision</p> <p>- The Executive Committee shall make a decision by a majority of the voices of all present participants.</p> <p>- Any amendments to the APA's Charter shall be adopted by two thirds of the voting participants.</p> <p>- Every member-parliament of the APA has one vote in the Executive Committee.</p> <p>- The meeting of the Executive Committee is valid if at least seven delegations of the APA member-parliaments have participated in it.</p>	
25	<p>5. Every member-parliament shall have one vote in the Executive Committee.</p>	deleted	
26	<p>6. The quorum for convening the Plenary Session and adopting a resolution stipulated by Rules 32 and 33 of these Procedure Rules shall be also applied to the meetings of the Executive Committee.</p>	deleted	

V. BLOCK “Plenary Session”

The issues of holding the Plenary Session stipulate by the current Procedure Rules shall be governed by certain rules, which impedes application thereof in practice.

It is proposed to bring the rules governing them together in the separate chapter “Plenary Session” and specify certain issues related to arranging and holding the Plenary Session.

The principal proposal implies abolishment of the Bureau as the APA body as this body has never operated in practice.

Besides, it is proposed to remove the term “additional issue” and leave only the term “urgent issue”. The authors of the amendments proceed from the fact that the Plenary Session shall consider pre-scheduled issues that have been examined in the committees and approved by the Executive Committee. Beyond this procedure, an issue can be included into the agenda of the Plenary Session only in case any emergency occurs in any particular country or in the world on the whole. In this case, an urgent issue can be considered. Consideration of “additional issues” will open an opportunity of inclusion into the agenda of the Plenary Session of issues that have not been pre-approved by the committees, which can result in adoption of poorly prepared resolutions.

27	II Sessions	IV. PLENARY SESSION	
28	RULE 4	RULE 6.	
29	<p>RULE 4 The Plenary Session shall be convened annually (Art. 9 of the Charter). The Plenary Session shall be convened during two consecutive years in the country presiding over te APA (Art. 10 of the Charter).</p> <p>Note: In case the host parliament is not ready for convening a meeting of the Executive Committee and the Plenary Session within two consecutive years, another member-parliament can be entrusted with presidency and acceptance of data of meetings as approved by the majority of the member-parliaments.</p>	<p>New revision The Plenary Session shall be convened annually (Art. 9 of the Charter) in the country presiding over the APA.</p>	
30	RULE 5	RULE 7	
31	RULE 5	<p>New revision Cl. 1 The APA Chairperson shall inform the</p>	

	<p>After holding consultations with the member-parliaments, the President shall inform them of the date of each Plenary Session at least three months before it.</p>	<p>Secretariat of the date and venue of the Plenary Session at least three months before convention thereof.</p> <p>Cl. 2 New paragraph The venue and time of the Plenary Session can be changed in case the presiding county refuses to hold it. In this case, the Secretariat shall hold urgent consultations with other member-parliaments of the APA and propose the member-states a new venue and time of the session. The proposals shall be submitted in writing to each parliament. In case less than one third of the member-parliaments voted against a new venue and time of the Plenary Session, the decision is deemed made. The decision is made by absentee voting by means of sending letters by the member-parliaments to the Secretariat. The parliaments shall send such letters within one month upon receipt of such proposal.</p>	
32	<p>RULE 6 In some cases, a venue and date of the Plenary Session can be changed on the proposal of the Bureau, after holding consultations with the host parliament, providing the consent of the majority of the member-parliaments shall be determined in accordance with Rule 10(2).</p>	<p>deleted (see an amendment to Rule 5)</p>	
33	<p>RULE 16</p>	<p>RULE 8</p>	
34	<p>RULE 16 1. According to the recommendation of the General Secretary, the Executive Committee shall develop a draft agenda that will include general discussions and will be subject to further distribution among the member-parliaments and observers for the purpose of approval thereof at</p>	<p>Cl. 1 The Plenary Session shall approve an agenda on the proposal of the Executive Committee.</p>	

	<p>2. Any claim to include an additional item that was received by the Secretariat at least 30 days before opening of the Plenary Session, or any claim to include an extraordinary additional item related to an extremely important event that occurred within 30 days preceding opening of the Plenary Session shall be approved by a two-third majority of the member-parliaments that are present and have voting rights at the meeting of the Executive Committee convened directly before the Plenary Session.</p> <p>RULE 18</p> <p>Before deciding upon any claim to include an additional or extraordinary item mentioned in the abovementioned Rule 17, the Executive Committee and the Plenary Session shall hear a brief explanatory statement presented by its author and a statement of one speaker holding by an opposite opinion, neither of which may start discussing the substance of the matter.</p>	<p>Cl. 2 of Rule 9 is transferred from Cl. 2 of Rule 20:</p> <p>2. Any additional or extraordinary clauses can be transferred by the Plenary Session for consideration to the adhoc (temporary) committee that shall discuss it and prepare a report and/or a draft resolution to be considered at the Plenary Session.</p>	<p>qualified decision. Inclusion of any issue into the session agenda without preliminary discussion in the committees shall have an exclusive character and be related to true emergencies when a decision shall be made immediately.</p>
37	<p>RULE 20</p> <p>1. The procedure of submission of a draft resolution on additional or urgent issues shall be determined by the Plenary Session as recommended by the Bureau.</p> <p>2. Any additional or extraordinary clauses can be transferred by the Plenary Session for consideration to the adhoc (temporary) committee that shall discuss it and prepare a report and/or a draft resolution to be considered at the Plenary Session.</p>	<p>Rule 20, Cl. 2 is transferred to Cl. 2 of RULE 9</p> <p>Cl. 1 deleted</p> <p>Cl. 2 kept (Cl. 2 of Rule 9)</p>	<p>In connection with removal of the Bureau as the Assembly body</p>

	<p>1. None of the delegates can take the floor without the Chairperson's consent.</p> <p>2. Delegates shall as a rule deliver their speeches in the same order they asked the floor.</p> <p>3. The speakers can be interrupted only by other delegates according to the Procedure Rules. They can turn the floor over to another delegate / other delegates who are to speak next to obtain the required explanations if the Chairperson agrees to it.</p> <p>4. The Chairperson shall immediately, without any discussion, define the procedure on all issues related to holding the session.</p>	<p>Cl. 2 amended</p> <p>2. Delegates shall as a rule deliver their speeches in the same order they asked the floor and within the time provided for the debates. Those delegates who did not have enough time to speak within the time provided for their debates can submit the texts of their speeches to the Plenary Session in writing.</p> <p>Cl. 3 amended</p> <p>The Chairperson of the session can comment and interrupt a speaker in case he/she deviates from the discussion topic, violates any ethic norms, or exceeds the time provided for the speech.</p>	
43	RULE 27	RULE 12	
44	<p>RULE 27</p> <p>1. No more than two representatives of each delegations can take part in the general debates. Unless the Bureau makes another decision, each delegation shall be entitled to deliver a speech within 10 minutes during the general debates. When two persons representing the same delegation have signed up for participation in these debates, they shall divide the time allocated for their speech in the most reasonable way.</p> <p>2. In order to ensure unimpeded discussions, the Bureau can change the abovementioned time limit in accordance with the current circumstances.</p> <p>3. Irrespective of the provisions of the</p>	<p>Cl.1 New revision</p> <p>Only one representative of each delegation can speak on each item of the agenda of the Plenary Session. The delegation shall submit to the Chairperson or to the Secretariat a speech application.</p> <p>Cl. 2,3 deleted</p>	

	abovementioned Clause 1. At the end of the respective meeting, the Chairperson can give the floor for three minutes to a delegate willing to use his/her right to respond.		
45	<p>RULE 28</p> <p>The Chairperson shall call the speaker to order if the latter fails to stick to the matter of discussion or damage the debates by using offensive phrases or raising disputable issues. If necessary, the Chairperson may cancel a permit to deliver a speech and order to omit offensive words in the record.</p> <p>RULE 29</p> <p>1. The Chairperson shall immediately interfere into any incident that can occur during a meeting and, if necessary, take all the required measures to resume continuous work of the Plenary Session.</p>	Rules 28–29 deleted	The norms are stipulated by the new revision, Cl. 26 (11) (Amendment No. ...)
46	RULE 30	RULE 13	
47	<p>RULE 30</p> <p>1. The priority right to deliver a speech shall be granted to those delegates willing to put forward a proposal to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) interrupt the debates for an indefinite term; b) interrupt the debates; c) cease recording the speakers; d) close and suspend the meeting; e) another proposal related to such meeting. <p>2. These procedural proposals shall prevail over any procedural issues; debates on the last</p>	The text of Rules 30–33 (13) unchanged	

	<p>proposals shall be ceased while any procedural issues are under consideration.</p> <p>3. The proposal initiator shall give a brief outline of his/her proposal without dwelling upon the full content of the discussed issue.</p> <p>4. During the debates on the procedural proposals, it is required to hear only the proposal initiator and one delegate holding by an opposite opinion, afterwards the Plenary Session shall make a decision.</p>		
48	RULE 31	RULE 14	
49	<p>RULE 31</p> <p>The debates at the Plenary Session shall be public. They shall be held behind closed doors only if the Plenary Session makes such a decision by a two-third majority of votes of the delegates that are present at the meeting and hold voting rights.</p>	The text of the Rules unchanged	
50	RULE 32	RULE 15	
51	<p>RULE 32</p> <p>1. The Plenary Session shall be held only if at least a half of the member-parliaments are present at it.</p> <p>2. The quorum shall be determined based on the number of delegates that are present at the first Plenary Session. The quorum shall be declared by the Secretariat at the same time.</p>	The text of the Rules unchanged	

52	RULE 33	RULE 16	
53	<p>RULE 33</p> <p>1. All resolutions and decisions of the Plenary Session shall be adopted if possible and on a consensus basis. Otherwise they shall be adopted by a majority of votes of the delegates that are present and hold voting rights (Art. 11 of the Charter), except when an increased majority is unconditionally required.</p> <p>2. In addition to those cases stipulated by this Rule, the Plenary Session can made a decision by a majority of votes of the delegates that are present and hold voting rights in respect of such special issue, for which an increased majority is required (Art. 11 of the Charter).</p>	The text of the Rules unchanged	
54	RULE 34	RULE 17	
55	<p>RULE 34</p> <p>1. Each delegation shall hold a voting right corresponding to the number of delegates that are present at the Plenary Session, one vote per each of its delegates (Art. 8 of the Charter).</p> <p>2. The voting right shall be granted only to those delegates who are present at the session in person.</p> <p>3. The Chairperson/Speaker of the member-parliament leading a delegation at the Plenary Session shall hold a right to one vote in addition to the votes already used by this member-parliament under the abovementioned Clause 1.</p>	The text of the Rules unchanged	
56	<p>RULE 35</p> <p>The list specifying the number of votes each</p>	<p>RULE 18</p> <p>New revision: The list specifying the number of</p>	

	member of the Plenary Session is entitled to shall be distributed upon opening of the Plenary Session.	votes each member of the Plenary Session is entitled to shall be distributed upon opening of the Plenary Session.	
57	<p>RULE 36</p> <p>1. Voting at the Plenary Session shall be usually performed by show of hands or standing. However if the Chairperson believes it necessary and if the delegate claims for it, voting by roll call, with the help of electronic means or secret ballot can be held.</p> <p>2. During counting of votes of delegates that are present and hold voting rights, it is required to consider only those voted “for” or “against”.</p> <p>3. In case of a draw, any considered proposal shall be deemed rejected.</p>	<p>RULE 19</p> <p>The text of the Rules unchanged</p>	
58	<p>RULE 37</p> <p>1. In case no consensus is obtained during voting, the Plenary Session shall hold voting on texts of decisions or resolutions submitted by the Standing Committees without holding substantive debates.</p> <p>2. No debates shall be opened or no voting shall be held on any issue which has been considered by the Plenary Session that adopted a certain decision thereon. In exclusive case, the Plenary Session can adopt a resolution on holding debates repeatedly and revising a decision that has already been made by a two-third majority of votes of those delegates that are present at the session and have voting rights.</p>	<p>RULE 20</p> <p>1. New revision In case no consensus is obtained during voting, the Plenary Session shall hold voting on texts of decisions or resolutions submitted by the Executive Committee without holding substantive debates.</p> <p>2. The term “meeting” shall be replaced by the term “session”.</p>	
59	RULE 38	RULE 21	

	<p>1. Any delegate can claim for any paragraph of the text (partially or in full) that has been submitted to the Plenary Session to be put to vote separately.</p> <p>2. In case of any objection, a claim for separate voting shall be put to vote without debates.</p>		
60	RULE 39	RULE 22	
61	<p>RULE 39</p> <p>1. Nobody may interrupt the voting process if it has started, except when it is required to obtain explanations concerning the voting procedure.</p> <p>2. Those delegates that are willing to briefly explain the reasons for their voting can be granted an opportunity by the Chairperson to do it once the voting is completed.</p> <p>3. No explanation of the reasons for voting related to any amendments or procedural proposals is unacceptable.</p>	<p>Cl. 1 kept</p> <p>Cl. 2–3 deleted</p>	<p>The voting reasons shall be clarified by delegates during debates or in writing.</p>
62	X. Closing of the Plenary Session	The name to be deleted	<p>A separate chamber is deemed redundant as this issue is referred to the procedure of holding a session.</p>
63	RULE 46	RULE 23	
64	<p>RULE 46</p> <p>1. During closing of each Plenary Session, the Chairperson shall list the main adopted resolutions and decisions.</p>	<p>New revision:</p> <p>Cl. 1 During closing of each Plenary Session, the Chairperson shall list the main adopted resolutions and decisions and transfer presidency.</p>	<p>We believe it is important to stipulate such presidency transfer upon closing of the Plenary</p>

	2. The delegations shall inform their respective parliaments and governments of resolutions, decisions, and recommendations adopted at the Plenary Session in order to obtain the most active support for implementation of these resolutions and decisions.	Cl. 2. To be kept	Session.
65		NEW RULE 24	
66		<p>RULE 24</p> <p>Each delegation is entitled to propose to the Executive Committee to include an urgent issue into the agenda of the Plenary Session. The agenda of the Plenary Session can include only one urgent issue.</p> <p>In case there are several proposals to include an urgent issue into the agenda, it is required to opt for that issue that has been supported by a majority of votes.</p> <p>Any delegation proposing the Standing Committee to consider an urgent issue shall simultaneously submit a draft resolution on this issue in writing.</p>	
67	RULE 10	RULE 25	
68	<p>RULE 10</p> <p>1. Any APA member can claim for convention of an extraordinary Plenary Session. The member-parliament that hosted the preceding Plenary Session shall convene an extraordinary Plenary Session if such claim is supported by a majority of the member-parliaments (Art. 9 of the Charter). The extraordinary Plenary Session can be hosted by another parliament if such request is approved by the APA Chairperson that hosted the preceding Plenary Session and by a majority of the member-parliaments.</p> <p>2. The claim to convene an extraordinary Plenary</p>	<p>The text of the Rule remains unchanged.</p> <p>(In Russia the term “meeting” (заседание) is replaced with the word “session” (сессия)).</p>	

	<p>Session and, if feasible, a venue thereof are deemed supported if the majority of the member-parliaments do not object to a written notice submitted by the Secretariat to all the member-parliaments for them to provide their opinion on this issue (these issues) by a certain specified date. In case not more than a half of the member-parliaments have submitted their written objections to convention of the extraordinary Plenary Session and a venue thereof to the Secretariat, it will be considered that a majority of the member-parliaments have supported convention of the extraordinary Plenary Session.</p>		
--	--	--	--

IV BLOCK of amendments related to THE CHAIRPERSON'S OBLIGATIONS

This block of amendments governs a status of the APA Chairperson. It is proposed to reduce the term of presidency of one country in the APA up to one year. The two-year presidency turns out burdensome for a number of countries and prevents rotation of presidency in the APA.

69	III. Chairperson's Obligations	V. Chairperson of the Assembly	
70		RULE 26	
71	<p>1. The Chairperson of the Plenary Session shall be elected from among the Chairpersons/Speakers of the member-parliaments for a two-year term unanimously or by a majority of votes of those delegates who are present and give their votes at the beginning of the meeting of the first Plenary Session.</p> <p>2. The retiring Chairperson or, in the absence thereof, the head of the delegation of such retiring Chairperson shall open an inauguration Session in anticipation of election of a new Chairperson.</p>	<p>1. New revision: The APA Chairperson shall be elected from among the Chairpersons/Speakers of the member-parliaments for a one-year term unanimously or by a majority of votes of those delegates who are present and give their votes at the beginning of the meeting of the first Plenary Session.</p> <p>2. New revision The Chairperson shall exercise his/her powers upon closing of the Plenary Session, at which he/she was elected, till closing of the next Plenary Session. The Chairperson may delegate his/her powers to any member of the parliament of his/her country for</p>	<p>In connection with a reduced term of presidency of the parliament of one of the countries up to one year.</p>

	<p>3. The Plenary Session shall elect four Deputy Chairpersons (Art. 10 of the Charter) from among the heads of the delegations, as well as the Speaker from among the delegates taking into account a fair geographical distribution.</p>	<p>him/her to perform the functions of the chairperson.</p> <p>New Paragraph 4. The Chairperson may entrust his powers to preside over the meeting to one of his/her deputies.</p>	
72	RULE 12	RULE 27	
73	<p>RULE 12 kept The Chairperson of the Plenary Session shall preside over extraordinary Plenary Session(s) during his/her term in office.</p>	The text of the Rule remains unchanged.	
74	<p>RULE 13 – 1. The Bureau of the Plenary Session shall consist of the Chairperson of the Plenary Session, four Deputy Chairpersons and the Speaker who shall be elected for a two-year term based on a fair geographical distribution. 2. The Bureau of the Plenary Session to be supported by the General Secretary shall take all the respective measures to ensure efficient arrangement and normal operation of plenary procedures in accordance with the Charter and Procedure Rules.</p>	deleted	There are no true functions, it has never been convened, there is no need that such body exist.
75	RULE 14	RULE 28	
76	<p>RULE 14 1. The Chairperson shall open, suspend and close meetings, guide work of the Plenary Session, ensure compliance with the Rules, announce speakers, put issues to vote, declare results of the voting and announce closing of the Plenary</p>	<p>1. New revision During the Plenary Session the Chairperson shall open, suspend and close meetings, guide work of the Plenary Session, ensure compliance with the Rules, announce speakers, put issues to vote, declare results of the voting and announce closing of the Plenary Session. Any decisions of the Chairperson on these issues shall be</p>	

	<p>Session. Any decisions of the Chairperson on these issues shall be final.</p> <p>2. The Chairperson shall make decisions on the APA issues not stipulated by these Rules after holding consultations with the Bureau.</p>	<p>final.</p> <p>2. New revision The Chairperson shall make decisions on the APA issues not stipulated by these Rules after holding consultations with the APA member-parliaments.</p>	
--	---	---	--

VII BLOCK of amendments related to THE DECISION-MAKING PROCEDURE IN THE APA

This block of amendments is quite essential. Unfortunately, we had to come across situations when any amendments proposed by the country were not considered due to unclear rules for submission of resolutions and amendments thereto. In particular, the Executive Committee considers amendments of certain countries on the pretext that they are “technical” and do not consider amendments of other countries as they are “essential”. It is the Secretariat representative who will determine whether they are technical or essential. It prejudices the rights of delegations. We agree that any amendments shall be considered by the Standing Committees irrespective of whether they are technical or essential. For avoidance of manipulations, the Executive Committee shall not consider any amendments at all as the Procedure Rules cannot define clear-cut criteria for differentiation between technical and essential amendments.

The Executive Committee shall either approve a resolution on the whole and recommend it to be included into the agenda of the session or send it for further elaboration to the Standing Committee.

Besides a resolution, the APA Plenary Session can adopt a declaration. It is proposed to establish the adoption procedure.

77	VI. Amendments	VI PROCEDURE OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS, DECLARATIONS AND OTHER DECISIONS OF THE APA	
78	<p>RULE 19</p> <p>1. Any delegate can put forward a proposal or draft resolution on any issue included into the agenda.</p> <p>2. Draft resolutions related to any items of the agenda shall be as a rule submitted to the Secretariat at least within 24 hours before opening of the last Plenary Session intended for this item discussion.</p>	deleted	
79	RULE 22	RULE 29	
80	<p>RULE 22</p> <p>1. Any delegate can submit an amendment to any proposal or a draft resolution, as well as</p>	<p>1. Any proposals on the discussion topics in the committees, at the Plenary Session of the APA, declaration can be submitted to the Executive</p>	

<p>amendments to any amendments.</p> <p>2. Amendments shall be submitted in writing. Amendments and amendments to any amendments can be submitted until the Plenary Session has adopted the texts they are referred to.</p> <p>RULE 23</p> <p>1. Amendments and amendments to any amendments shall be referred to the text. They can imply addition, removal or modification in relation to the initial project without changing its volume or character. The Chairperson of the Plenary Session shall determine if such amendments and amendments to any amendments that shall be put to vote at the Plenary Session are legitimate.</p> <p>2. Amendments and amendments to any amendments shall be put to vote before voting on the text they are referred to.</p> <p>RULE 24</p> <p>1. In case two or more amendments are applied to the same statements in the draft resolution, the amendment that is the last in the considered document shall prevail over other amendments and shall be put to vote first. The Chairperson's decision on the priority of amendments shall be final.</p> <p>2. In case two or more amendments are mutually</p>	<p>Committee solely by national delegations. Delegations can also submit draft resolutions.</p> <p>2. Proposals shall be submitted to the Secretariat. The General Secretary shall immediately submit all draft documents or received proposals to the Executive Committee at the next meeting thereof.</p> <p>RULE 30</p> <p>The Executive Committee shall decide upon the agenda of every committee and Plenary Session based on delegations' proposals. Unless a delegation presents a draft resolution, the Executive Committee shall entrust the Secretariat to draw up a draft resolution on this issue.</p> <p>Solely the Executive Committee (not the Secretariat) can determine the procedure of work on each item of the agenda of the committee and Plenary Session and each resolution. The Secretariat shall not have the right to include issues not approved by the Executive Committee into the agenda and remove any issues approved by the Executive Committee for consideration from the agenda of the committee or Plenary Session at its own disposal.</p> <p>RULE 31</p> <p>The Executive Committee shall decide upon submission of draft resolutions to the respective committees, set a date of the meeting of the committee, and oblige to send out draft resolutions on those issues recommended for consideration to the parliaments of the APA member-states no later than 30 days prior to the start of the committee meeting.</p> <p>The Secretariat is responsible for such distribution in pursuance of the Executive Committee's decision.</p> <p>RULE 32</p>	
---	---	--

	<p>exclusive, adoption of the first amendment will result in rejection of the other amendment or other amendments related to the same statement.</p> <p>RULE 25</p> <p>The sole speakers on amendments or amendments to any amendments shall be an initiator and one delegate holding by an opposite opinion unless the Chairperson decides that two persons shall be for the amendment or the amendment to any amendment or two persons shall be against them.</p>	<p>Delegations of the member-parliaments shall submit to the Secretariat their amendments to the texts of resolutions in writing no later than 14 days before the start of the committee meeting.</p> <p>The Secretariat shall present all draft resolutions and all amendments to them at the committee meeting.</p> <p>The Secretariat does not have the right to include or remove any resolutions and amendments to them into/from the agenda of the committee meeting.</p>	
81		<p>RULE 33</p> <p>Draft resolutions and amendments shall be discussed by the committee on their merits. Each delegation has the right to voice its general estimate of each resolution and explain its voting reasons not more than twice.</p> <p>The delegation proposing an amendment has the right to justify it once. Each delegation has the right to speak once during discussion of each amendment.</p> <p>The absence of the delegation representatives at the meeting of the committee shall not serve as a basis to refuse to consider a draft resolution and amendments.</p> <p>The committee can decide to establish a conciliation commission to develop a text of the resolution or a particular amendment.</p>	
82		<p>RULE 34</p> <p>Amendments shall be adopted by open voting by a majority of votes of those representatives of the delegations of the member-parliaments of the committee who participated in the voting, providing that one delegation shall hold only one vote.</p> <p>A resolution on the whole shall be adopted at the meeting of the committee by open voting by a</p>	

		majority of votes of those representatives of the delegations of the member-parliaments who participated in the voting.	
83		<p>RULE 35</p> <p>The resolution adopted by the committee on the whole shall be submitted by the Secretariat without changes and additions for consideration of the Executive Committee, whose meeting is held before the Plenary Session.</p> <p>The Secretariat shall not hold the right not to submit the resolution adopted by the Standing Committee to the Executive Committee at its disposal or to submit such resolution in the form that was not approved by the Standing Committee.</p>	
84		<p>RULE 36</p> <p>The Executive Committee shall consider draft resolutions submitted by the committees. The Executive Committee shall not consider amendments to draft resolutions, shall assess a resolution on the whole and decide to include an issue of consideration thereof into the agenda of the Plenary Session or to return it for further elaboration.</p>	<p>The current procedure reflects the established APA practice when the Executive Committee does not consider any essential amendments. The authors of amendments believe that the Executive Committee shall not consider any amendments, including the so called technical ones. Otherwise, there is a possibility of manipulation on behalf of the Secretariat when</p>

			amendments of some countries are regarded as technical and amendments of other countries are rejected.
85		<p>RULE 37</p> <p>The Plenary Session can decide to adopt draft resolutions without holding discussions or opening debates on them. Draft resolutions shall be adopted by open voting by a majority of votes of the delegations that participated in voting.</p>	
86		<p>RULE 38</p> <p>The presiding country can propose to adopt the Declaration. A draft Declaration shall be sent to the parliaments of the member-states not later than one month prior to opening of the Plenary Session. Delegations shall have the right to submit their amendments to a draft Declaration to the Executive Committee, whose meeting shall be held directly before the Plenary Session. The Executive Committee shall consider amendments, approve a final draft Declaration by a majority of votes of those present at the meeting and include it into the session agenda.</p> <p>The Plenary Session shall adopt the Declaration by a majority of votes of those present at the meeting.</p>	

VIII BLOCK of amendments “SECRETARIAT”

87	IX. Standing and Temporary Secretariats	VII. Secretariat	We propose not to mention the temporary Secretariat as it has never been established.
88	RULE 40	RULE 39	

	<p>RULE 40</p> <p>The headquarters of the APA Standing Secretariat is in Teheran. The Plenary Session shall make a decision on the issues of budget and personnel that are related to the Standing Secretariat before 2011.</p>	<p>Rule out Proposal 2. New revision: The headquarters of the APA Standing Secretariat is in Teheran.</p>	
89	<p>2. Explanatory note: It is approved that the draft Procedure Rules, including amendments and additions, should be submitted to the Plenary Session to be held in November 2007 to be considered and adopted, providing that the Executive Committee that will hold its meeting directly before the Plenary Session will consider new proposals on additional powers of the Standing and Temporary Secretariats.</p>	<p>deleted</p>	
90	<p>RULE 41</p>	<p>RULE 40</p>	
91	<p>RULE 41</p> <p>The APA Chairperson shall establish the Temporary Secretariat in the host country to convene the Executive Committee and Plenary Session.</p>	<p>New revision</p> <p>The APA Chairperson shall arrange and ensure holding of meetings of the Executive Committee and Plenary Session jointly with the APA Secretariat. In case the meeting of the Executive Committee or the Plenary Session are held in another country, the chairperson of the parliament of this country shall arrange and ensure holding thereof.</p>	
		<p>New clause</p> <p>The Chairperson of the APA Standing Committee shall arrange and ensure holding of the meeting of the Standing Committee jointly with the APA Secretariat.</p>	
92	<p>RULE 8</p> <p>1. All member-parliaments, observers, and other invitees shall be informed of convention of each Plenary Session at least one month before the start of the Plenary Session.</p> <p>RULE 9</p> <p>The member-parliament hosting the Plenary</p>	<p>deleted</p>	

	Session shall be responsible for provision of all the required equipment for the Plenary Session. Other member-parliaments can offer to over part of expenses on the Plenary Session arrangement.		
93		RULE 41	
94		New rule All member-parliaments, observers, and other invitees shall be informed of convention of each Plenary Session at least one month before the start of this session.	
95	<p>RULE 42</p> <p>1. The Standing Secretariat presided by the General Secretary shall assist the Chairperson and Temporary Secretariat with managing the work of the Executive Committee and Plenary Session.</p> <p>2. The General Secretary and its representative can at any time on demand of the Chairperson consult the Plenary Session on any issue that is currently under consideration.</p>	deleted	Consultations of the General Secretary and assistance provided by the APA Secretariat are obvious and do not require any special stipulation in the Procedure Rules.
96	RULE 43	RULE 42	
97	<p>RULE 43</p> <p>1. The Standing Secretariat shall obtain all documents, reports and draft resolutions and distribute them jointly with brief reports on the meetings.</p> <p>2. The Standing Secretariat of the Plenary Session shall ensure adequacy of technical equipment for simultaneous interpretation in English and Arabic and for presentations delivered by all delegates willing to speak in their native language and provide them with their own simultaneous English interpreters.</p>	<p>Rule out the work “standing”</p> <p>1. New revision The APA Secretariat shall obtain and process all documents, reports and draft resolutions and distribute them jointly with brief reports on the meetings in official and working languages of the APA.</p> <p>2. New revision The parliament of the country hosting the Plenary Session, meetings of the Executive Committee or the Standing Committee shall ensure the required working conditions, including provision of the required premises, technical equipment, arrangement of simultaneous interpretation in the APA official languages,</p>	As the term “temporary secretariat” is abolished.

	<p>3. As agreed upon with the Standing Secretariat, the Temporary Secretariat shall ensure the host country should possess the respective equipment required for the delegates' convenience and for continuous fulfillment of their obligations.</p>	<p>accommodation and meals for delegates for the period of the meeting, including one day of arrival and one day of departure thereof. Upon request, equipment for simultaneous interpretation in national languages shall be provided.</p>	
98	RULE 44	RULE 43	
99	<p>RULE 44</p> <p>1. The APA Standing Secretariat shall keep documents of the Executive Committee and Plenary Sessions in their archives. The Standing Secretariat shall complete implementation of the decisions of the Plenary Session and fulfil all the assignments that can be entrusted to it by the Plenary Session (Art. 13 of the Charter).</p> <p>2. The Standing Secretariat shall post documents of the Plenary Session and distribute them among the member-parliaments and observers.</p>	<p>Rule out the work “standing”, supplement with “standing committees”</p> <p>1. New revision: The APA Secretariat shall keep documents of the Standing Committees, Executive Committee and Plenary Sessions in its archives. The Secretariat shall complete implementation of the decisions of the Plenary Session and fulfil all the assignments that can be entrusted to it by the Plenary Session (Art. 13 of the Charter).</p> <p>CI 2. New revision Those documents accepted by the Plenary Session shall be communicated by the APA Secretariat to the national APA member-parliaments, their governments and international organizations, as well as posted.</p>	
100	RULE 45	RULE 44	
101	<p>RULE 45</p> <p>As recommended by the Executive Committee and upon approval of the Plenary Session, it is required to elect the General Secretary for a four-year term from among the prominent individuals of a number of the Asian regions.</p>	<p>New clauses</p> <p>1. The APA General Secretary shall be elected for 4 years.</p> <p>2. The candidate for the position of the General Secretary shall possess a working experience as a parliament member, or in the parliament administration, or in the international parliamentary organization.</p> <p>3. Each delegation of the APA member-parliament can propose its candidate for the position of the General Secretary no later than 2 months before the election date by submitting an official application signed by the parliament chairperson and attaching a</p>	<p>We propose to rule out a mention of “prominent individuals”, each delegation shall assess its candidates' features at the moment of voting.</p>

		<p>brief background of the candidate.</p> <p>4. The Executive Committee shall consider candidatures in terms of compliance thereof with the requirements of the Charter and Procedure Rules and recommend them to the Plenary Session.</p> <p>The Plenary Session shall decide on election of the General Secretary by a majority of votes of those delegates present at the meeting. In case the Executive Committee recommends the Plenary Session more than one candidate, voting shall be held by secret ballot. Elections can be held by open voting in case one candidate takes part in them and no delegation insists on ballot voting.</p> <p>5. The General Secretary shall take office 14 days after election thereof. His/her powers shall expire 14 days after a new General Secretary is elected.</p>	
102		<p>RULE 45</p> <p>One person cannot take office of the General Secretary for more than two successive terms.</p> <p>A representative of one country of the APA member-parliament cannot take office of the General Secretary for more than two successive terms.</p>	
103		<p>RULE 46</p> <p>In case of any violation of the APA Charter, APA financial rules, non-approval of a report on the APA annual budget fulfillment, regular violations of the APA Procedure Rules, enforcement of a court verdict, the General Secretary's powers can be terminated according to the decision of the APA Plenary Session by a majority of votes of the present delegates of the APA member-parliaments.</p> <p>In this case, the General Secretary's powers shall be terminated immediately. The Executive Committee shall entrust another employee of the Secretariat to temporarily exercise the General Secretary's powers until a new General Secretary is elected.</p>	

VIII. BLOCK of amendments related to MODIFICATION OF THE PROCEDURE RULES

104	XI. Adoption and Amendment of the Rules	New name “Amendment of the Procedure Rules”	
105	RULE 47	RULE 47	
106	<p>RULE 47</p> <p>1. The Procedure Rules shall be accepted by the Plenary Session by a majority of voices of those delegates who are present and vote in accordance with Rule 33(3) of these Procedure Rules.</p>	<p>CI.1 Any proposals of delegations on amendments to be introduced into the Procedure Rules shall be submitted to the Executive Committee that will include them into the agenda of the next meeting of the Committee for Budgeting and Procedure Rules. The Committee for Budgeting and Procedure Rules shall decide on approval or non-approval of any proposed amendments and submit its decision to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consider a recommendation of the Committee for Budgeting and Procedure Rules and decide on inclusion thereof into the agenda of the Plenary Session or return of amendments to the Procedure Rules (draft new Procedure Rules) to the Committee for Budgeting and Procedure Rules for further elaboration.</p>	
107	<p>2. Any proposals on amending the Procedure Rules of the APA Plenary Session shall be formed in writing, supported by an explanatory note and sent to the APA Secretariat at least three months before the Plenary Session. The Secretariat shall immediately communicate these proposals to all the member-parliaments. If necessary, it shall also communicate to the member-parliament any proposals on amendment to any amendments at least one month before the Plenary Session.</p>	<p>New revision:</p> <p>CI. 2. Any proposals on amending the Procedure Rules of the APA Plenary Session shall be formed in writing and supported by an explanatory note.</p>	

108	3. Consideration of any claim for amending the Procedure Rules shall be automatically included into agenda of the meeting of the Executive Committee and Plenary Session.	Cl. 3 deleted	
109	4. Any proposed amendments to the Procedure Rules shall be adopted by a two-third majority of votes of the member-parliaments that are present and vote at the meeting of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee's recommendations therefor shall be approved by a majority of voices of delegates who attend and vote at the Plenary Session.	Cl. 4. New revision 3. Any amendments to the Procedure Rules shall be adopted by the Plenary Session by a majority of delegates that took part in the voting.	