

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE APA CHARTER**



### **Charter of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA)\***

<b>Current wording</b>	<b>New wording</b>
<p>The Charter was adopted, in principle, at the First Session of the APA Plenary in November 2006. Amendments were elaborated in the meeting of the Executive Council, 17-18 November 2007, Tehran, and recommended to the 2nd plenary of the APA. The 2nd Plenary of the APA, 19-21 November 2007, Tehran, the Islamic Republic of Iran, adopted its Charter as herewith annexed on this Monday, 19th of November 2007.</p>	<p>The Charter of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) was adopted by the 1<sup>st</sup> session of the APA Plenary in November 2006;</p> <p>Revised and adopted by the 2<sup>nd</sup> session of the APA Plenary on November 2007, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran and the Association of Asian Parliaments for Peace (AAPP) was transformed into the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA);</p> <p>The Charter of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) revised and adopted by the ... session of the APA Plenary on ..., ... .</p>
<p><b><u>Preamble</u></b></p> <p>Convinced that the pursuit of peace based upon justice and international cooperation is vital for the preservation of human society and civilization;</p> <p>Reaffirming the devotion of Asian countries to the spiritual and moral values which are the common heritage of their peoples and</p>	<p><b><u>Preamble</u></b></p> <p><i>Convinced</i> that the pursuit of peace based on justice and international cooperation is vital for the preservation of human society and civilization;</p> <p><i>Reaffirming</i> devotion of the Asian countries to spiritual and moral values as common heritage of their peoples and the true</p>

<p>the true source of individual freedom, political liberty and the rule of law, principles which form the basis of all genuine democracy;</p> <p>Believing that, for the maintenance and further realization of these ideals and in the interests of economic and social progress, there is a need for a closer unity among Asian Countries;</p> <p>Responding to this need and the expressed aspirations of their peoples in this regard, it is necessary forthwith to create an Assembly which will bring together Asian countries into closer association with a view to their eventual integration into an Asian parliamentary union;</p> <p>We, therefore, the present members of the Association of Asian Parliaments for Peace (AAPP), see the need for the transformation of AAPP to Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) and do hereby declare, on behalf of parliaments we represent, the following:</p>	<p>source of individual freedom, political liberty and the rule of law; the principles which constitute the basis of all genuine democracy;</p> <p><i>Believing</i> that, for the maintenance and further realization of these ideals and in the interests of economic and social progress, there is a need for a closer unity among Asian countries;</p> <p><del>Responding to this need and the expressed aspirations of their peoples in this regard, it is necessary forthwith to create an Assembly which will bring together Asian countries into closer association with a view to their eventual integration into an Asian parliamentary union;</del></p> <p><del>We, therefore, the present members of the Association of Asian Parliaments for Peace (AAPP), see the need for the transformation of AAPP to Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) and do hereby declare, on behalf of parliaments we represent, the following:</del></p> <p><i>Being aware of increasing important role of Parliaments in strengthening legal, political, economic, social and cultural relations among Asian nations;</i></p> <p><i>Conscious of challenges the Asian countries facing and undeniable effect of parliamentary consultation and cooperation to tackle the latter;</i></p> <p><i>The Asian Parliaments agree to establish an assembly composed of Asian National Member Parliaments as following:</i></p>
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## **General Rules**

### **Article 1: Establishment of APA**

The Association of Asian Parliaments for Peace (AAPP) is hereby transformed into the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA), hereafter called “the Assembly”. The Charter of the AAPP is accordingly replaced by this Charter.

### **Article 2: Principles of Establishment of APA**

All Member Parliaments;

Emphasizing on the equality of all members;

- Recognizing the national authority, sovereignty, peaceful coexistence and non-interference in their internal affairs;
- Believing in friendship and peaceful settlement of conflicts;
- Encouraging and promoting human rights and opposing terrorism and recognizing the rights and freedom of nations;
- Emphasizing on the necessity of full- fledged cooperation with regard to sustainable development and protection of the environment;
- Trying to create common organizations aimed at providing infrastructures and encouraging economic development through taking advantage of regional commonalities;
- Believing in the benefits of harmonizing laws and legal practices from among the members of the Assembly, taking into consideration the diversities of Asian cultural, political and economic experiences, with the view to achieving common legislations;

### **~~Article 1: Establishment of APA~~**

~~The Association of Asian Parliaments for Peace (AAPP) is hereby transformed into the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA), hereafter called “the Assembly”. The Charter of the AAPP is accordingly replaced by this Charter.~~

### **~~Article 2: Principles of Establishment of APA~~** **Fundamental Principles**

New wording:

1. APA shall be established on the following principles:

- i. Equality of all the members;
- ii. Respect to sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all member states;
- iii. Commitment to the principle of friendship and peaceful settlement of conflicts;
- iv. Respect to the principle of peaceful co-existence and non-interference in internal affairs of other states;

### Article 3: Objectives of the Establishment of APA

The Objectives of the APA are as follows:

1. Promoting freedom, social justice, peace, security and friendship to meet the objectives of the Assembly.
2. Sharing access to up-to-date knowledge in various areas and promoting such knowledge among the members in order to promote the progress and equality of its members.
3. Exploiting cooperatively vast human and natural resources and securing the interests of all members and recognizing their permanent authority on their natural resources;
4. Providing welfare facilities for the health and nutrition of its members' population; and
5. Contributing to integration among the Asian nations in order to utilize the potentialities of the region.

### Article 3: Objectives of the Establishment of APA

1. Members shall pursue, inter alia, following objectives:

- i. Strengthening legal and inter parliamentary cooperation and parliamentary diplomacy among Member Parliaments;
- ii. Promoting freedom, social justice, peace, security and friendship ~~to meet the objectives of the Assembly~~ among Asian Nations;
- iii. Sharing access to up-to-date knowledge among the members in order to promote the progress and equality of its members;
- iv. Exploiting cooperatively the vast human and natural resources and securing the interests of all members and recognizing their permanent authority on their natural resources;
- v. Providing welfare facilities for the health and nutrition of its member's population
- vi. Contributing to the integration among the Asian nations in order to utilize the potentialities of the region;
- vii. Countering terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;
- viii. Cooperation on sustainable development and commitment to protection of natural environment;

**Article 4: Membership of the APA**

Membership of the APA is open to National Parliaments of the Sovereign States of Asia.

National Parliaments of the Sovereign States of Asia may at any time submit their application for joining the APA. The application will be circulated to the Member Parliaments and shall be approved by 2/3 majority of the Assembly.

**Basic Organs and Structure****Article 5: Basic Organs of the APA**

The APA shall be composed of the Plenary, the Executive Council, Bureau of the Assembly, the Committees as may be established, and the Secretariat.

**Article 4: Membership of the APA****New Wording:**

1. The Parliament of any independent state which is fully or partially located in Asia, committed to the APA principles and objectives and determined to comply with the APA charter may request to become an APA member. Such a request shall be circulated among the Member Parliaments and after the recommendation of the Executive Council shall be approved by two-third majority of the present members of the Plenary.

**Article 5: Basic Organs of the APA  
Structure****New Wording:**

1. The main organs of the APA shall be as follows:

- i. The Plenary;
- ii. The Executive Council;
- iii. The President and the Bureau;
- iv. Standing Committees;
- v. The Secretariat;

#### Article 6: Members and Observers of the Plenary

As the most important organ, the Plenary shall be composed of sitting politicians of the member parliaments, who are elected by their respective national parliaments for a two-year term of office.

Other Asian Parliaments, regional and international organizations may attend the Sessions of the Plenary of the APA as Observers upon approval by the Executive Council.

#### Article 6: Members and Observers of the Plenary

##### New Wording:

1. ~~As the most important organ,~~ The Plenary shall be **the highest organ of the APA** composed of sitting ~~politicians of the member parliaments who are elected~~ **parliamentarians designated as delegates** by their respective national parliaments ~~for a two-year term of office.~~

2. Each APA member shall have the right to designate its delegates and enjoy voting rights corresponding to the number of its delegates in the Plenary according to the Rule 11 of the Rules of Procedure.

3. The Plenary may approve decisions, resolutions and recommendations or submit reports on general policies of the APA and other subjects related to its activities. **(Move Article 7)**

4. The Plenary shall convene once a year. The President shall determine the venue and date of the Plenary.

5. In case of emergency, upon the request of any Member Parliaments or the Bureau of the APA and approve of two-third majority of the Member Parliaments, an extraordinary session may be held. The extraordinary meeting shall only consider the item(s) for which it is convened.

6. Upon the recommendation of the Executive Council and approve of two-third majority of the present members of the Plenary, representatives of parliaments that are not a member to APA, regional or international organizations may attend the APA Plenary sessions as observers without right to vote.

#### **Article 7: Authority of the Plenary**

The Plenary may approve decisions, resolutions and declarations or submit reports on general policies of the APA and on other subjects related to its activities.

#### **Article 8: Number of Votes**

Each member parliament enjoys voting rights corresponding to the number of its delegates in the Plenary. Each member parliament has two delegates plus additional delegates determined as follows:

- Countries with population between 1 million up to 50 millions will have two additional delegates,
- Countries with population between 50 and 200 millions will have three additional delegates,
- Countries with population between 200 and 500 millions will have four additional delegates, and
- Countries with population over 500 millions will have five additional delegates.

#### **Article 9: Sessions of the Plenary**

The Plenary shall hold at least one annual ordinary session. In case of emergency, and upon request of any of the member parliaments and approval of majority of member parliaments, an extraordinary session shall be held.

#### **~~Article 7: Authority of the Plenary~~**

~~The Plenary may approve decisions, resolutions and declarations or submit reports on general policies of the APA and on other subjects related to its activities.~~

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#### Article 10: Executive Council

Executive Council shall be composed of one APA delegate from each member parliament.

Executive Council shall meet at least twice a year: once, immediately before the meeting of the Plenary, and the other normally about three months prior to the meeting of the Plenary at the previous host country.

#### Article 11: Bureau of the Assembly

The Assembly shall have a President, Four Vice-Presidents, and one Rapporteur, taking into consideration equitable regional distributions.\*

The President of the Assembly shall be elected from amongst the presidents or speakers of the member parliaments for a one or two-year term of office, depending on the decision of the host parliament, by the majority vote of the delegates of the member parliaments. The President shall be eligible for one consecutive reelection.

The President shall be elected during the first meeting of each term of office for the upcoming period.

#### Article 10: **The** Executive Council

1. **The Executive Council as the executive organ of the APA** shall be composed of one APA delegate from each Member Parliament.
2. **The** Executive Council shall meet ~~at least twice a year: once, immediately before the meeting of the Plenary, and the other normally about three~~ **once a year about two** months prior to the meeting of the Plenary ~~at the previous host country.~~

#### Article 11: **The President** Bureau of the Assembly

~~The Assembly shall have a President, Four Vice-Presidents, and one Rapporteur, taking into consideration equitable regional distributions.\*~~

1. **The President of the assembly shall be elected by acclamation to the extent possible, otherwise by a majority vote of the present members among the presidents (speakers) of the Member Parliaments for a one-year term of office.**
2. **Upon approval of majority of the Plenary, the President may be re-elected for another period of one year.**
3. **The Bureau of the Assembly is composed of a President and four Vice-President /Chairpersons of four Standing Committees, elected by the Plenary.**



<p><b>Article 16: Establishment of the Specialized Commissions</b></p> <p>The Assembly may create special commissions to deal with any subject of interest.</p>	<p><del>Article 16: Establishment of the Specialized Commissions</del> <b>Standing Committees</b></p> <p><del>The Assembly may create special commissions to deal with any subject of interest.</del></p> <p>1. Four standing specialized Committees shall be constituted as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Committee on social and cultural affairs;</li><li>2. Committee on economic and sustainable development;</li><li>3. Committee on political affairs;</li><li>4. Committee on budget and planning;</li></ol> <p>2. The Standing Committees shall consist of delegates designated by their respective national parliaments.</p> <p>3. The Standing Committees may draft and submit resolutions in accordance with section IV of the Rules of Procedure.</p> <p>4. Upon the recommendation of the Executive Council, the Plenary may establish ad-hoc or provisional committees with a specific objective.</p> <p><b>Secretariat</b></p> <p><b>Article 14: <del>Provisional</del> Secretariat</b></p> <p><del>The venue of the Secretariat shall be in the country of the elected president of the Assembly.</del></p> <p><del>The host country shall be responsible for providing the required facilities for the Secretariat and convening of the sessions of the Assembly.</del></p>
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**Article 15: Permanent Secretariat**

Major terms of reference of the Secretariat are as follows:

- Maintaining communication with members and preparing for the sessions of the Assembly,
- Following up the implementation of the decisions of the Assembly, and
- Protecting the documents of the APA.

**Article 15: Permanent Secretariat**

~~Major terms of reference of the Secretariat are as follows:~~

- ~~· Maintaining communication with members and preparing for the sessions of the Assembly,~~
- ~~· Following up the implementation of the decisions of the Assembly, and~~
- ~~· Protecting the documents of the APA.~~

1. The Secretariat shall be the permanent administrative body of the APA comprising the staff of the organization under the direction of the Secretary-General who shall be appointed to the extent possible by consensus and otherwise by two-third majority of the members participate in the vote from among qualified well-known and experienced candidates of the Member Parliaments.

2. The secretariat as the permanent headquarters of the APA shall be located in Tehran, the capital of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

<p><b>Article 12: Legal Entity</b></p> <p>The Asian Parliamentary Assembly is a legal entity represented by its President.</p> <p><b>Article 17:</b> Rules of Procedure of the Assembly The Assembly shall adopt its rules of procedure which have to be in accordance with the Charter.</p> <p><b>Official Languages</b></p> <p>Article 18: APA Official and Working Languages The official languages of the APA are Arabic and English and its working language is English.</p> <p><b>Amendment</b> <b>Article 19: Amendment of the Charter</b> Amendments of this Charter shall require the approval of at least 2/3 of the Member Parliaments present and voting in the Plenary.</p>	<p><b>Article 12,17,18,19: General Provisions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The Asian Parliamentary Assembly is a Legal Entity represented by its President <b>or his/her competent representative.</b></li><li>2. The official languages of the APA are Arabic and English and its working language shall be English.</li><li>3. <b>Upon the recommendation of the Executive Council and approve of the Plenary, each member shall make an annual asset contribution for the smooth function of the APA Secretariat.</b></li><li>4. <b>Any member state may propose amendments to this charter. The primary decision to make amendments to this charter shall be recommended by the Executive Council</b> and the amendments shall be implemented upon the approval by two-third majority of the Plenary members participate in the vote.</li></ol>
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## IRAN AMENDMENTS APA RULES OF PROCEDURE

## TABLE OF AMENDMENTS TO APA RULES OF PROCEDURE



Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA)

**SECTION I “On the title and structure of the Rules of Procedure”**

This block contains proposals to exclude the mention of the Plenary from the title of the document since the revised document will establish not only the rules for holding the Plenary but also regulate activities of other APA bodies (executive council, standing committees and subsidiary bodies).

For the same reason the internal structure of the document has been changed, so a different table of contents is proposed.

	Current wording	Amendments	Notes
1	<b>Rules of procedure of the PLENARY OF THE ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (APA)</b>	<b>Rules of procedure of the ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (APA)</b>	
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I. Composition</li> <li>• II. Session</li> <li>• III. Presidency- Bureau</li> <li>• IV. Standing Committees</li> <li>• V. Agenda-Resolutions-Debates</li> <li>• VI. Amendments</li> <li>• VII. Speaking-Order-Procedural Motions</li> <li>• VIII. Quorum-Consensus-Voting</li> <li>• IX. Permanent and Provisional Secretariats</li> <li>• X. Close of the plenary</li> <li>• XI. Adoption and Amendments of the Rules</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Composition</li> <li>II. <b>Standing and Provisional Committees</b></li> <li>III. <b>Executive Council</b></li> <li>IV. <b>Plenary</b></li> <li>V. <b>The Presidency &amp; The Bureau</b></li> <li>VI. <b>Decision-making procedure</b></li> <li>VII. <b>Secretariat</b></li> <li>VIII. <b>Amendments</b></li> </ul>	

## SECTION II “composition”

3	<b>I. COMPOSITION</b>	No amendments	
4	<b>RULE 1</b>  1. The Plenary shall be composed of sitting Members of Parliaments in Asia <sup>1</sup> designated by Member Parliaments of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, hereinafter called APA, as APA delegates for a two-year term of office in conformity with Article 6 of the Charter.	<b>par.1 New wording:</b>  1. The Asian Parliamentary Assembly hereinafter called APA shall be composed of sitting members of parliaments in Asia <sup>1</sup> <del>designated by Member Parliaments of the APA for a two-year term of office in conformity with Article 6 of the Charter.</del>	
5	2. Each Member Parliament is entitled to designate between two to seven APA delegates in accordance with Article 8 of the Charter.	<b>par.2 deleted</b>	
6	3. Member Parliaments shall submit the names and contact information of their APA delegates to the Secretary-General in writing as soon as possible, but not later than one month prior to the commencement of the Plenary.	Member Parliaments shall submit the names and contact information of their delegates to the APA Secretary General in writing as soon as possible, not later than one month prior to the commencement of a <b>each</b> Plenary	
7	4. Before completion of a two-year office as an APA delegate, if the term of office as a member of his/her national parliament is over, or if he/she is	<del>4. Before completion of a two-year office as an APA delegate, if the term of office as a member of his/her national parliament is over, or if he/she is</del>	

<sup>1</sup> The term “Asia” in these Rules and in the APA Charter shall include the sovereign states belonging to the Asia and Pacific Group in accordance with the practice of the United Nations, as well as sovereign states parts of which are in Asia.

	unable, at the discretion of national parliament, to fulfill his/her obligation as a member of national parliament, or if he/she passes away, the parliament in question shall designate another delegate to APA for two years and notifies the Secretary-General accordingly.	commitments, their respective Parliament may designate another delegate and shall notify the Secretariat thereof.	
8	<b>RULE 2</b>  1. Observer Parliaments of the APA may attend the open sessions of the Plenary and its committees as observers, and may only speak on the invitation of the President. They cannot vote or present candidates for elective office.	<b>1. New wording</b> Representatives of Observer Parliaments of the APA and Observer International Organizations of the APA may attend the open sessions of the Plenary and its committees as observers, and may only speak on the invitation of the President. They cannot vote or present candidates for elective office.	Representatives of parliaments but not whole parliaments may attend plenary sessions and committee meetings. In addition, international organizations that can be observers need to
9	2. Representatives of regional or international organizations or Inter-Parliamentary Unions may be invited, in capacity of observers, to attend the open sessions of the Plenary upon recommendation of the bureau of the previous Plenary and acknowledgment of the Plenary in which they intend to attend.	<b>2. New wording</b> Representatives of other international or regional organizations may be invited as observers to attend open meetings of the APA by decision of the Executive Council and subject to a written notice to the President <del>not later than one month before the meeting.</del> <u>immediately after the Executive Council meeting.</u>	
10	3. Application for membership or for observer status shall be submitted in writing to the president and shall be considered at the next meeting of the “Executive Council” which shall make a recommendation to the APA Plenary for a decision. Such application shall be adopted by majority vote of delegates present and voting in accordance with Rule 34(3) of this Rules of Procedure.	<b>par.3 New wording</b> Application for a membership or observer status shall be submitted in writing to the President and shall be considered at the next meeting of the Executive Council that shall prepare recommendations for the Plenary to make a decision. Decisions on granting a membership or observer status shall be made by majority vote of the delegates participating in the vote.	

		<b>par.4. New paragraph</b> Observers shall bear the costs of their participation in the APA meetings.	
<b>11</b>	<b>RULE 3</b>  APA Member Parliaments may designate former parliamentarians as well as representatives of Non-Governmental Organizations, scholars, scientists and prominent figures as honorary members of their own delegations.	<b>par.1</b> APA Member Parliaments may designate former parliamentarians as well as representatives of Non-Governmental Organizations, scholars and prominent figures as honorary members of their delegations. <b>par.2</b> Honorary members shall participate in the Plenary as observers. They do not have the right to vote. They may be given the floor by decision of the Plenary. <b>par.3</b> The costs of participation of the honorary members in the Plenary shall <del>be borne by the party that delegated them.</del> <u>not be borne by APA.</u>	

<b>12</b>	<b>IV. Standing Committees</b>	<b>II. Standing and Provisional Committees</b>	
<b>13</b>	<b>RULE 15</b> <b>1.</b> In addition to the five Standing Committees; Political, Peace and Security, Social and Cultural, Economic and Sustainable Development, and Energy, the Plenary may set up other Standing Committees, Sub- Committees, Commissions and Subsidiary Bodies as it deems necessary to deal with any subject of interests and to examine the issues on its agenda. These bodies shall submit their reports and recommendations to the Plenary	<b>RULE 4</b> <del><b>1.</b> In addition to the five Standing Committees; Political, Peace and Security, Social and Cultural, Economic and Sustainable Development, and Energy, the Plenary may set up other Standing Committees, Sub- Committees, Commissions and Subsidiary Bodies as it deems necessary to deal with any subject of interests and to examine the issues on its agenda. These bodies shall submit their reports and recommendations to the Plenary</del> <b>par.1 New wording</b> <b>1.</b> In accordance with article 8 of the charter, Four Standing Committees, namely Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs, Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development, Committee on Political Affairs, Committee on Budget and Planning shall operate as specialized body of the APA.	



	for its consideration and decision.		
14	2. Upon suggestion of the Bureau or at least 10 Member Parliaments, establishment of other Standing Committees or of SubCommittees, Commissions or Subsidiary Organs shall be put on the agenda of the Executive Council. The recommendation of the Executive Council on this issue is approved by the majority vote of the delegates present and voting in the Plenary.	<b>par.2 New wording:</b> Provisional or Ad-Hoc committees shall be established by majority decision of the Plenary upon the recommendation of the Executive Council. The Executive Council shall consider the issue of establishing provisional committees or bodies upon the suggestion of the Bureau or at least 10 delegates of the APA Member Parliaments.	
15	3. The inter-sessional meetings of the Sub-Committees, Commissions and Subsidiary Organs shall be convened by the Member Parliament hosting the previous Plenary, unless following mutual agreement of the President and the Permanent Secretariat, they may be hosted by another Member Parliament.	<b>par.3 New wording</b> Each Standing Committee shall meet once a year by the country hosting the Standing Committee.	
16	4. Number of membership of each Sub-Committee, Commission and Subsidiary body, taking into account the equitable geographical distribution, and the duration and number of their inter-sessional meetings shall be approved by the Plenary.	<b>par.4 New wording</b> The Standing committee meetings shall be quorate with the attendance of at least one-third delegations of the APA members.	
17		<b>par.5 New paragraph</b> The time and venue of the meeting shall be determined by the country hosting the Standing Committee.	

		<p><b>Par. 6 New paragraph</b> The chairperson of each APA Standing Committee in cooperation and coordination with the Secretariat shall be responsible for organizing and holding meetings of the Standing Committee.</p> <p><b>Par. 7 New paragraph</b> The Standing Committees shall objectively discuss the draft resolution and amendments provided by the Member Parliaments and circulated by the Secretariat, and shall adopt the draft resolution in general and send them to the Executive Council.</p>	
18		<p><b>Par. 8 New paragraph</b> 1. The Standing Committee shall be chaired by the Chairperson/Vice-president elected by the Plenary for a period of one-year.</p> <p><b>Par. 9 New paragraph</b> 2. The chairperson is a member of the delegation of the APA Member Parliament whose country hosts the Committee meeting.</p> <p><b>Par. 10 New paragraph</b> The Chairperson shall open, close and conduct the Committee meeting, monitor compliance with the Rule of Procedure and give the floor to the speakers..</p>	

19	The section does not exist	<b>EXECUTIVE COUNCIL</b>	
20	<b>RULE 7</b>	<b>RULE 5</b>	
21	<p><b>RULE 7</b> 1. Executive Council shall be composed of one APA delegate from each Member parliament.</p>	<b>No change</b>	

22	<b>2.</b> Executive Council shall meet at least twice a year: once, immediately before the meeting of the Plenary, and the other normally about three months prior to the meeting of the Plenary.	<b>New paragraph:</b> The Council shall meet once a year about two months prior to the meeting of the Plenary. .	
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23	<p>3. The meetings of the Executive Council referred to in Paragraphs 1 and 2 above shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Guide the work of the Secretariat to facilitate the smooth and efficient conducting of the meeting of the Plenary,</li> <li>* Consider the reports and documents developed by the Secretariat and making appropriate recommendation to the Plenary for a decision,</li> <li>* Consider draft resolutions and making appropriate recommendations to the Plenary for a decision,</li> <li>* Consider the proposal for the establishment of a new Standing Committee or of a Sub-Committee, commission or Subsidiary Organ,</li> <li>* Consider the application for new members or observers and making appropriate recommendations to the Plenary for a decision,</li> <li>* Consider the Secretariat proposal for the provisional Draft Agenda of the Plenary and recommending a Draft Agenda to the Plenary,</li> <li>* Consider the APA budget and its finances and making appropriate recommendation to the Plenary for a decision.</li> <li>* Recommend the APA Secretary-General for approval by the Plenary.</li> </ul>	<p><b>New wording</b></p> <p>1. The Executive Council as the executive body of the APA shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guide and monitor the work of the Secretariat to ensure the efficient operation of the APA;</li> <li>• Recommend the candidates for the post of the APA Secretary-General for approval by the Plenary;</li> <li>• Hear the annual report of the Secretary-General on the work of the APA and make a decision on its approval or disapproval;</li> <li>• Consider proposals to amend the Charter, Rules of Procedure, Financial Regulations and recommend them to be included in the agenda of the Plenary Session or defer them for revision;</li> <li>• Consider proposal to establish provisional committees, ad-hoc committees or any provisional body;</li> <li>• Consider applications for granting a new membership or observer status and prepare the recommendations of the Plenary to make the decision;</li> <li>• The meeting of the Executive Council two months before the Plenary, shall decide on the draft agenda of the Plenary session recommend the Plenary session, considers the draft resolutions prepared by the Standing Committees and make a decision on including them in the agenda of the Plenary session or deferring them to the Standing Committees for revision;</li> </ul>	
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24	4. The decision making in the Executive Council shall be, to the extent possible, by consensus. Otherwise, the Executive Council makes decision by the majority vote of the Member Parliaments present and voting. Special cases requiring two third majorities shall be determined by the majority vote of Parliaments present and voting.	<b>par.4 New wording</b> The Executive Council shall take decisions by a majority vote of the members that participated in the vote.	
25	5. Each Member Parliament shall have one vote in the Executive Council.	<b>No change.</b>	
26	6. Quorum for convening the Plenary and for adopting a resolution outlined in Rules 32 and 33 of this Rules of Procedure shall also apply to the meetings of the Executive Council.	<b>New paragraph:</b> The Executive Council meetings shall be quorate with the presence of at least one-third of Member Parliaments.	

27	II Sessions	IV. <b>PLENARY</b>	
28	RULE 4	<p><b>New paragraph:</b>  1. The Plenary shall be composed of sitting Member of Parliaments designated by Member Parliaments of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly.</p> <p><b>New paragraph:</b>  Each APA member shall have the right to designate two delegates plus additional delegates based on its population as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Countries with population between 1 million and up to 50 million may designate two additional delegates;</li> <li>•Countries with population between 50 million and up to 200 million may designate three additional delegates;</li> <li>•Countries with population between 200 million and up to 500 million may designate four additional delegates;</li> <li>•And Countries with population over 500 million may designate five additional delegates.</li> </ul>	
29	<p><b>RULE 4</b>  The Plenary shall be held annually (Article 9 of the Charter). The Plenary shall meet for two consecutive years in the country which has the presidency of the APA (Article 10 of the Charter).</p> <p><b>Note:</b> In case a host Parliament is not prepared to convene the meetings of the Executive Council and the Plenary for two consecutive years, the presidency and the hosting of those meetings may, with the concurrence of the majority of Member Parliaments, be entrusted to another Member Parliament.</p>	<p><b>New wording</b>  The Plenary shall convene once a year. The country, which hosts the Plenary, shall preside the APA for a one-year term.</p>	
30	RULE 5	RULE 7	

31	<b>RULE 5</b>  After consultation with Member Parliaments, the President shall inform them about the date of each Plenary at least three months before the Plenary meets.	<b>New wording</b> <b>par.1</b> The APA President shall inform the Secretariat about the date and place of holding the Plenary at least three months before convening the Plenary.	
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32	<b>RULE 6</b> The venue and date of the Plenary may change, in certain cases, upon proposal of the Bureau in consultation with the host Parliament, and concurrence of the majority of Member Parliaments to be determined in accordance with Rule 10(2).	<b>New wording</b> The venue and time of the Plenary may change if the host country withdraws. In this case, the Executive Council shall make a decision on new place and time of the Plenary.	
33	<b>RULE 16</b>	<b>RULE 8</b>	
34	<b>RULE 16</b> 1. On the recommendation of the Secretary-General, the Executive Council shall draw up a Draft Agenda, which includes a general debate, to be circulated to Member Parliaments and Observers for approval of the Plenary.	Par.1 Upon the proposal of the Secretary-General or the Bureau, the Executive Council shall draw up draft agenda of the Plenary.	
35	2. The Draft Agenda shall be circulated to all Member Parliaments by the Secretariat at least two months before the opening of the Plenary. 3. The Plenary may alter or approve the proposed Draft Agenda at the beginning of its first meeting. 4. The extra-ordinary Plenary can only consider the item(s) for which it is convened.	<b>2 and 3 forms anew rules:</b> <b>New Wording:</b> The agenda shall be circulated to all Member Parliaments and raised in the first meeting of the Executive Council for approval. <b>New paragraph:</b> If the Agenda obtains majority vote of the present Member Parliaments, the Executive Council shall submit the proposal to the Plenary for approval <b>New Wording:</b> The Plenary may alter or approve the Draft Agenda, to the extent possible by consensus; otherwise by majority vote of the members participate in voting.	
36	<b>RULE 17</b> 1. Member Parliaments may submit to the Secretariat, proposals to include supplementary item(s) in the provisional agenda of the Plenary, not later than two months before the Plenary convenes. An explanatory note and a draft		



	<p>resolution should be attached to such proposals.</p> <p>2. A request for inclusion of a supplementary item received by the Secretariat at least 30 days before the opening of the Plenary or a request for inclusion of an emergency supplementary item relating to an event of particular importance occurring during the 30 days preceding the opening of the Plenary in order to be taken into consideration, must receive the approval of two-third majority of Member Parliaments present and voting in the Executive Council which convenes immediately before the Plenary.</p> <p><b>RULE 18</b></p> <p>Before taking a decision on a request for the inclusion of a supplementary or an emergency item referred to in Rule 17 above, the Executive Council and the Plenary shall hear a brief explanatory statement from the sponsor and a statement from one speaker holding a contrary opinion, neither may enter into the substance of the matter.</p>	<p><b>Par.2 of Rule 9 is transferred from par.2 of Rule 20:</b></p> <p><b>New Para:</b></p> <p>1. Additional or emergency items may be committed by the Plenary to a provisional or an ad-hoc committee that shall discuss them and prepare a report or draft resolution for consideration by the Plenary.</p>	
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37	<b>RULE 20</b>  1. The procedure for submission of draft resolution on supplementary or emergency items shall be determined by the Plenary upon the recommendations of the Bureau. 2. The supplementary or emergency items may be referred by the Plenary to an ad-hoc Committee, which shall debate it and prepare a report and/or a draft resolution for consideration by the Plenary.	<p>The Plenary shall consider and adopt resolution proposed by the Executive Council by consensus. In case the consensus is not reachable, the decisions shall be made by two-third majority of the members participate in the vote.</p> <p>The Plenary may adopt or reject the resolutions as a whole. Amendments to the resolutions shall not be considered.</p>	
38	<b>RULE 21</b>	<b>RULE 10</b>	
39	<b>RULE 21</b>  1. The Plenary shall start by holding a general debate during which delegates may address the political, security, economic, social and cultural issues based on the Principles and Objectives of the establishment of the APA in its Charter (Articles 2 and 3 of the Charter). 2. The Plenary shall promote friendly and constructive dialogue. To this end, bilateral contentious issues shall be excluded.	1. The Plenary shall start by holding a general debate during which delegates may address political, security, economic, social and cultural issues based on the Principles and Objectives of the establishment of the APA in its Charter ( <del>Articles 2 and 3 of the Charter</del> ) (Art. 1 and 2 of the Charter).  <b>2. no changed</b>  <b>New paragraph</b>  3. The Member Parliament hosting the Plenary shall be responsible for providing all necessary facilities for the members to attend the Plenary.	
40	<b>VII. Speaking – Order – Procedural Motions</b>	<b>To be excluded</b>	Provisions of this section should be included in the Plenary Session section.

41	RULE 26	RULE 11	
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42	<p><b>RULE 26</b></p> <p>1. No delegate may speak without permission of the President.</p> <p>2. Delegates shall, as a general rule, speak in the order in which they have asked for the floor.</p> <p>3. Speakers may only be interrupted by other Delegates on a point of order. They may, with the President's permission yield the floor to other Delegate(s) raising a point of order to seek clarification.</p> <p>4. The President shall rule immediately, without debate, on all points of order.</p>	<p><b>Par. 1 &amp; 4 remain</b></p> <p>1.No delegate shall speak without permission of the President.</p> <p><b>par.2 New wording</b> Delegates shall, as a general rule, speak in the order in which they asked <b>to be given the floor and within the time allocated for the debate. The delegates that did not have the floor during the time allocated for the debate may submit written texts of their speeches to the Plenary.</b></p> <p><b>3 New wording</b> <b>The chairperson of the session shall admonish the speaker and interrupt the speeches in case of deviation from fundamental principles of the APA, the subject if the debate, breach of ethical standards and exceeding the time limit</b></p> <p>4.The President shall rule immediately, without debate, on all points of order.</p>	
43	<p><b>RULE 27</b></p>	<p><b>RULE 12</b></p>	
44	<p><b>RULE 27</b></p> <p>1. No more than two representatives of each delegation may speak in the General Debate. Unless the Bureau decides otherwise, every delegation shall be entitled to 10 minutes speaking time in the General Debate. When two speakers from the same delegation are registered for this debate, they shall share the speaking time in the most appropriate way.</p> <p>2. With a view to ensuring the smooth running of the debates, the Bureau may alter the above speaking time to suit the circumstances.</p>	<p><b>Par.1 New wording</b> No more than two representatives of each delegation may speak in the General Debate. Unless the Bureau decides otherwise, every delegation shall be entitled to 10 minutes speaking time in the General Debate. When two speakers from the same delegation are registered for this debate, they shall share the speaking time in the most appropriate way <b>for taking the floor to the Chairperson or to the Secretariat.</b></p> <p><b>Par. 2, 3 to be excluded</b></p>	

	<p><b>3.</b> Notwithstanding the provision of paragraph 1 above, the President may, at the end of the corresponding sitting, give the floor, for three minutes, to a delegate wishing to exercise his/her right of reply.</p>		
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45	<p><b>RULE 28</b></p> <p>The President shall call a speaker to order when the latter does not keep to the subject under discussion or prejudice the debate by using abusive language or raising divisive issues. The President may, if necessary, withdraw permission to speak and may have the objectionable words omitted from the record.</p> <p><b>RULE 29</b></p> <p>1. The President shall deal immediately with any incident, which may arise during the meeting and, if necessary, taking necessary measure required to restore the smooth working of the Plenary.</p>	<p><b>Rules 28-29 to be excluded</b></p>	<p>Norms are specified in the new wording of par.26 (11) (amendment No.....)</p>
46	<p><b>RULE 30</b></p>	<p><b>RULE 13</b></p>	
47	<p><b>RULE 30</b></p> <p>1. Priority to speak shall be given to delegates wishing to propose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Adjournment of the debate sine die;</li> <li>b) Adjournment of the debate;</li> <li>c) Closure of the list of speakers;</li> <li>d) Closure or adjournment of the meeting;</li> <li>e) Any other motion concerning the conduct of the meeting.</li> </ul> <p>2. These procedural motions shall have priority over the substantive questions; debate on the latter shall be suspended while the formers are being considered.</p> <p>3. The mover shall make a brief presentation of the motion without entering into the substance of</p>	<p><b>No changes 1-4</b></p> <p>1. Priority to speak shall be given to the delegates wishing to propose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Adjournment of the debate sin die;</li> <li>b) Adjournment of the debate;</li> <li>c) Closure of the list of the speakers;</li> <li>d) Closure or adjournment of the meeting;</li> <li>e) Any other motion concerning the conduct of the meeting;</li> </ul> <p>2. These procedural motions shall have the priority over the substantive questions; debate on the latter shall be suspended while the formers are being considered.</p> <p>3. The mover shall make a brief presentation of the motion without entering into the substance of the</p>	

	4. In the debate of procedural motions, only the mover of the proposal and one delegate holding the contrary opinion shall be heard after which the Plenary shall decide.	4. In the debate of procedural motions, only the mover of the proposal and one delegate holding the contrary opinion shall be heard after which the Plenary shall decide.	
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48	<b>RULE 31</b>	<b>RULE 14</b>	
49	<b>RULE 31</b>  Debates of the Plenary shall be public. They shall be held in private only if the Plenary so decides by a two-thirds majority of delegates present and voting.	<b>New wording:</b> Debates of the Plenary shall be public; <del>They shall be held in private only if the Plenary so decides by a</del> <b>unless</b> two-third majority of <b>the</b> delegates present and voting <b>decide to hold it in private.</b>	
50	<b>RULE 32</b>	<b>RULE 15</b>	
51	<b>RULE 32</b>  1. The Plenary shall only convene if at least half of its Member Parliaments are represented. 2. The quorum shall be established on the basis of number of delegations represented at the first plenary meeting. This quorum shall be announced by the Secretariat at that time.	<b>Par.1 New wording:</b> 1.The Plenary shall only convene if at least <del>half</del> <b>one-third</b> of its Member Parliaments are present. <b>2. No Change</b> ·	
52	<b>RULE 33</b>	<b>RULE 16</b>	
53	<b>RULE 33</b>  1. All resolutions and decisions of the Plenary shall be adopted, to the extent possible, by consensus. Otherwise, they shall be adopted by majority vote of delegates present and voting (Article 11 of the Charter), except where a higher majority is expressly required. 2. Further to cases provided in this Rule, the Plenary may decide, by majority vote of delegates present and voting, that on a specific subject a higher majority is required (Article 11 of the Charter).	1. All resolutions and decisions of the Plenary shall be adopted, to the extent possible, by consensus; Otherwise, they shall be adopted by the majority vote of the delegates present and voting ( <b>Art. 5 Para. 2 of the charter</b> ), except <del>where-in case under the Charter and this Rules of Procedure</del> a higher majority is required. 2. Further to cases provided in this rule, the Plenary may decide, by <b>two-third</b> majority vote of delegates present and voting, that on a specific subject a higher majority is required ( <b>Art. 10 Para. 4 of the charter</b> ).	

54	<b>RULE 34</b>	<b>RULE 17</b>	
55	<b>RULE 34</b>  1. Each delegation has voting rights corresponding to the number of its delegates to the plenary; one vote for each of its delegates (Article 8 of the Charter). 2. Only delegates present in person shall have the right to vote. 3. The President/Speaker of a Member Parliament leading the delegation to a Plenary shall be entitled to one vote in addition to the votes which that Member Parliament already enjoys under Paragraph 1 above.	No amendments to the text of the Rule 1. Each delegation has voting rights corresponding to the number of delegates to the Plenary; one vote for each of its delegates ( <b>Rule 2 Para. 2 of the Rules of Procedure</b> ) 2. Only delegates present in person shall have the right to vote. 3. The president/speaker of a Member Parliament leading the delegation to a Plenary shall be entitled to one vote in addition to the votes which that Member Parliament already enjoys under <del>Paragraph 1</del> <b>Rule 2 Para. 2</b> above.	
56	<b>RULE 35</b>  A table giving the number of votes to which each Member of the Plenary is entitled shall be distributed at the opening of the Plenary.	<b>RULE 18</b>  No amendments to the text of the Rule.	
57	<b>RULE 36</b>  1. The Plenary shall normally vote by show of hands or standing. However, if the President deems it necessary or a delegate so requests a vote by roll call, electronic device or secret ballot maybe taken. 2. In counting the number of votes by “delegates present and voting”, only the affirmative and negative votes shall be counted as voting. 3. If the votes are equally divided, the proposal under consideration shall be considered as rejected.	<b>RULE 19</b> <b>2 &amp; 3 no amendments</b> The Plenary shall normally vote by <del>show</del> <b>raise</b> of hands or <del>standing</del> <b>arising</b> . However, if the President deems it necessary or a delegate so requests, a vote by roll call, electronic device or secret ballot may be taken. 2. In counting the number of votes by "delegates present and voting", only the affirmative and negative votes shall be counted. 3. If the votes are equally divided, the proposal under consideration shall be considered as rejected.	

58	<b>RULE 37</b>  1. Where consensus is not reached, the Plenary shall vote on the texts of the decisions or resolutions submitted by the Standing Committees, without holding a debate on their substance. 2. No debate may be opened nor vote taken on a question which the Plenary has considered and on which it has taken a decision. In exceptional cases, the Plenary may decide, by a two-third majority of the delegates present and voting, to re-open the debate and reconsider a decision already taken.	<b>RULE 20</b>  1. Where/ <b>When</b> a consensus is not reached, the Plenary shall vote on the texts of the decisions or resolution submitted by the <del>Standing Committees</del> <b>Executive Council</b> , without holding a debate on their substance. <b>2 no change</b> 2. No debate may be opened nor vote taken on a question which the Plenary has considered and on which it has taken a decision. In exceptional cases, the Plenary may decide, by a two-third majority of the delegates present and voting, to re-open the debate and reconsider a decision already taken.	
59	<b>RULE 38</b>  1. Any delegate may request that part, or each paragraph, of a text submitted to the Plenary is put to the vote separately. 2. If any objection is raised, the request for division shall be voted upon without debate.	<b>RULE 21</b> <b>1 No change</b> 1. Any delegate may request, that part or each paragraph of a text submitted to the Plenary, put to the vote separately. 2. If any objection is raised, the request for division shall be <b>put in</b> vote without a debate <b>on its substance</b>	
60	<b>RULE 39</b>	<b>RULE 22</b>	
61	<b>RULE 39</b>  1. Nobody may interrupt a voting process once it has commenced, except to obtain clarification as to the manner in which the voting is being conducted. 2. Delegates who wish to explain their vote briefly may be authorized to do so by the President, after voting has taken place. 3. No explanation of vote shall be admissible on amendments and procedural motions.	1. No body may interrupt a voting process once it is commenced, except to obtain clarification as to the manner in which the voting is being conducted. <b>The President may interrupt voting process to admonish a point of order in voting.</b>  Par. <b>2-3 to be excluded</b>	

63	<b>RULE 46</b>	<b>RULE 23</b>	
64	<b>RULE 46</b>  1. At the close of each Plenary, the President shall enumerate the principal resolutions and decisions adopted. 2. Delegations shall inform their respective parliaments and governments of the resolutions, decisions and recommendations adopted by the Plenary with a view to obtaining the most active possible support for the implementation of these resolutions and decisions.	<b>Par.1 &amp;2.</b> remains	.
65		<b>NEW RULE 24</b>	
66		<b>RULE 24</b> Each delegation shall have the right to propose to the Executive Council to include an emergency item in the Plenary agenda. Only one emergency item may be included in the Plenary agenda. If there are several proposals on an emergency item, then the proposal that received the most votes given by those who participated in the vote shall be included in the agenda. A delegation proposing to the <del>Standing Committee</del> <b>Executive Council</b> to consider an emergency item shall simultaneously submit a written draft resolution on the item.	
67	<b>RULE 10</b>	<b>RULE 25</b>	

68	<p><b>RULE 10</b></p> <p>1. Any Member of the APA may request the convening of an extraordinary Plenary. The Member Parliament that hosted the previous Plenary shall convene the extra-ordinary Plenary if the request is supported by the majority of Member Parliaments (Article 9 of the Charter). The extra-ordinary Plenary may be hosted by a different Parliament if such request is agreed to by the President of APA who hosted the previous Plenary and by the majority of Member parliaments.</p> <p>2. Support for convening of the extra-ordinary Plenary and, where appropriate for its venue, is determined on the basis of no-objection of the majority of the Member Parliaments in response to a written notice from the Secretariat to all Member Parliaments seeking their views on the subject(s) by a certain date. Unless more than half the numbers of Member Parliaments object, in writing to the Secretariat, to the convening of the extra- ordinary Plenary or to its venue, it will be regarded that the majority of Member Parliaments have supported the convening of the extra- ordinary Plenary.</p>	<p>1. Any member of the APA may request the convening of an extraordinary Plenary. <b>If such a request is supported by two-third majority of the Member Parliaments, the member hosted the previous Plenary may convene the extraordinary session of the Plenary. In case for any reason the host member is not able or willing to host the extraordinary session, or the member who proposed the extraordinary session is not able to do so, the host of extraordinary Plenary shall be determined by the Bureau from among members willing to host the extraordinary session.</b></p> <p>2. Support for convening of the extraordinary Plenary and, where appropriate for its venue, is determined on the basis of no-objection of the majority of the Member Parliaments in response to a written notice from the Secretariat to all Member Parliaments seeking their views on the subject(s) by a certain date. <del>Unless more than half the numbers of Member Parliaments object, in writing to the Secretariat, to the convening of the extra-ordinary Plenary or to its venue, it will be regarded that the majority of Member Parliaments have supported the convening of the extra- ordinary Plenary.</del></p>	
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		<p><b>New paragraph:</b></p> <p>1. In accordance with Article 3 of the charter, observers may attend the open sessions of the Plenary and APA committees. The observers may only speak upon the invitation of the President of the APA and chairperson of the concerned committee.</p> <p>2. Application for a membership or observer status shall be submitted in writing to the Secretariat. The Secretary-General shall submit such an application to the Executive Council for consideration. Accordingly, the Executive Council may/shall make recommendations for the Plenary.</p> <p>3. Decisions on granting a membership or observer status shall be made according to article 3 of the charter.</p>	
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69	III. Presidency	V. The Presidency & The Bureau	
70		RULE 26	
71	<p>1. The President of the Assembly shall be elected from amongst the Presidents/Speakers of the Member Parliaments for two years, by acclamation or by the majority vote of the delegates present and voting, at the beginning of the first meeting of the Plenary.</p> <p>2. The outgoing President or, in his/her absence, the head of the delegation of the outgoing President, shall open the inaugural Session, pending the election of the new President.</p> <p>3. The Plenary shall also elect four Vice-Presidents (Article 10 of the Charter) from among the heads of delegations as well as a Rapporteur from among delegates, bearing in mind equitable geographical distribution.</p>	<p>1. <b>New wording:</b> The President of the APA shall be elected for a period of one-year from among the Chairpersons/Speakers on the basis of Rotation Rule at the beginning of the first meeting of the Plenary, by acclamation.</p> <p>2. The elected President shall exercise his/her power since the close of the Plenary at which he/she was elected, until the close of the next Plenary.</p> <p><b>New paragraph</b> . The President may delegate his/her powers to a member of parliament of his/her country to perform the functions of the President.</p> <p>3. The Plenary shall also elect four Vice- Presidents (<del>Article 10 of the Charter</del>) from among the heads of delegations Member Parliaments as chairpersons of the four Standing Committees as well as a Rapporteur to the extent possible from among delegates, <del>bearing in mind</del> based on equitable geographical distribution as follow:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. West Asia: Bahrain, Cyprus, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, United Arab of Emirates and Yemen.</li> <li>2. Southeast Asia: Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam.</li> <li>3. South Asia: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.</li> <li>4. East Asia and the Pacific: China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Kiribati, Mongolia, Palau, Republic of Korea and Tonga.</li> <li>5. Central Asia and the CIS: Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.</li> </ol>	

72	<b>RULE 12</b>	<b>RULE 27</b>	
73	<b>RULE 12 - remains</b> The President of the Assembly shall preside over the extra-ordinary Plenary Session(s) during his/her term of office.	No amendments to the text of the Rule	
74	<b>RULE 13 –</b> 1. The Bureau of the Assembly shall be composed of the President of the Assembly, the four Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur, who shall be elected for a two-year term on the basis of equitable geographical distribution.	1. The Bureau of the APA shall be composed of the President and four Vice-Presidents who shall be elected by the Plenary for a one-year term to the extent possible based on equitable geographical distribution (as mentioned in Rule 33 Para. 1). <b>The Bureau shall meet one day preceding the Plenary.</b>	Although this part has not functions so far, it can be reinforced and executed rather than eliminated.



	2. The Bureau of the Assembly, which shall be assisted by the Secretary-General, shall take all appropriate measures to ensure the effective organization and normal functioning of the plenary proceedings, in accordance with the Charter and the Rules of Procedure.	2. The Bureau of the Assembly, which shall be assisted by the Secretary-General <b>of the APA</b> , shall take all appropriate measures to ensure the effective organization and normal functioning of the plenary proceedings, in accordance with <b>and perform other functions as envisaged in</b> the Charter and <del>the</del> Rules of Procedure.	
75	<b>RULE 14</b>	<b>RULE 28</b>	
76	<b>RULE 14</b>  1. The President shall open, suspend and close the sittings, direct the work of the Plenary, ensure respect for the Rules, call upon speakers, put questions to vote, announce the results of the voting and declare the Plenary closed. The President's decisions in these matters shall be final. 2. The President shall decide on APA matters not covered by these Rules, after having the advice of the Bureau.	<b>1. During the Plenary</b> , the President shall open, <del>suspend</del> <b>adjourn</b> and close the meetings, direct the work of the Plenary, ensure respect the Rules, call upon Speakers, put questions to vote, announce the results of the voting and declare the Plenary closed. The President's decisions in latter shall be final. <b>2. New wording</b> The President shall <del>decide on APA matters</del> <b>make decisions on issues</b> not covered by these Rules after <del>having the advice of</del> <b>consultation with</b> The Bureau. <b>New paragraph</b> <b>The President in cooperation and coordination with the APA Secretariat shall be responsible for organizing and holding meetings of the Executive Council and the Plenary.</b>	



77	<b>VI. Amendments</b>	<b>Decision Making Process</b>	
78	<b>RULE 19</b> 1. Any delegate may submit a motion or a draft resolution on any subject included in the agenda. 2. Draft resolution(s) relating to the items in the agenda shall, as a general rule, be deposited with the Secretariat at least 24 hours before the opening of the last plenary sitting allocated for the discussion of that item.	<b>To be excluded</b>	
79	<b>RULE 22</b>	<b>RULE 29</b>	
80	<b>RULE 22</b> 1. Any delegate may submit amendment(s) to a motion, or a draft resolution, as well as to sub-amendments. 2. Amendments shall be submitted in writing. Amendments and sub- amendments may be submitted until the Plenary adopts the texts to which they relate.  <b>RULE 23</b> 1. Amendments and sub-amendments shall relate to the text. They may call for an addition, a deletion or an alteration with regard to the initial draft, without changing its scope or nature. The President of the Plenary shall determine whether or not amendments and subamendments, which are to be voted on in the plenary sitting, are in order. 2. Amendments and sub-amendments shall be	1. Proposals regarding the subjects discussed at meetings of the committees, the Plenary and draft resolutions proposed by national delegates shall be sent to the Secretariat. 2. The Secretariat shall immediately send all the received proposals or draft documents to the Member Parliaments and also present them at the next meeting of the Executive Council.  <b>RULE 30</b> 1. The Executive Council shall make a decision on putting the proposals or draft documents in the agenda of the Plenary to approve or disapprove. 2. The Executive Council shall make a decision on forwarding the draft resolution to the relevant Standing Committee. 3. The draft resolutions shall be sent by the secretariat following the decision of the Executive Council.	

	<p>voted before the text to which they relate.</p> <p><b>RULE 24</b></p> <p>1. If two or more amendments apply to the same words in a draft resolution, that which is furthest from the text under consideration shall have priority over the others and shall be put to the vote first. The president's decision regarding the priority of the amendments shall be final.</p> <p>2. If two or more amendments are mutually exclusive, the adoption of the first shall involve the rejection of the other amendment or amendments bearing on the same words.</p> <p><b>RULE 25</b></p> <p>The only speakers on an amendment or sub-amendment shall be the sponsor and one delegate holding a contrary opinion, unless the President decides that two would speak in favor and two against the amendment or sub-amendment.</p>	<p><b>RULE 31</b></p> <p>Delegations of the Member Parliaments shall send to the Secretariat their written amendments to the resolution not later than 21 days before the meeting of the committee.</p>	
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81		<p><b>RULE 32</b></p> <p>The Secretariat shall present at the meeting of the committee all the draft resolutions and all amendments to them without exception.</p> <p>Any failure by representatives of the delegation to attend the meetings of the committees shall not constitute the grounds for non-acceptance of the draft resolution and amendments for consideration.</p>	
82		<p><b>RULE 33</b></p> <p>Amendments shall be adopted to the extent possible by consensus.</p> <p>The Secretariat shall submit the whole resolution adopted by the Committees for consideration of the Executive Council meeting at least 60 days before the Plenary.</p>	
83		<p><b>RULE 34</b></p> <p>The Executive Council may consider amendments to draft resolutions and make a decision on including them in the Plenary agenda or deferring them for revision.</p>	

84		<b>RULE 35</b> 1. The Plenary may make a decision on approving or rejecting the draft resolutions or document without discussion or opening debate on them. Draft resolutions shall be adopted to the extent possible by consensus; otherwise, by the majority vote given by the present and voting members participated in the vote.	

87	<b>IX. Permanent and Provisional Secretariats</b>	<b>VII. Secretariat</b> 1. The APA Secretariat headed by a Secretary-General shall receive and process all documents, reports and draft resolutions and distribute them together with brief reports on meetings in the APA working	We propose to exclude the mention of the provisional secretariat as it is never created
88	<b>RULE 40</b>	<b>RULE 39</b>	
	<b>RULE 40</b>  The Headquarters of the APA Permanent Secretariat shall be at Tehran. The Plenary shall decide on the relevant budgetary and personnel issues for the Permanent Secretariat by the year 2011.	<b>The second sentence should be excluded.</b> <b>New wording:</b> The Headquarters of the APA Permanent Secretariat shall be located in Tehran.	
89	2. <b>Explanatory Note:</b> It is agreed that the Draft Rules of Procedure with amendments and additions shall be recommended to the Plenary convened in November 2007 for consideration and	<b>To be excluded</b>	

	adoption provided that the Executive Council that meets immediately before the Plenary considers the new proposals regarding additional powers of the Permanent and Provisional Secretariats.		
<b>90</b>	<b>RULE 41</b>	<b>RULE 40</b>	
<b>91</b>	<b>RULE 41</b>  The President of the APA shall organize a Provisional Secretariat in the host country to convene the Executive Council and the Plenary.	<b>New wording</b> The APA President in cooperation with the APA Secretariat shall be responsible for organizing and holding meetings of the Executive Council and the Plenary. If a meeting of the Executive Council or the Plenary is held in another country, then the chairperson of the parliament of that country shall be responsible for organizing and holding them.	
		<b>New paragraph</b> The Chairperson of the APA Standing Committee shall be responsible for organizing and holding meetings of the Standing Committee in cooperation with the APA Secretariat.	
<b>92</b>	<b>RULE 8</b> 1. The convocation of each Plenary shall be sent to all Member Parliaments, Observers and other invitees, at least one month before the commencement of the Plenary. <b>RULE 9</b> The member parliament hosting the Plenary shall be responsible for providing all necessary facilities for the Plenary. Other Member Parliaments may offer to bear part of the expenses in organizing a Plenary Session.	<b>To be excluded</b>	
<b>93</b>		<b>RULE 41</b>	
<b>94</b>		<b>New Rule</b> Notices of convening each meeting shall be sent to	

		all Member Parliaments, Observers and other invitees at least one month before such meeting.	
95	<b>RULE 42</b> 1. The Permanent Secretariat, headed by a Secretary-General shall assist the President and the Provisional Secretariat in directing the work of the Executive Council and the Plenary. 2. The Secretary-General or his representative may at any time, at the request of the President, submit to the plenary advice on any question which the meeting has under consideration.	<b>1.To be excluded</b>  <b>New wording;</b> 2.The Secretary-General or his/ <del>her</del> representative may at any time, <del>upon</del> at the request of the <del>President,</del> <del>submit to the plenary advice on any question which the meeting has under consideration.</del> <b>Member Parliaments or APA organs, provide expertise views/clarification on any question.</b>	
96	<b>RULE 43</b>	<b>RULE 42</b>	
97	<b>RULE 43</b> 1. The Permanent Secretariat shall receive all documents, reports and draft resolutions and distribute them, together with the summary records of the sittings in the working language of the APA and in Arabic. 2. The Permanent Secretariat of the Plenary shall ensure the adequacy of the technical facilities for simultaneous English and Arabic translation and for delegates wishing to speak in their own language and provide their own simultaneous English interpreters. 3. The Provisional Secretariat shall ensure, in coordination with the Permanent Secretariat, that adequate facilities for the convenience of the Delegates and smooth fulfillment of their obligations are available in the Host Country.	<b>The word “permanent” should be excluded</b> <b>1. New wording.</b> The APA Secretariat <b>headed by a Secretary-General</b> shall receive and process all documents, reports and draft resolutions and distribute them together with brief reports on meetings in the APA <del>official and</del> working language.  <b>2. New wording</b> The <b>Member</b> Parliament <del>of the country</del> hosting the Plenary or meetings of the Executive Council or the Standing Committees shall create the necessary working environment including the provision of the necessary premises, technical equipment; <b>and</b> simultaneous interpretation into the APA <del>official</del> <b>working</b> languages, accommodation and meals for the delegates for the duration of the meetings taking into account one day of arrival and one day of departure. <del>Equipment for simultaneous interpretation into national languages shall be provided on request.</del>  <b>3. Any Member Parliament speaker is willing to speak in another language shall be personally responsible for ensuring its interpretation into APA working language.</b> <b>4. In case of request and in cooperation and coordination with the Secretariat equipment for</b>	Since the concept of “Permanent Secretariat” was excluded



		<p>5. Upon the APA decision in 2008 and 2013, expenses for participation of APA Secretariat Delegation in all APA meetings shall be bear by the host Member Parliament.</p> <p>Rule 57</p> <p>6. The Secretary-General in performing its tasks under the APA Charter and Rules of Procedure may appoint a deputy from among the Secretariat employees.</p> <p>Rule 58</p> <p>7. In case of breaches of APA Charter, Rules of Procedure and Financial Regulations, disapproval of the APA annual budget utilization report and entry into legal force of a court verdict, upon the two-third majority vote of the APA Plenary, the power of Secretary-General shall be determined.</p> <p>8. In this case, the Secretary-General Deputy shall act as the head of the Secretariat till the election of a new Secretary-General.</p> <p>9. The Secretariat is the permanent administrative body of the APA. The Headquarters of the APA shall be located in Tehran, the capital of the Islamic Republic of Iran</p>	
98	<b>RULE 44</b>	<b>RULE 43</b>	
99	<b>RULE 44</b>	<b>The word “permanent” should be excluded</b>	

	<p>1. The Permanent Secretariat of the APA shall preserve the documents of the Executive Council and the Plenary in its archives. The Permanent Secretariat shall follow up on the implementation of the decisions of the plenary and, in general, carry out all the tasks, which the Plenary may think fit to entrust to it. (Article 13 of the Charter).</p> <p>2. The Permanent Secretariat shall publish documents of the Plenary and distribute them among Member Parliaments and Observers.</p>	<p><b>1. New wording:</b>  The Secretariat shall keep all the documents related to the APA in its archives. The APA Secretariat shall follow up [to ensure] the complete implementation of decisions of the Plenary and perform all the tasks that the Plenary may consider appropriate to assign to it.</p> <p><b>Par.2 New wording :</b>  The documents adopted by the Plenary shall be published and communicated by the Secretariat to all APA Member Parliaments, their respective governments and observers to the APA.</p>	
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<b>100</b>	<b>RULE 45</b>	<b>RULE 44</b>	
<b>101</b>	<p><b>RULE 45</b></p> <p>Upon recommendation of the Executive Council and approval of the Plenary, the Secretary-General shall be elected for a four-year term from among prominent figures in various sub-regions of Asia.</p>	<p><b>New paragraphs</b></p> <p>1. The APA Secretary-General shall be elected for a term of four-year based on set of professional and international criteria</p> <p>2. . Each APA Member Parliament delegation may nominate only one candidate for the post of the Secretary-General not later than 60 days before the election by submitting an official nomination application signed by the President of the parliament accompanied by a short biography of the candidate</p> <p>3. The Executive Council shall consider the candidates in terms of their experience working as a member of the parliament or in the apparatus of the parliament or in an international parliamentary organization and by two-third majority vote of the present and voting delegates and may recommend them to the Plenary.</p> <p>4. If the Executive Council recommends the plenary more than one candidate, the election shall be held by a secret ballot.</p> <p>5. The Secretary-General shall take office 14 days after the election. His/her power shall be terminated 14 days after the election of a new Secretary-General.</p> <p>6. One person and also a representative of one APA Member Parliament shall not hold office of the Secretary-General for more than two consecutive terms.</p>	
<b>102</b>			

103		<p><b>RULE 46</b></p> <p>1. The Secretariat in coordination with the host country shall send all Member Parliaments and observers the convocation of each Plenary at least 60 days before commencement of the Plenary.</p> <p><b>Rule 53</b></p> <p>1. The Secretariat shall assist the President of the APA in directing the work of the Executive Council and the Plenary.</p>	
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104	<b>XI. Adoption and Amendment of the Rules</b>	<b>Amendments</b>	
105	<b>RULE 47</b>	<b>RULE 47</b>	
106	<p><b>RULE 47</b></p> <p>1. The Plenary shall adopt its Rules of Procedure by a majority vote of the delegates present and voting in accordance with Rule 33 of this Rules of Procedure.</p>	<p>1 &amp;2 combined = new rules</p> <p>Proposals of the delegations regarding amendments to the Rules of Procedure shall be sent in writing accompanied by an explanatory note to the Executive Council. The Executive Council may make a decision on approving or disapproving the proposed amendments and submit it to the Plenary for consideration. The Plenary shall consider the recommendation of the Executive Council.</p>	

<b>107</b>	2. Proposals for amending the Rules of Procedure of the APA Plenary shall be formulated in writing with an explanatory note and sent to the Secretariat of the APA at least three months before the plenary meets. The Secretariat shall communicate such proposals immediately to all Member Parliaments. It shall also, if necessary, communicate to Member Parliaments any proposals for subamendments at least one month before the meeting of the Plenary.		
<b>108</b>	3. Consideration of any request to amend the Rules of Procedure shall be included automatically in the agenda of the Executive Council and the Plenary.	<b>Par.3</b> to be excluded	
<b>109</b>	4. Proposed amendments to the Rules of Procedure are adopted by the two-third majority vote of Member Parliaments present and voting in the Executive Council. The recommendation of the Executive Council to the Plenary on the proposed amendments to the Rules of Procedure is adopted by majority vote of delegates present and voting in the Plenary.	<p><b>Par.4. New wording 3.</b> The Plenary shall adopt amendments to the Rules of Procedure by a majority vote of the members that participated in the vote.</p> <p><b>Par.5. New wording 3</b></p> <p><b>In case amendments to this Rule of Procedure requires revision in the APA Charter, Article 10 Para. 4 of the Charter shall prevail.</b></p>	