

Resolution on "Good Parliamentary Practices"

APA/ Res/2018/19 2 December 2018

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly:

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

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

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

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

Therefore.

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

- 8. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to promote inter-parliamentary cooperation through formation of friendship groups and working groups on issues of common interest;
- 9. **Further Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to encourage developing democracies through sharing their experiences and best parliamentary practices and provide technical and other required support with a view to facilitate their process of democratization.