

**Statement**  
**of**  
**HE Mr. Ahmed bin Ibrahim Almulla**  
**Speaker of the Council of Representatives**  
**Head of the Inter-parliamentary Group Delegation**  
**to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Executive Council Meeting and the 9<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session of the**  
**APA**

**Siem Reap – Kingdom of Cambodia**

**28<sup>th</sup> November – 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016**

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful,

All praise is due to Allah, and Allah's Peace and Blessings be upon Our Master, the messenger of Allah, and his family and companions,

Your Excellency, Mr. Heng Samrin, President of the APA, Speaker of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia,

Your Excellencies, Heads of Delegations,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalmu Alaikom wa Rahmatu Allah wa Barakatuh  
(peace be upon you and Allah's Mercy and Blessings)

I am honored to be participating with you today, on behalf of the Inter-parliamentary Group of the Kingdom of Bahrain, in the Second Executive Council Meeting, and the Ninth Plenary Session of the APA. Allow me to extend my thanks and appreciation to the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia, for the excellent organization and the generous hospitality. I would also like to thank the members of the Secretariat of the APA, for their distinguished efforts, towards promoting the cooperation between Asian parliaments. I wish to our meeting all success, to serve the interests of the countries and peoples of the continent of Asia.

Ladies and Gentlemen,



The Sustainable Development Goals, set by the UN and endorsed by 193 member states to reflect the international community's common vision towards humanity, are distinguished for their comprehensiveness.

My country, the Kingdom of Bahrain, has recognized the importance of sustainable development in the realization of development and growth, and so it has taken major steps to establish the principles of sustainable development. The vision of the Kingdom of Bahrain 2030, which was launched in 2008, is based on three fundamental principles: sustainability, fairness and competitiveness. His Majesty, King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, has stressed in many occasions that development and security are inseparable. Moreover, the Kingdom of Bahrain has taken the initiative to host the Green Climate Fund to serve West Asia, at the COP 21 climate change conference, in 2015.

The Kingdom of Bahrain is considered one of the first countries to base action plans of ministries and concerned authorities, as included in the Government Action Plan, on sustainable development goals, with an aim to achieve these goals, through the use of national indicators to set the targets of government institutions and bodies and their services to citizens, residents and society.

In culmination of these Bahraini efforts, His Majesty, King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa has been recently granted the United Nations Industrial Development Organization's award, in appreciation for His Majesty's vision towards the economic empowerment of women and youth, through a number of strategies and development projects that contributed to the realization of the principles of sustainable development.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On the basis of national legislative and oversight role, we observed, during the discussions of the Government Action Plan 2014-2018, that the plan should include priorities that would help to realize the sustainable development goals.

In addition, during their 10<sup>th</sup> meeting in Bahrain last week, the speakers of the GCC parliaments took into consideration all the challenges faced by the countries and peoples of the region and the world. The outcome document of the meeting included the selection of two topics: The Concerns of Food and Water Security, and Security and the Youth, to be the two GCC common topics in 2017, in addition to adopting a common vision to tackle the issue of terrorism and terrorist organizations.

Ladies and Gentlemen,



The realization of the sustainable development goals is not possible without the achievement of security and peace in the world. Before we advance humanity, we should provide people with a safe environment, through which they can play a creative and innovative role in their societies and be able to build and develop.

Moreover, our responsibility as parliamentarians, has been is doubled now. And this makes us face a historical challenge to stop wars and spread peace, through the enactment of laws, legislations, and international treaties and conventions. It is a joint responsibility, for governments, parliamentarians, organizations and peoples. And it requires the mobilization of all efforts to tackle major challenges faced by our contemporary world, taking into consideration the full respect of national sovereignty, religious, moral and cultural values of countries, as well as human rights.

We shall not forget, at this important forum, to reiterate our assertion that the Palestinian Cause, and the right of the State of Palestine to end the Israeli occupation and live a safe decent life, is the leading concern of the Islamic and Arab nations.

I would also like to call on the APA to oppose laws that impinge on the sovereignty of states or contradict with international treaties and conventions, and to establish a clear stance to reject all forms of external interferences in the internal affairs of states, as well as attempts to incite sedition, undermine the security and stability of the region, and support terrorist groups.

Lastly,

I wish the APA all success in this meeting, and all success to the Asian cooperation towards a better world, where security, stability and peace prevail.

Assalmu Alaikom wa Rahmatu Allah wa Barakatuh  
(peace be upon you and Allah's Mercy and Blessings)