

**Draft Resolutions of Standing Committee on**

**Political Affairs**

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Version 3

As of 30 October 2018



**Draft Resolution on “Towards an Asian Parliament”**

**SC- Political/ Draft Res/2018/17**

 **29 October, 2018**

**We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,**

*Recalling*the document titled “Foundations of an Asian Parliament” prepared by the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) Permanent Secretariat in May, 2014;

*Further recalling*the Lahore Declaration adopted on 3rd Dec, 2014 by APA Plenary thatestablished the Special Committee on the Creation of the Asian Parliament (SCCAP), to consult with Member Parliaments in order to formulate a road map for Asian Parliament, reflecting the emergence of the Asian Century;

*Emphasizing*that the creation of an Asian Parliament is a long term objective, variousaspects of which need to be explored as stipulated in the report of APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs held on 2 June 2016 in Jordan;

*Welcoming*the decision made in the meeting of the SCCAP convened in Jordan in June2016 and approved by the 9th APA Plenary meeting in 2016, that the SCCAP will function under the APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs;

*Recalling*the discussion of the SCCAP meeting held on 29 November 2016, Siem Reap,Kingdom of Cambodia;

**Therefore,**

1. **Reiterate** our resolve to continue efforts and support the fulfilment of SCCAP’sobjectives;
2. **Support** the step by step and inclusive efforts of the SCCAP in promotingcooperation through consultation with Member Parliaments on common issues such as environment, poverty alleviation, trade and regional connectivity amongst others;
3. **Support** the creation of sub-regional groups in the APA for providing input to the SCCAP. The Sub-Regional groups for the purpose of the Asian Parliaments shall submit theirinput through the APA secretariat to the SCCAP which will place a report containing the proposals before the Standing Committee on Political Affairs before every plenary;



**Draft Resolution on “Good Governance”**

**SC- Political/ Draft Res/2018/18**

 **29 October, 2018**

**We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,**

*Realizing* that good governance is inextricably linked to sustainable developmentwhich leads to stability and prosperity;

*Recalling*, UN Commission on Human Rights Resolution No.2005/68 of 20 April2005, UN Human Rights Council Resolution No.7/11 of 27 March 2008 on “Good Governance for the Promotion of Human Rights” and as well as the “United Nations Millennium Declaration”;

*Recognizing* the importance of good governance in the achievement of SDGs as one of means to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies;

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948, the Convention on theElimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination, 1969, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1976, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 1976, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 1979, the Convention against Torture, 1987, the Convention on the Rights of Child, 1990, which provides every citizen, irrespective of gender, religion or race, a right to take part in the public affairs;

**Therefore,**

1. **Reiterate** that good governance is a key to achieving inclusive economic, social andinstitutional development;
2. **Recognizes** that transparency in all its forms and manifestations, free, responsiblemedia, right to information, popular participation in government, and a vibrant civil society are the pillars of good governance;
3. **Suggests** that Member Parliaments may provide indicators for good governance;
4. **Stresses** upon the Member Parliaments to identify gaps in governance which maylead to poverty, injustice and terrorism resulting in the weakening of democratic institutions;
5. **Calls upon** Member Parliaments to ensure as appropriate enhanced participation of women, youth and persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities in the national political process;



**Draft Resolution on “The Rule of Law and Judicial Empowerment”**

**SC- Political/ Draft Res/2018/19**

 **29 October, 2018**

**We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,**

*Recalling* the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, which are indispensablefoundations for a more peaceful, prosperous and a conflict free world;

*Recognizing* that the rule of law is essential for all states equally, and respect for andpromotion of the rule of law and justice are the guiding principles for every state;

*Further* recognizing that all persons, institutions and entities, public and private, havea right to be accorded equal protection of the law and to be treated in accordance with the law, without any discrimination;

*Recommending all members States Reaffirming* the duty of all Member States to settle their international disputes throughpeaceful means, including, negotiation, dialogue, mediation, conciliation, arbitration and judicial settlement;

*Further reaffirming* that the rule of law is essential for independence of judiciary and the protection of human rights canbe realized through the empowerment of the judiciary;

*Convinced* that the rule of law and sustainable development are inextricably linkedand mutually reinforcing, and are an essential prerequisite for the realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

**Therefore,**

1. **Stress** the importance of civilian capacity development through rule of law;
2. **Stress** the importance of institutional strengthening by maintaining the rule of law;
3. **Urge** Member Parliaments to ensure compliance with international humanitarianlaws, as they are an indispensable prerequisite for improving the situation of victims of armed conflict, through enactment of appropriate legislation and development of oversight mechanisms;
4. **Commit** to ensure that impunity is not tolerated for genocide, war crimes and crimesagainst humanity or for violations of international humanitarian law and gross violations of human rights law, basedon the principles of international cooperation and non-interference of States in the internal affairs of other States, in accordance with international law;
5. **Encourage** the promotion of a system of justice which incorporates the full range of judicial measures to ensure accountability, justice, provide remedies to victims, reconciliation, and establish independent oversight;
6. **Reiterate** our strong and unequivocal condemnation of terrorism, violent and extremism in allits forms and manifestations, committed by whomever, wherever and for whatever purposes, as it constitutes one of the most serious threats to the rule of Law; and
7. **Emphasize** the importance of our continued efforts for promotion of the rule of law inall its aspects, and to take steps to strengthen the rule of law for realization of peace and security, human rights and development.



**Draft Resolution on “Good Parliamentary Practices”**

**SC- Political/ Draft Res/2018/20**

 **29 October, 2018**

**We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly:**

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

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

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

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

Therefore,

1. **Urge** APAMember Parliaments to adopt transparent modes of public communications, throughensuring 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 publicconfidence 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 encouragingpublic hearing in respective constituencies;
5. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to ensure their effective participation at regionaland 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 ameaningful 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.



**Draft Resolution on Building Prosperity in Asia**

**Through Friendship and Cooperation**

**SC- Political/ Draft Res/2018/21**

 **29 October, 2018**

*We the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly*

*Recalling* relevant APA resolutions on Advancing the Principles of Friendship andCooperation in Asia (APA/Res/2015/01—11 December 2015); Resolution on Measures and Methods of Materialization of Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia (APA/Res/2014/01— 3 December 2014); Resolution on Consolidation of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia (APA/Res/2013/01-- 9 December 2013); Resolution on Reinforcing the Declaration on Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia (APA/Res/2010/09—30 November 2010); Resolution on Pursuing Implementation of the Declaration on the Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia (APA/Res/2008/09, 29 November 2008) and Resolution on the Friendship Pact in Asia; (APA/Res/2007/06, dated 19 November 2007); Text of the Declaration on Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia (APA/Res/2007/06/Annex, 19 November 2007);

*Relying on* deep-rooted ties of history, geography, culture, economy, politics, and civilizationwhich bind Asian nations together;

*Recognizing* the amity and the friendly relations among the Asian Nations, Parliaments, andStates as an indispensable asset which need to be further strengthened by all kinds of inter-governmental; inter-parliamentary as well as inter-national interaction and cooperation;

*Deploring* the current widespread war and violence in West Asia which undermine peace andsecurity and entail massive killing and indiscriminate targeting of innocent people;

*Offering* in Good Faith all our capacities and capabilities in parliamentary diplomacy formediation, reconciliation, and supporting dialogue with a view to promoting friendship and cooperation and contribute to peaceful resolution of conflicts in Asia;

*Emphasizing* the fundamental role of democracy and human rights in the promotion offriendship and cooperation in Asia and calling upon all Member Parliaments and their respective Governments to ensure equal and non-discriminatory access of their citizens to civil rights;

*Reiterating* the importance of the Declaration on the Principles of Friendly Relations in Asiaas a proper framework for promoting peace and prosperity in Asia;

*Encouraging* further expansion of friendly relations including cultural, diplomatic, scientific,and commercial relations among all Asian States and further interaction among Asian Parliaments and Nations in pursuance of the purposes of the Declaration;

1. Call upon all Member States to focus on exchanging cultural experiences and deepening social communication through holding forums and events under the umbrella of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, for the positive objectives that benefit the Member States;
2. **Urge** collective and concerted efforts by all Asian States whose parliaments areAPA Members to provide humanitarian assistance of all kinds to the vulnerable people in war- torn countries;
3. **Call Upon** all Asian States to direct their diplomatic efforts at reducingpolitical tensions and utilize all ways and means within their power to avoid and de-escalate controversies which have potential to undermine principles of friendship and cooperation in Asia;
4. **Urge** Asian Parliaments to disseminate information about the APA Declarationon the Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia by all available meansincluding parliamentary and state publications, parliamentary friendship groups, public programs, etc.
5. **Decide** that every Member Parliament would motivate public and private medianetworks, websites and the like at local and national levels to engage in promoting and spreading the word about the content, importance and positive results of the adoption and implementation of the APA Declaration on the Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia;
6. **Encourage** Asian academic institutions, think-tanks and research centers,universities and educational institutions, as well as professional associations throughout Asia to take part in promoting and adhering to the tenets and guidelines enshrined in the APA Declaration on the Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia,
7. **Call upon** all APA Member Parliaments to inform the APA Secretariat ofmeasures they have taken in promoting the APA Declaration on Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia,
8. **Request** the Secretary-General to continue his consultations and coordinationwith the APA Member Parliaments as well as interested Asian organizations and academic institutions for promoting further activities and joint initiatives pertaining to Friendship and Cooperation in Asia.



**Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments and**

**Governments Together for Prosperity in Asia**

**SC- Political/ Draft Res/2018/22**

 **29 October, 2018**

*We the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA),*

*Recalling* APA resolutions on Mobilizing Interactions Between APA and AsianGovernments (APA/Res/2015/02—11 December 2015); Engaging APA with Asian Governments and Inter-Governmental Organizations (APA/Res/2014/02); Asian Parliaments and Governments: Together for Solidarity and Prosperity in Asia (APA/Res/2013/02 –9 December 2013); Measures for Enhancing Cooperation Between APA and Asian Governments (APA/Res/2010/11, 30 November 2010) and resolution on Enhancing Cooperation Between Asian Parliamentary Assembly Member Parliaments and Their Governments for Implementation of APA Decisions (APA/Res/2008/10, 29 November 2008);

*Emphasizing* the need to foster closer coordination and cooperation between APA andGovernments of APA Member Parliaments;

*Encouraging* Member Parliaments to consider endorsing and adopting common legislationson issues of mutual interest to both APA and Asian Governments;

**1*.* Urge** all Member Parliaments to inform relevant high-ranking officials of theirrespective governments of the great potentials, activities, and achievements of the APA as the largest inter-parliamentary organization in Asia and report thereon to the Secretariat for circulation;

**2*.* Decide** to form APA parliamentary groups comprising nominated delegatesfrom volunteer Member Parliaments under the supervision of the APA Vice-President for Political Affairs and in full coordination with the APA Secretariat, to hold contacts and meetings with relevant inter-parliamentary and inter-governmental organizations, with a view to converging points of view and considering possible joint initiatives pertaining to regional and global issues, including the creation of an Asian Parliament;

**3*.* Encourage** Member Parliaments to seek the views of their respectiveGovernments on the subject of Asian Parliament and to contribute to the work of the APA Special Committee on the Creation of Asian Parliament (SCCAP) by providing their points of views and analyses of the subject matter;

**4*.* Request** APA Member Parliaments to identify and describe their prioritydesirable topics for receiving training, as well their capabilities to offer training and best practices, and share them with other Parliaments through the APA

Secretariat, in order to organize training programs on exchanging best practices and learning from each other;

**5*.* Request** the Vice-President for Political Affairs to report to the ExecutiveCouncil and the Plenary Sessions on his/her activities pertaining to the formation of working groups from interested Member Parliaments to focus on the implementation of APA decisions on political affairs;

**6*.* Request** the Secretary-General to expand the scope of its contacts andcommunications with inter-governmental as well as inter-parliamentary organizations who work on issues relevant to the items on the APA agenda in order to facilitate further interaction and joint efforts on common grounds with a view to enhancing cooperation between Asian Parliaments and Governments and report thereon to the next session of the APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs and the Executive Council.



**Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments’**

**Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People**

**SC- Political/ Draft Res/2018/23**

 **29 October, 2018**

*We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,*

*Recalling* APA Resolutions on Supporting Palestinian State and Protecting Rights ofPalestinian People, (APA/Res/2013/03, 9 December 2013); Violations of International Humanitarian Law in the Palestine and the War Crimes Committed By the Zionist Regime in Gaza (APA/Res/2009/01, 8 December 2009); and Humanitarian Crisis in Palestine Particularly in the Gaza Strip (APA/Res/2008/08, 29 November 2008); and the catastrophic humanitarian impact of the aggressive war on the Gaza Strip in July 2014

*Also recalling* the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council, including resolutions 242 (1967), 252 (1968), 267 (1969), 298 (1971), 446 (1979), 465 (1980), 468 (1980) and 1322 (2000), 2334 (2016), and resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and other relevant international documents;

*Inspired* by the Principles and objectives enshrined in the APA Charter and the relevant APAresolutions;

*Committed* to contribute to the promotion of peace and security at regional and global levelson the basis of justice and the rule of law;

*Affirming* the responsibility of the international community to support implementation ofresolutions and recommendations of the United Nations Security Council; the UN General Assembly; the Human Rights Council; and the APA pertinent to the situation in Palestine, particularly in Al-Quds Al-Sharif (East Jerusalem);

*Supporting* the struggle of Palestinian nation against Israeli occupation by its all means to liberate its land and establish an independent Palestinian State with al-Quds al-Sharif as itscapital;

Denouncing the transfer of the American Embassy from Tel-Aviv to Jerusalem in disregard of the principles and rules of international legitimacy and UNSC Resolutions;

*Expressing* serious concerns on Israel’s lack of commitment to abide by resolutions andrecommendations of the UN Security Council, the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and the APA regarding the human rights situation in the occupied Palestinian territories, particularly in Al-Quds Al-Sharif;

*Reaffirming* the applicability of the fourth Geneva Convention relative to the protection ofCivilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the occupied Palestinian territories, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif (East Jerusalem);

*Recognizing* that Israel’s severe violations of international humanitarian law and of the human rights of Palestinian people undermine international efforts towards achieving a just and lasting peace in the region;

1. **Urge** all Members of the APA to support and treat the State of Palestine as a full member of the United Nations
2. **Denounce**all violations of international law which threaten international peace and security including all acts of terrorism and organized crimes; and violations of human rights committed by the Israeli occupying forces in Palestine.
3. **Encourage** all members of the international community to take up with the pressure on Israel to immediately release all the Palestinian prisoners including the Members of the Palestinian Parliament and condemns the Israeli Knesset's failure to respond to the fact-finding and investigation committees established by the Inter-Parliamentary Union on prisoners in Israeli jails as evident in the International Parliamentary meeting in St. Petersburg; dismantle all illegal settlements as well as the entire separating wall and put an end to confiscating Palestinian lands.
4. **Declare** all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, including expropriation of land and properties which tend to change the legal status of Jerusalem as invalid and bearing no legal effect on their original status.
5. **Condemn** Israel’s continuation of building settlements defying applicable international law particularly Security Council resolution 2334 of December 2016; disregarding the legitimate rights of the Palestinian People including their right to resist and protest against foreign occupation of their lands; and hampering international efforts towards achieving a just and lasting peace in the region;
6. **Express** grave concerns on the suppression and injustice, as well as continuing violence practiced against the Palestinian people, particularly women and children, in the occupied Palestinian territories under the Israeli occupation including East Jerusalem, and in the Syrian Golan occupied by Israel;
7. **Call Upon** all members of the APA and the United Nations as well as all regional and international organizations concerned, particularly the United Nations Security Council and the International Criminal Court to address, under the UN Charter and the Rome Statute, the crimes against humanity and the war crimes committed by Israel in Palestine which threaten the international peace and security;
8. **Condemn** theclosure of the PLO diplomatic mission in Washington in retaliation for the membership of Palestine to the International Criminal Court;
9. **Praise** the decision taken by the European Union not to purchase any products produced in the settlements based in the occupied territories and call on states of the APA Member Parliaments to act in a similar way and affirm the full support for international boycott movement against Israeli occupation;
10. Rejecting attempts practiced by the Zionist entity to change the historical, cultural and demographic characters of the occupied Palestinian land, especially the city of Jerusalem in general and Al\_Aqsa mosque, in particular, also refuse the Knesset bill in attempt to divide Al\_Agsa mosque both in time and place,
11. **Reject** the unlawful resolutions adopted by the Israeli Kennesit such as Judaization of the Jerusalem, the Citizenship Loyalty Law, denying the State of Palestine, the rights of Palestinian People in the occupied territories, the Jewish Nation-State Law and the deduction funds for Palestine State which violate Articles 89 and 98 of Geneva Convention;
12. **Reject and condemn** US decision to end its financial contribution to UNRWA.
13. **Call Upon** the international community to fulfill its pledges to rebuild infrastructure and rehabilitate people in Gaza, which have been destroyed by Israeli forces, and to support the Palestinian economy in the occupied Palestine.