

Draft Resolution on Good Parliamentary Practices

**SC-Political/Draft Res/2021/04**

**-- December 2021**

*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;

*Taking* into account the cultural diversity, role of minorities, diversity of religions, faith and ethnics in all societies of Asia.

*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;

Noting the permanent role of parliaments in public and democratic affairs in order to obtain rights and human rights; (Add a new paragraph: UAE)

Emphasizing that APA seeks to enhance parliamentary communication and dialogue about quality information; (Add a new paragraph: UAE)

Encouraging the APA to adopt its own action strategy that works to develop the level of APA cooperation with Asian Member Parliaments through programs and plans for partnership and cooperation on common issues; (Add a new paragraph: UAE)

Encouraging parliaments to strengthen the basic legislative, oversight and representative functions of parliaments in order to contribute to building democracy and help meet the aspirations of the people; (Add a new paragraph: UAE)

Encouraging parliaments to build good institutional and structural capacities, characterized by good resources, as an essential factor in democracy and the implementation of its legislative, oversight and representative functions; (Add a new paragraph: UAE)

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 encouraging public 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 a~~~~meaningful participation of women, minorities and marginalized communities in their working;~~ (UAE)

**Urging** APA Member Parliaments to adopt positive measures to ensure the effective participation of women, minorities and marginalized communities in their work; through:

* Identifying and addressing forms of discrimination, especially discriminatory laws.
* Combating violence against women and girls.
* Participation in legal reform that preserves gender equality.
* Building national strategies and frameworks to facilitate the promotion of the role of women, including in the economic sphere. (UAE)

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.

**Urging** APA member parliaments to ensure youth participation in political decision-making; (Add a new paragraph: UAE)