



Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain

16-17 May 2023

Final Report

The Meeting of Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development was held on May 16-17, 2023 in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain.

The Meeting hosted by Council of Representatives of the Kingdom of Bahrain and parliamentary delegations from following 21 member countries participate in the Meeting:

Bahrain, Bangladesh, China, Cyprus, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kirgizstan, Kuwait, Maldives, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Thailand, Turkiye and UAE. (Attachment I)

Opening Session:

The following dignitaries presented their statements at the opening Session:

- 1- H.E. Mr. Ahmad Bin Salman Al-Musallam, Speaker of the Bahrain's Council of Representatives, Chairman of the Executive Committee (Attachment II)
- 2- H.E. Mr. Ahmad Alsloom, APA Vice-President, Chair of the Standing Committee (Attachment III)
- 3- H.E. Dr. M.R. MAJIDI APA Secretary General (Attachment IV)

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Member Parliaments unanimously adopted the Draft Agenda. Agenda is attached. (Attachment V)

2. Election of the Bureau:

The following member parliaments were elected:

- Bahrain, Chairman
- Jordan, Vice-Chair
- Kirgizstan, Rapporteur

3. Opening remarks by the Chairman

The Chair requested heads of participating delegations to present their short opening statements. Some delegations in addition to their general remarks referred to few difficulties in bilateral relations as well.

4. Report of the APA Secretary General

APA Secretary General reported on major developments of the draft Resolutions of the Standing Committee and outlined the APA Reform and Revitalization Process. (Attachment VI)

5. Consideration of the Draft Resolutions:

The representative of APA Secretariat requested participants to take note of the following main principles while address amendments to draft resolutions:

- Only amended paras will be debated.
- Authors of amendments should be present at the meeting.
- Titles of Draft Resolutions are not to be amended.

There were 9 Draft resolutions to be considered by the Standing Committee. Two of these Draft Resolutions (I.e. Roadmap for Green Finance and Asian Climate Financial Initiative) which were initiated by delegation of Russian Federation were merged and a new draft resolution titled: "Asian Climate Financial Initiative" was offered to the Committee. Thus amendments to 7 draft resolutions were considered and adopted according.

Due to the long texts of some draft resolutions, the head of delegation of Bahrain proposed that APA Secretariat be tasked to shorten these documents while keeping the main topics intact. The proposal was approved by the meeting.

6. Report of the Secretariat on the following Working Groups:

- Green Funding
- Asian Energy Market
- Water Crisis

The representative of the APA Secretariat stated that all the above Working Groups have held their respective meetings and by formulating the issues and topics of interests into separate draft resolutions, have exhausted their mandates. The APA Secretariat thus proposed the termination of their activities. This proposal was approved by the Standing Committee. From now on, participants interested in the activities of the above mentioned Working Groups may refer themselves to the contents of relevant draft resolutions and update them with their views accordingly.

7. Closing Session, Adoption of the Final Report.

Closing Session:

The delegation of Palestine made the following closing statement:

- 1- Demanding that Israel stop confiscating Palestine water.

- 2- Stop the piracy of Palestinian money and tax revenue and demand that Israel release the funds it has been holding for four years (clearance fund: Palestinian Rights in the share of taxes.)
- 3- Stop the Israel obstructions causing an impact on the mobility of imports, exports and tourism.

The APA Secretary General made a brief statement and underlined that the pre-requisite for the success and active involvement in the international and international regional affairs for any international organization solely depends on political will and commitments of its member countries. He noted that there will be a meeting of Standing Committee on Budget and Planning in Tehran in July 2023. The dates for Standing Committees on Social/Cultural and Political Affairs are yet to be announced by Azerbaijan and Iraq. The Candidacy for APA President is also to be decided by member Parliaments for 2024-5.

Chairman of the meeting expressed his deep appreciation to all participants for full support of the success of the meeting. He also commended the APA Secretariat for its professional work.

Final Report:

The Chairman stated that the final report of the meeting will be prepared and sent to all participants by APA Secretariat in few days time.

8. Any Other Matters

No issue was raised.

Attachment I



ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development



(5/20/2023 by APA Secretariat)

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain
16-17 May 2023

List of Participants

No	Country	First Name	Last Name	Position	Head of Delegation
1	Bahrain	Dr. Abdulaziz	Abul	Head of Delegation	✓
2	Bahrain	Dr. Ebtessam	Aldallal	member of parliament	
3	Bahrain	Mr. Ahmed	alsaloom	member of parliament	
4	Bahrain	Ms Maryam	Alsaegh	member of parliament	
5	Bahrain	Mr. Ghazi	Abdulmuhsain	Director of communication	
6	Bahrain	Ms haifa	Adwan	Head of media	
7	Bahrain	Mr. Mohamed	Bin Daina	senior Parliamentary relations development specialist	
8	Bahrain	Mr. Hussain	Maki	senior Parliamentary relations development specialist	
9	Bangladesh	Mr. Shaimum Sarwar	Kamal	Member of Parliament	✓
10	Bangladesh	Ms. Zakia	Tabassum	Member of Parliament	
11	Bangladesh	Ms. Rubina	Ferdoushy	Deputy Secretary of Bangladesh Parliament Secretariat	
12	China	Mr. Hai Sheng	Li	Member of the Environmental Protection and Resources Conservation Committee of the NPC, Director of the Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences	✓

13	China	Ms. Dong	Hou	Deputy Director of the International Affairs Department of the Foreign Affairs Bureau of the General Office of the Standing Committee of the NPC	
14	China	Ms. Xian jun	Xia	Official of the Foreign Affairs Bureau of the General Office of the Standing Committee of the NPC	
15	China	Ms. Meng heng	Zhang	Director of the International Cooperation Center of Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences	
16	CYPRUS	Mr. GEORGE	LOUCAIDES	Member of Parliament	✓
17	CYPRUS	Ms. LOUKIA	MOUYI	International Relations Officer A' , Secretary of delegation	
18	India	Mr. Jayant	Chaudhary	Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha (Council of States)	✓
19	India	Mr. Brijendra	Singh	Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha (House of the People)	
20	India	Mr. Yogendra	Singh	Deputy Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat (accompanying officer), Parliament of India	
21	Indonesia	Mr Putu Supadma	Rudana	Vice-Chairperson of Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation (Member of Parliament)	✓
22	Indonesia	Mr Gilang	Dhielafararez	Vice-Chairperson of Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation (Member of Parliament)	Vice-Head of delegation
23	Indonesia	Ms. Irine Yusiana Roba	Putri	Member of Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation (Member of Parliament)	
24	Indonesia	Ms. Ratih Megasari	Singkaru	Member of Committee for Inter-Parliamentary	

				Cooperation (Member of Parliament)	
25	Indonesia	Ms. Arzeti	Bilbina	Member of Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation (Member of Parliament)	
26	Indonesia	Mr. Muslim	Muslim	Member of Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation (Member of Parliament)	
27	Indonesia	Mr. Beni	Hardiana	Secretariat (Secretary to the Delegation)	
28	Indonesia	Mr. Novri	Helmawan	Secretariat (Secretary to the Delegation)	
29	Indonesia	Mr. Tide Aji	Pratama	Expert Staff (Advisor to the Delegation)	
30	Indonesia	Ms. Jamila Catheleya	Emor	Spouse of Mr. Muslim	
31	Iran	Mr. Ali	Alizadeh	Member of Parliament, ✓ Chairperson of the APA Group and HEAD OF DELEGATION	
32	Iran	Mr. Gholamreza	Nouri Ghezeljeh	Member of Parliament	
33	Iran	Mr. Reza	Hassani	Advisor	
34	Iran	Ms. Leila	Taati	Expert	
35	Iran	Mr. Mohammad Hossein	Ahmadzadegan	Interpreter	
36	Iraq	Mr. ABDULKAREEM	ABTAN	Member of Delegation	✓
37	Iraq	Mr. HAIDER	MAJJED	Member of Parliament	
38	Iraq	Mr. WISAM	ALWAN	Employer	
39	Jordan (Senate)	Mr. MOHAMMAD	ALZAWAHREH	Senator	✓
40	Jordan (Senate)	MAH'D	Abu Joma	Senator	
41	JORDAN (HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)	Dr. AHMAD	KHALAILEH	FIRST DEPUTY SPEAKER	✓

42	JORDAN (HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)	Mr. IMGHEIR	ALHAMLAN	MEMBER OF THE JORDANIAN DELEGATION	
43	JORDAN (HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)	Dr. NEMER	SLEHAT	MEMBER OF THE JORDAIAN DELEGATION	
44	JORDAN (HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)	Mr. DIRAR	ALHARASEES	MEMBER OF THE JORDAN DELEGATION	
45	JORDAN (HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)	Mr. ABDALLAH	AWWAD	MEMBER OF THE JORDAN DELEGATION	
46	JORDAN (HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)	Dr : Ahmad	AlSarahneh	MEMBER OF THE JORDAN DELEGATION	
47	JORDAN (HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)	Mr. OMAR	AL GHUWAIRIN	ADMINISTAROR	
48	JORDAN (HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)	Mr. ALI	KHALEEL	ADMINISTATOR	
49	JORDAN (HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)	Mr. UDWAN	ALHARASEES	ADMINISTATOR	
50	Kuwait	Mr. Adel	Alloughani	Secretary General	✓
51	Kuwait	Mr. Abdulaziz	Nasrallah	Employee	
52	Kuwait	Mr. Saud	Al-Raqam	Employee	
53	Kuwait	Mr. Ali	Al Mehawas		
54	Kyrgyzstan	Mr. Nurzhigit	KADYRBEKOV	Member of Parliament, Leader of «Yiman Nuru» faction	✓
55	Kyrgyzstan	Mr. Aibek	MATKERIMOV	Member of Parliament	
56	Kyrgyzstan	Mr. Askarbek	Kuruchbekov	Staff member, Advisor to the Leader of the Faction «Yiman nuru» Mr. Kadyrbekov	
57	Maldives	Hon Ahmed	Saeed	Member of Parliament	✓
58	Maldives	Ms Mariam	Hussain	Senior Foreign Relations Officer	
59	Pakistan (National Assembly)	Mr. Mohammad Aslam	Bhootani	Member of National Assembly	✓
60	Pakistan (National Assembly)	Mr. Syed Abrar Ali	Shah	Member of the National Assembly of Pakistan	

61	Pakistan (Senate)	Ms. Sania	Nishtar	Senator	✓
62	Pakistan (Senate)	Ms. Hafsa	Farooq	Section Officer (accompanying Officer)	
63	Palestine	Mr. Taha	Abdulkader	Member of the Palestinian National Council / Ambassador of the State of Palestine	✓
64	Palestine	Mr. Ibrahim	Abualhayjaa	Director of the Ambassador's Office	
65	Palestine	Mr. Nazmi	Elargan	Media officer at the Palestinian embassy	
66	Qatar	Mr. Mohammed	Al-Kaabi	Member	✓
67	Qatar	Mr Nasser	Al-hemeidi	Member	
68	Qatar	Mr. AHMAD	ALNOUBI	Senior International Affairs Specialist	
69	Qatar	Ms. MUNEERA	AL-SOWAIDI	International affairs researcher	
70	Russia (Federation Council)	Mr. Gennady	ORDENOV	Senator, Head of the Russian Delegation	✓
71	Russia (State Duma)	Mr. Denis	Kravchenko	Delegate of Russian State Duma	
72	Russia (Federation Council)	Mr. Olga	FOLOMEEVA	Adviser	
73	Russia (State Duma)	Ms. Diana	Ogudina	Staff member of Russian State Duma Delegation	
74	Russia (Federation Council)	Mr. Veronika	BELOUSOVA	Interpreter	
75	Russia (State Duma)	Ms. Nina	Mantusova	Interpreter	
76	Russia (State Duma)	Ms. Maria	Bychkova	Interpreter	
77	Saudi Arabia	Mr. Fares	Alosaimi	Member of Shura Council	✓
78	Saudi Arabia	Mr.Saad	Alangari	General Manager	
79	Syria	Mr MHD. RABEE	KALAAJI	MP	✓
80	Syria	Mr. NABIL	DARWISH	MP	
81	Syria	Mr. MAHMOOD ALI	BILAL	MP	

82	Thailand	Mr. Virasakdi	FUTRAKUL	Senator	✓
83	Thailand	Gen. Thawip	NETNIYOM	Senator	
84	Thailand	Mr. Piyapak	SRICHAROEN	Ambassador of Thailand to Bahrain	
85	Thailand	Ms. Kanteera	LEELANOND	Secretary to the Delegation	
86	Thailand	Mrs. Penpitcha	THAMMASITH BOONLOY	Second Secretary	
87	Thailand	Ms. Parichart	SANOSAMNIANG	Clerk	
88	TÜRKİYE	Ms. ASUMAN	ERDOĞAN	Head of delegation	✓
89	TÜRKİYE	Mr. MURAT	HASTÜRK	Sec. of the Delegation	
90	UAE	H.E. DR. NEDAL	ALTENEJJI	MP	✓
91	UAE	H.E. MOHAMED	AL-ALI	MP	
92	UAE	Mrs. SHAIKHA	ALTENEJJI	Senior Specialist International Relations	
93	APA Secretariat	Mr. Mohammad Reza	Majidi	APA Secretary General	✓
94	APA Secretariat	Mr. Kia	TABATABAEE	Deputy Secretary General of APA	
95	APA Secretariat	Mr. Mehdi	GHASHGHAVI	Executive Deputy of Secretariat	
96	APA Secretariat	Mr. Mehdi	Mollahosseini	APA Senior Expert	

Attachment II



Kingdom of Bahrain's Parliamentary Group

**Speech of H.E Mr. Ahmed bin Salman Almusallam
Speaker of the Council of Representatives
Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Kingdom
of Bahrain's Parliamentary Group**

**The Meeting of the Standing Committee on Economic and
Sustainable Development of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly**

16-17 May 2023

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain

In the Name of Allah, The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful

Peace and blessing of Allah be upon Prophet Mohammad (PBUH), his family and companion

Your Excellencies

Distinguished guests

Peace be upon you, having to say

In the beginning, it gives us *great pleasure for* your presence in the Kingdom of Bahrain to participate in the work of the Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, wishing you and the work of your meeting all the success. We all look forward to achieving the goals of deepening cooperation between the Asian continent's States.

The Kingdom of Bahrain makes Asian cooperation a focal point for its priorities, based on the keen interest of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the great King of the country, and His Majesty's wise insights, directives, and invitations to address the challenges and priority issues of concern to peoples and States and to realize the aspirations of understanding and sustainable partnership.

We, in Bahrain's legislative authority, place particular importance and push for more efforts within the framework of parliamentary diplomacy to strengthen bilateral and multilateral Asian parliamentary cooperation. As well as we are looking to raise the level of the influential role of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly and enable it to achieve its broad and diverse objectives such as peace, knowledge-sharing, and the exploitation of human and natural resources for mutual benefit and to make the Assembly as a platform for parliamentarians

to develop common strategies to enhance security and stability in Asia and the world.

Ladies and gentlemen,

In the midst of talking about economics and sustainable development, there is an urgent need to draw attention to the reality of the balance between power and challenges. In particular, the 2023 Sustainable Development Agenda requires a serious commitment from a range of actors to implement it, at the heart of this lies the role of parliaments, on many emerging issues like adapting to climate change. Despite Asia is a continent with a diversified ecology and culture, however, it includes the countries most affected by climate change, such as drought and floods, resulting in threats to food security, health, infrastructure and biodiversity. Although *Asia* being the largest of the world's continents in terms of population and fastest economic growth, but integration is required to the extent that it enhances trade, investment, communications, energy, and the preservation of shared cultural heritage.

To open the way for further progress, we need to promote dialogue among Asian parliaments, invest the wealth of expertise and experience in Asia, and put them for cooperation and common strategies, translate them into the national legislation of Asian States, benefit from parliamentary diplomacy in the economic, political and cooperation development among our States and coordinate positions and visions in regional and international forums.

In conclusion, I welcome you again to the Kingdom of Bahrain, the land of peace, the cradle of civilizations, and the center for rapprochement, coexistence, and development. I would like to commend the efforts of the Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development under the chairmanship of H.E. MP

Ahmed Sabah Al-Saloom, Vice-President of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, and its substantive issues. We aspire to produce valuable outcomes, beneficial initiatives, and desirable resolutions that will broaden the scope of cooperative parliamentary action in Asia.

Peace be upon you!

Attachment III



Kingdom of Bahrain's Parliamentary Group

Speech of H.E Mr. Ahmed bin Sabah Alsalloom
APA Vice-President
Chair of the APA Standing Committee on Economic
and Sustainable Development
Member of Kingdom of Bahrain's Council of
Representatives

The Meeting of the Standing Committee on Economic and
Sustainable Development of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly

16-17 May 2023

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain

In the Name of Allah, The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful

**Peace and blessing of Allah be upon Prophet Mohammad (PBUH), his family
and companion**

**H.E. Mr. Ahmed bin Salman Al-Musallam - Speaker of the Council of
Representatives, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Parliamentary
Group,**

**H.E. Dr. Mohammad Reza Majidi - Secretary General of the Asian
Parliamentary Assembly,**

**Your Excellencies, Members of the Standing Committee on Economic and
Sustainable Development**

Distinguished guests,

Peace be upon you,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome Their Excellencies brothers and sisters, in the parliaments of the Member States participating in the meeting of the Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, in their second country, and we wish you all a fruitful stay in the Kingdom of Bahrain. We would like to thank and appreciate the Assembly and the members for the efforts made to provide the means and keenness to the convening of our periodic Asian meetings to build bridges of cooperation and exchange views for all that would consolidate relations, decision-making and enhance ways of joint cooperation between the parliaments of Member States, with our aspiration that this meeting will achieve its desired goals.

I am also pleased and honored to chair this meeting of Your Esteemed Committee, which discusses many important and sensitive resolutions on pivotal issues within the framework of sustainable development in a manner that strengthens the frameworks of Asian solidarity and cooperation and serves all parties and in all fields, in particular the economic and development fields.

Your Excellency Members

The Kingdom of Bahrain attaches particular importance to sustainable development and a permanent priority emerging from the royal approach of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the great King of the country, and Bahrain's Economic Vision 2030, that is based on sustainability, fairness, and competitiveness, and in light of the efforts made by the distinguished government, led by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to translate the principles and values of numerous steps, projects, and initiatives and place them on the implementation ladder, as well as to achieve a rapprochement between the government's action plan and programs while attempting to achieve sustainable development goals. This demonstrates the Kingdom's dedication to accomplishing these objectives in addition to its proactive participation within the international community, to achieve what helps to establishing a better future for nations and peoples.

As you all know, the items listed on the agenda of our meetings, under the framework of sustainable development are not instantaneous, but to continue searching and revealing the challenges facing the regions and peoples of Asian States. This has a close connection and relationship with the work of the Committee and the innovative proposals and initiatives whose content are focused in light of discussing its draft resolutions like the economic growth,

poverty eradication, water and sanitation, environmental and climate issues and incentive measures for green financing and others, all of them have the same priority and form a major challenge on which our States are keen to build national efforts and take advanced steps at the level of their legislative system and executive resolutions.

Hence, such meetings are considered as an opportunity that requires us to continue further cooperation, solidarity, consultation, and constructive joint work at various levels towards crucial issues and challenges of common interest, and dealing with data to reach unified visions, perceptions and impactful solutions to push for consensual and participatory pathways to be able to present them to our Governments for adoption and take action, which will contribute to achieving a quantum leap in achieving the goals, and will be positively mirrored in addressing issues of sustainable development.

In conclusion, I welcome you again and thank you for this opportunity, hoping to come up with a consensus that brings us closer to the aspirations and hopes that everyone aspires to the issues under discussion and the adoption of resolutions as an added step to the course of our joint Asian parliamentary work. Let us begin this meeting with God's blessing.

Peace be upon you!

Attachment IV



Opening Address by H.E. Dr. Mohammad Reza Majidi
Secretary General of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly
At the Meeting of Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development
16-17 May 2023
Manama- Kingdom of Bahrain

Mr. President,
Distinguished delegates,
Dear Colleagues

It is an honor and privilege for me to be here again in Manama since my latest visit in March on the occasion of the 146 IPU Assembly. It is also a great pleasure to welcome you all, the honorable members of the Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development and other distinguished participating delegations at this first round of the meetings of the APA Standing Committees in 2023.

On behalf of all the participants, my colleagues at the APA Secretariat and myself, allow me to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Parliament of the Kingdom of Bahrain for the excellent organization of the meeting and generous hospitality extended to us here in Manama, the Capital City of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Dear Colleagues,

As an active member of the APA, the Kingdom of Bahrain has spared no efforts to promote Asian Cooperation through greater involvement in parliamentary affairs at regional and international levels. Nominating itself as the APA Vice-President, chairing and hosting meetings of the APA Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development on several occasions on one hand and on the other holding the 146 IPU Assembly last March in here in Manama are clear indications of Bahrain's interest to promote and strengthen parliamentary diplomacy.

Dear Colleagues,

Before I conclude my remarks, I would like to share the idea on how the APA Members can be encouraged to follow up on resolutions and outcomes that come out of any APA meetings and the impact of our deliberations and decisions at the APA meetings in the national legislations. I am confident that your contribution in this respect will help us to advance our programs within the framework of the development plan intended to be pursued by the APA Secretariat for restructuring and revitalization of our organization in the best way possible. In conclusion I wish you a successful meeting with fruitful outcome.

Thank you for your attention

Asian Parliamentary Assembly



Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain

16-17 May 2023

Draft Agenda



(4/10/2023 by APA Secretariat)-V2

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Election of the Bureau
3. Opening remarks by the Chairperson
4. Report of the APA Secretary-General
5. Consideration of the Draft Resolutions:
 - Draft Resolution on the Establishment of an Asian Energy Market
 - Draft Resolution on Environmental Issues
 - Draft Resolution on Financial Affairs: Ensuring Efforts for Economic Growth
 - Draft Resolution on Poverty Eradication
 - Draft Resolution on “The Role of APA Parliaments in Supporting the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals”
 - Draft Resolution on Water and Sanitation in Asia for All
 - Draft Resolution on Adopting a Road Map Providing for Measures to Stimulate Green Finance
 - Draft Resolution on Asian Climate Financial Initiative
6. Report of the APA Secretariat on the following Working Groups:
 - Green Funding
 - Asian Energy Market
 - Water Crisis
7. Closing Session, Adoption of the Final Report
8. Any Other Matters

Asian Parliamentary Assembly



Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain
16-17 May 2023



Annotated Agenda

(4/17/2023 by APA Secretariat)-V3

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The participants will be invited to adopt the draft Agenda.

2. Election of the Bureau

Participants are encouraged to volunteer for the positions of Vice-Chair and Rapporteur of the meeting.

3. Opening Remarks by the Chairperson

The Chair will present his opening remarks.

4. Report of the APA Secretary General

APA Secretary General will report on the work of the Standing Committee and outline his views on the draft resolutions to be considered by the meeting.

5. Consideration of the Draft Resolutions:

Under this item, the Chair will introduce the draft resolutions before the Committee and will invite authors of the amendments to present their proposed texts. The Chair will rule on each amendment and the draft resolution in question is adopted.

Remarks:

1-Bear in mind the latest economic developments in global/regional atmosphere and attempt to update the contents of draft resolutions accordingly. Presenting new draft resolutions addressing the current economic status of the World/Asia are most welcomed.

2- Present a brief report by national parliaments on implementation of recommendations of Draft resolutions being discussed during the meeting.

3- Attention is drawn to the following Draft Resolutions:

- Draft Resolution on Financial Affairs: Ensuring Efforts for Economic Growth: Consideration of this draft resolution was deferred to the meeting in Manama by 13th Plenary.

- Draft Resolution on Water and Sanitation in Asia for All

At the 13th APA Plenary in Antalya, a number of member Parliaments addressed the preamble and operative paras of this document. The Chair reminded that this draft resolution will be deferred to the next Standing Committee meeting in Manama for further consideration.

On Draft Resolutions: "Adopting a Road Map Providing for Measures to Stimulate Green Finance" and "Asian Climate Financial Initiative" the APA Secretariat requested the Russian Delegation, as the author of these documents to merge them and provide us with one text.

6. Report by Chair of the Working Group on Green Funding

The delegation of Russia presented a report on Green Funding during the virtual meeting of this Standing Committee on 20 May 2021 in Bahrain. The Chair requested the report to be sent to the APA Secretariat for circulation. The Secretariat is yet to receive this report.

7. Report by Chair of the Working Group on Integrated Asian Energy Market

The Chair of the previous virtual meeting of the Standing Committee ruled that due to the absent of delegation of Kuwait this report be presented to the next Standing Committee meeting.

8. Report by Chair of the Working Group on Water Crisis

The Chair of this Working Group presented its report to the previous meeting in Manama in 2021. The report was circulated to all members. Interested members have responded to this report and thus the WG has exhausted its mandate. Participants may raise their complementary views within the context of relevant draft resolutions as we proceed.

9. Adoption of the Final Report

The APA Secretariat will prepare Final Report of the meeting for consideration and approval of the participants.

10. Any Other Matters

Participants will have the possibility to introduce any other issue of their interest not covered on the Agenda.

Attachment VI



Asian Parliamentary Assembly

Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain
16-17 May 2023

Report of the APA Secretary General

**Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished Delegate,
Dear Colleagues,**

I have the honor to welcome you all to the first APA Standing Committee meeting in year 2023. At the same time, allow me to seize this opportunity to thank the Council of Representative of the Kingdom of Bahrain for accepting to take over the APA Vice-Presidency and host as the chair of this important meeting in the magnificent capital city of Manama.

As you may recall, at the virtual meeting of the Committee held by the Kingdom of Bahrain in May 2021, six draft resolutions out of eight, were considered and adopted by consensus. At this meeting the draft resolution on "Financial Affairs: Ensuring Efforts for Economic Growth" and "Water and Sanitation in Asia for All", were deferred to the next SC meeting for further consideration. Furthermore, the Russian delegation as the author of the draft resolution "Adopting a Roadmap Providing for Measures to Stimulate Green Finance" and "Asian Climate Financial Initiative" has merged the two draft Resolutions and tabled it as a new draft resolution to this meeting. Therefore, today we have 7 draft resolutions for your consideration.

Dear Colleagues,
Distinguished Delegate,

Since I took office as the APA Secretary General, I was preoccupied with APA reform process, as I firmly believe that APA as a dynamic organization ought to constantly work out a revitalization program and put it at the top of its Agenda. In this endeavor, we managed to establish the Working Group on Statutory Documents in 2018 in Rize, Turkiye to give an impetus to this process.

As an extremely important process, this issue was also pinpointed by the APA President, H.E. Professor SENTOP, during the 13th APA Plenary in January, 2023 in Antalya, Turkiye. At this meeting we noticed that the APA president specifically referred to the need for application of some changes in the current structure, regulations as well as reinforcing the Institutional efficiency and Payment Contribution if we are seeking to transform the APA into an important Parliamentary Forum. To make such structural visions come true, the APA President, proposed Expert Groups to be established on the basis of regional distribution.

In light of the foregoing, I would like to categorize this reform plan into the following two main groups of issue:

I. APA structure and regulations

II. APA working method

As regards the first category, we have already established the WG on Statutory Documents to revisit and update the Basic Documents of the organization. Therefore, all the new suggestions and amendments to the APA institution, structure, objectives and regulations are to be covered by the WG. The WG held its First Session in December 2021 in Urgup, Turkiye and the Second Session of the WG is scheduled for July 03-5 in Iran.

Regarding the Second category, as you are aware since the establishment of our Organization in 2006, APA followed the customary procedure (Method of Work) established by international organization, particularly UN&IPU, to deal with the entrusted job when the Standing Committees, Executive Council, Plenary and the Bureau meets at scheduled intervals.

As the time passes, it seems that we need to change or introduce new effective and applicable procedures in order to streamline and accelerate the process of the adoption of the documents.

With this mindset, I sent you a letter inviting you to contribute to a brain storming session to discuss this important topic. In fact, the idea behind this innovation session was to set precedence in our strategy to continue holding such meetings in future if we are eager to witness specific changes needed to be made in the work of Standing Committees. I am quite confident that with some effective changes in the method of the work of the APA meetings, we shall certainly do our job in amore productive and fruitful way.

Following items are some of the suggested reform procedures applicable to the work of the Standing Committees:

- Presentation of a brief report by the national parliaments on the implementation of the recommendations cited in the resolutions by the APA delegations at the SC meeting.
- Changing the current procedure regarding the drafting exercise and to differentiate among the draft resolutions as redundant, outdated or relevant with a vision tuned with the reform initiatives.
- Encouraging delegations to submit and table new draft resolutions pertinent to the work of SC with due respect to the current global developments
- Adoption of new theme/subject for the new draft resolutions to be submitted to the concerned Standing Committees for consideration.
- Establishing procedure for the removal of the outdated resolutions from the agenda of the SC.

Dear Colleagues,
Distinguished Delegate,

In conclusion, I would like to underline that the prerequisite for the success and active involvement in the international and inter-regional affairs of an international organization solely depends on political will and commitments of the member countries. Active participation in all events and gatherings, financial contribution to the work of the organization, implementation of the recommendation and decisions, commitments to the charter and goals of the organization, taking up the leadership and high posts and hosting the meetings, are amongst other key factors leading to the success of any international organization.

Thank you very much for your kind attention