



Standing Committee on Budget and Planning

Tehran, Iran
9-12 July 2023

Final Report

The Standing Committee on Budget and Planning was held on 11 July 2023 in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran. The meeting was hosted by the Islamic Parliament of Iran and Parliamentary delegations from the following 20 member countries participated at this Meeting:

Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, China, Cyprus, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Kuwait, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkiye, UAE and Vietnam. ([Attachment D](#))

Special guest: President of the Arab Parliament.

Opening Session:

The following dignitaries presented their statements at the opening session:

1. H.E. Dr. M.R. MAJIDI, APA Secretary General ([Attachment II](#))
2. H.E. Mr. A. ALASOOMI, President of the Arab Parliament ([Attachment III](#))
3. H.E. Mr. Abdulkadir Emin ÖNEN, Representative of the APA Term President and Head of the Turkish Delegation to the APA ([Attachment IV](#))
4. H.E. Dr. GHALIBAF, Speaker of the Islamic Parliament of Iran ([Attachment V](#))

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Member Parliaments unanimously adopted the Draft Agenda. The Agenda is attached. ([Attachment VI](#))

2. Election of the Bureau

The following member parliaments were elected by acclamation as members of the Bureau :

- Iran, Chairperson

- Indonesia, Vice-Chair

- Syria, Rapporteur

3. Opening Remarks by the Chairperson

Head of the APA Group of the Islamic Parliament of Iran, H.E. Dr. ALIZADEH presented his welcoming statement.

4. Report of the APA Secretary General

In his report to the Standing Committee, APA Secretary General stated that the APA member parliaments have been engaged in discussing this draft resolution since 2017. The main goal of this draft resolution is to enhance the efficiency and organizational capacity of the APA and underscoring the importance of participation by all Member Parliaments in sharing the financial needs of the APA and its Secretariat. The principle of transparency, accountability, and efficient management of financial resources in APA budgeting and spending have been also underlined in this draft resolution.

The SG in conclusion underlined that the financial contribution provided by all the members of an international organization is the key factor to the successful implementation of its programs. We had a long journey from 2008 up to now in this regard, but regrettably, we have not yet arrived to an acceptable formula for all members in order to manage our budget. I sincerely hope that at today's meeting, you will finally succeed in reaching a consensus and find a solution for the model of payment to the APA Budget. ([Attachment VII](#))

5. Consideration of the Draft Resolution on Planning APA Budget:

The Chair requested participants to present their general views on the content of the draft resolution or any other related matter. ([Attachment VIII](#)).

A number of interested delegations had presented their amendments to the text of draft resolution prior to the meeting. These amendments were discussed and finalized by the participants.

In the course of the meeting, delegations mainly debated over the amount of the Assessed Contribution, its background and the model of payment.

The majority of participants actively addressed the issues under consideration and debated on the "Model of Payment", "Amount of Assessed Contribution", "Equality among members" based on APA Charter etc. After several rounds of debate, the representative of the APA Secretariat offered the following summation, which was approved unanimously:

- The Operative Para 6, 12, 13 of the draft resolution are deleted.
- The Equal Payment as the Model of Assessed Contribution is agreed upon.
- The APA Secretariat will present a draft text replacing above Operative Para in the draft resolution.
- The equal amount of assessed contribution will be discussed in the next APA Executive Council meeting.
- Those are not in agreement, may register their reservations in the final report of the meeting.

6. Adoption of the Final Report

The Chairman stated that the final report of the meeting as well as the approved text of the draft resolution will be prepared and sent to all participants by APA Secretariat in few days ahead. ([Attachment IX](#))

7. Any other Matters

No issue was raised.

Asian Parliamentary Assembly



Standing Committee on Budget and Planning / Working Group on Statutory Documents



Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran
9 - 12 July 2023

List of Participants

Participating members:

Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, China, Cyprus, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Russia, Syria, Turkiye, UAE, Vietnam, Arab Parliament, APA Secretariat.

No	Country	First Name	Last Name	Position	Head of Delegation
1	Azerbaijan	Mr. Ilham	Mammadov	Member of the delegation	✓
2	Azerbaijan	Mr. Mir Kamal	Ali-Zada	Staff of the delegation	
3	Bahrain	Mr. Ahmed	alsaloom	Member of Parliament	✓
4	Bahrain	Dr. Abdulaziz	Abul	Member of Parliament	
5	Bahrain	Ms. Maryam	Alsaegh	Member of Parliament	
6	Bahrain	Ms. Sara	Jawzi	Acting head of secretary general affairs	
7	Bahrain	Mr. Mohamed	Bin Daina	senior Parliamentary relations development specialist	
8	Bangladesh	Mr. A S M	Feroz	Hon'ble Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Public Undertakings, MP	✓
9	Bangladesh	Mr. Md Rustum Ali	Faraji	Hon'ble Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Public Accounts, MP	
10	Bangladesh	Mr. Md Sabbir	Mahmud	Senior Assistant Secretary	
11	China	Mr. Fuli	Chen	Member of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee of the National People's Congress of China	✓
12	China	Ms. Dan	Wu	Staff of the Foreign Affairs Bureau of the General Office of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China	

13	China	Ms. Mengyuan	Qi	Staff of the Foreign Affairs Bureau of the General Office of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China	
14	China	Ms. QINGWEI	HAO	Attache of the Embassy of China in the Islamic Republic of Iran	
15	Cyprus	Mr. NICOLAOS	TORNARITIS	Member of Parliament and Head of the Delegation	✓
16	Cyprus	Mr. GEORGE	LOUCAIDES	Member of Parliament	
17	Cyprus	Ms. Avgousta	CHRISTOU	Secretary to Delegation	
18	India	Mr. Jagdambika	Pal	Member of Parliament, Head of Delegation	✓
19	India	Mrs. Snehlata Pal	Pal	Spouse of Head of the Delegation	
20	India	Mr. YOGENDRA	SINGH	DEPUTY SECRETARY (Accompanying Officer)	
21	Indonesia	Dr.Fadli	Zon	Chair of Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation	✓
22	Indonesia	Mr. Putu Supadma	Rudana	Vice Chair of Committee for Inter Parliamentary Cooperation	Deputy Head of Delegation
23	Indonesia	Mr. Hugua	Hugua	Member of Committee of Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation	
24	Indonesia	Mr. Fadhlullah	Fadhlullah	Member of Committee of Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation	
25	Indonesia	Dr. Jazuli	Juwaini	Member of Committee of Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation	
26	Indonesia	Mr. Rojih	Rojih	Member of Committee of Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation	
27	Indonesia	Mr. Insan	Abdirrohman	Secretary to Delegation	
28	Indonesia	Mr. Sigit	Fitriyanto	Assistant Secretary to Delegation	
29	Indonesia	Mr. Isep Parid	Yahya	Advisor	
30	Indonesia	Mr. Nadhen	Ivan	Media	
31	Indonesia	Mr. Yanuar Arif	Wibowo	Expert Staff of Hon. Mr. Jazuli	
32	Indonesia	Mrs. Khodijah	Abdulloh Kafabih	Spouse of Hon. Mr. Rojih	
33	Indonesia	Mr. Ronny Prasetyo	Yuliantro	Indonesian Ambassador to Tehran	Indonesian Embassy
34	Indonesia	Ms. Joevi	Roedyati		Indonesian Embassy
35	Indonesia	Ms. Agnes	Okvanni		Indonesian Embassy

36	Indonesia	Mr. Audi	Muhammad		Indonesian Embassy
37	Iran	Mr. Ali	Alizadeh	Member of Parliament, Chairperson of the APA Group and HEAD OF DELEGATION, Islamic Parliament of Iran	✓
38	Iran	Ms. Masumeh	Pashaei Bahram	Member of Parliament	
39	Iran	Mr. Mohammad Mehdi	Zahedi	Member of Parliament	
40	Iran	Mr. Gholamreza	Nouri Ghezeljeh	Member of Parliament	
41	Iran	Mr. Jalil	Rahimi Jahanabadi	Member of Parliament	
42	Iraq	Mr. Haider M. Habeeb Majeed	Al-Selami	MP	✓
43	Iraq	Mr. Muthanna Ameen Nader	Nader	MP	
44	Iraq	Mr. KAREEM	GAHOOSH	MP	
45	Iraq	Mr. Adnan Abdulhussein Salman	Omairi	Staff	
46	Kuwait	Mr. HAMAD	ALMATAR	HEAD of DELEGATION	✓
47	Kuwait	Mr. ABDULAZIZ	NASRALLAH	Senior specialist	
48	Kuwait	Mr. SAUD	ALRAQAM	Political Science professional	
49	Lebanon	قاسم	هاشم	نائب لبناني	✓
50	Lebanon	عدنان	ضاهر	أمين عام مجلس النواب اللبناني	
51	Pakistan	Mr. Saifullah	Abro	Member Senate of Pakistan	✓
52	Pakistan	Mr. Syed Hasnain	Haider		
53	Palestine	Mr. Ali	Faysal	Deputy Speaker of the Palestinian National Council	✓
54	Palestine	Ms. Salam	Alzawawi	Ambassador of the State of Palestine in Tehran	
55	Palestine	Mr. Mohammed	Jhair	First Counsellor, Embassy of the State of Palestine, Tehran	
56	Qatar	HE Mr. Mohd bin Fahad	Al-Mesallam	Member of Parliament	✓
57	Qatar	HE Mr. Ahmad bin Hitmi	AL-Hitmi	Member of Parliament	
58	Qatar	Mr. AHMAD	ALNOUBI	Senior International Affairs Specialist	
59	Saudi Arabia	Mr. Hani	Khashoggi	Member of Parliament	✓
60	Saudi Arabia	Mr. Fares	Alosaimi	Member of Parliament	
61	Saudi Arabia	Mr. Fahad	Aldughaiter	Parliamentary Advisor	
62	Saudi Arabia	Mr. Abdulilah	Almuhanna	Protocol Officer	

63	Russia	Mr. PETR	TOLSTOY	Member of Parliament	✓
64	Russia	Mr. LEONID	SLUTSKIY	Member of Parliament	
65	Russia	Mr. ALEKSANDR	REMEZKOV	Member of Parliament	
66	Russia	Mr. ILYA	GAMBASHIDZE	STAFF	
67	Russia	Mr. AZER	NAJAFOV	INTERPRETER	
68	Russia	Mr. ELNUR	HUSEYNOV	INTERPRETER	
69	Syria	Mr. MOHAMAD	AL ASAAD	Member of Parliament	✓
70	Syria	Mr. MHD. AMIN	ALRAJA	Member of Parliament	
71	Syria	Mr. MUSTAFA	ALMAROUF	Member of Parliament	
72	Syria	Mr. MHD. GHIATH	JAWISH	STAFF	
73	Turkiye	Mr. Abdulkadir Emin	ÖNEN	HEAD OF THE DELEGATION, MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT	✓
74	Turkiye	Mr. Ömer	ÖZMEN	MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT	
75	Turkiye	Mr. Vecdi	GÜNDOĞDU	MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT	
76	Turkiye	Mr. Mücahit	ARSLAN	Vice-Director of the External Relations and Protocol Department	
77	Turkiye	Mr. Rezak	TAVLI	Expert External Relations and Protocol Department	
78	Turkiye	Mr. Murat	HASTÜRK	Senior Officer External Relations and Protocol Department	
79	UAE	H.E. DR. NEDAL	ALTENEJJI	Member of Parliament	✓
80	UAE	Ms. HAMDAM	ALBLOOSHI	STAFF	
81	Vietnam	TUAN	LE ANH		✓
82	Vietnam	TOAN	NGUYEN HUU		
83	Vietnam	HAI YEN	NGUYEN THI		
84	Arab Parliament	Mr. Adel	Alasoomi	President of the Arab Parliament	✓
85	Arab Parliament	Mr. Mohamed	Alnamer		
86	APA Secretariat	Mr. Mohammad Reza	MAJIDI	APA Secretary General	✓
87	APA Secretariat	Mr. Kia	TABATABAEE	Deputy Secretary General of APA	
88	APA Secretariat	Mr. Mehdi	GHASHGHAVI	Executive Deputy of Secretariat	
89	APA Secretariat	Mr. Mehdi	MOLLAHOSSEINI	APA Senior Expert	
90	APA Secretariat	Mr. Javad	HASHEMI	APA Director of International Affairs	
91	APA Secretariat	Mr. Saeed	SOHRABINIA	APA Director of Information Technology	

Attachment II



Standing Committee on Budget and planning

**Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran
9-12 July 2023**

APA Secretary General's welcoming Remarks

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and gentlemen

I am pleased to welcome you to our today's meetings organized, under the auspices of the Islamic Parliament of Iran, providing us with the opportunity to deliberate and share insights on the agenda items which are of great concern to all of us for the success of our organization and advancement of its programs.

I also deem it necessary to thank the Islamic Parliament of Iran its generosity in support of the Secretariat to the extent possible as well as that of other APA members in their capacity as Presidents and Vice-Presidents for hosting various APA meetings during the past 16 years. During this period, the Asian Parliamentary Assembly has tried within its mandate to serve as an effective regional parliamentary platform in the face of the current challenges in Asia for realization of parliamentary diplomacy throughout this vast Continent of Asia.

Distinguished Delegates,

Dear colleagues

As you are aware, the APA, since its establishment in 2006, has given new momentum to parliamentary diplomacy by creating a platform which encompasses large number of parliaments from a widely extensive and populous continent with diverse cultural and beliefs as well as huge resources.

In effect, the APA, has steadily played its part to pave the grounds for exerting best parliamentary practices and to uphold parliamentary diplomacy as a complementary instrument to respond to the needs of the region within a multilateral parliamentary system.

However, to have a more productive and efficient organization, we shall strive to further improve the format, functioning and outcomes of our regular meetings. This will not happen unless to

proceed hand in hand for collective measures within our family members and to do everything in our power for appropriation of the required funds.

Furthermore, as the APA President stated in his statement in Antalya during the 13th Plenary in Antalya, Turkiye, we should close our ranks to synergize our efforts for revitalization, efficiency, and enhancement of the organizational capacity of the APA. I hope our meetings today will help achieve these objectives.

In light of the foregoing, I would like encourage you and your colleagues from other member parliaments to join the move forward for assessment of the work carried out by the APA over the past years in an attempt to evaluate our weaknesses and strengths if we are to reach a concrete decision for revitalization of our Organization.

In conclusion, I earnestly hope that the outcomes of our deliberations today will result in building a strong bridge in favor of benefitting from the shared value of solidarity within our regional parliamentary family.

Thank you very much

Attachment III

**Arab Parliament
President**



**البرلمان العربي
الرئيس**

Speech Text

**H.E. Mr. Adel Bin AbdulRahman ALASOOMI
President of the Arab Parliament**

**The Asian Parliamentary Assembly
Standing Committee on Budget and Planning**

**Tuesday 11 July 2023
Tehran - The Islamic Republic of Iran**



Ladies and gentlemen, distinguished attendance,

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh

Firstly, I wish to express my great pleasure at participating in this important meeting, which represents an important and positive development in the course of relations between the Arab Parliament and the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, and to commend all efforts to make the meetings of your distinguished Committee a success.

And I would like to emphasize the keenness of the Arab Parliament to build bridges of communication and rapprochement between the Arab and Asian peoples who are brought together with strong historical relations and common cultural, humanitarian and civilizational legacies, as well as geographical proximity confirmed by the fact that almost half of the Arab States belong to the Asian continent.

Undoubtedly, efforts to strengthen Arab-Asian relations do not have to be limited to only the role played by Governments on both sides, but we as parliamentarians, representing the popular dimension of the Arab-Asian partnership, can play a central role in consolidating and strengthening the foundations of this partnership, through a strategic perspective to build a better future for the peoples of our Arab and Asian countries.

Ladies and gentlemen, distinguished audience,

We face many common concerns and challenges in our Arab and Asian worlds, not least to combat poverty and unemployment, meet the requirements of sustainable development, develop education and health system, and empower women and youth.

Certainly, addressing these critical challenges requires us to endeavor to develop and enhance mechanisms of Arab-Asian parliamentary cooperation at all levels. In spite of social and economic development models similarity between Arab and Asian countries, the pace of cooperation and integration among us has not yet reached the level of the aspired partnership that is compatible with the ambitions of our peoples.

This is where the huge role incumbent upon us parliamentarians comes in activating the role of parliamentary diplomacy to promote cooperation and complementarity between our countries and societies at all collective, bilateral and multilateral levels.



Therefore, I would like to take the opportunity of my participation in this important meeting, to stress the necessity to enhance economic and trade cooperation, as well as to launch programmes and projects with joint regional dimension between our Arab and Asian countries, in order to achieve greater integration among us, which has become in our present time an indispensable pressing need.

Distinguished audience,

The Arab Parliament seeks to strengthen channels of communication and dialogue with regional parliaments that represent the majority of the world's peoples, with the aim of coordinating positions and bringing views together on issues requiring a constant dialogue, enabling us collectively to build solid foundations for solidarity, stability, peace and development and to safeguard common interests.

In this connection, I would like to reiterate the keenness of the Arab Parliament for continued coordination with the Asian Parliamentary Assembly in all international parliamentary forums. And on behalf of the Arab Parliament, I wish to express sincere thanks and appreciation for granting the Arab Parliament observer status in the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, which will have positive impacts in opening permanent channels of communication and coordination between the two organizations.

And the Arab Parliament will remain a supporter of everything that reinforce security and stability in the Arab and Asian worlds, also a supporter of development efforts aimed at achieving the integration and solidarity we all seek.

In closing, I can only convey my sincere gratitude, looking forward to continued constructive cooperation among us for the benefit and prosperity of our peoples.

**Thank you for listening so well
Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh**

Statement by H.E. Mr. Abdulkadir Emin ÖNEN, Representative of APA
Term President and Head of the Turkish Delegation to the APA, in the
Opening Session

Honourable Speaker of the Islamic Consultative Parliament of Iran,

Honourable Secretary-General,

Distinguished Chairperson,

Dear Delegates,

Dear Participants,

I should first like to express my sincere thanks and heartfelt appreciation to the Islamic Consultative Parliament of Iran and His Excellency Mr. Galibaf, Speaker of the Islamic Parliament of Iran, as well as His Excellency Mr. Alizadeh, Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Budget and Planning for their excellent and delicate hospitality as well as for their invaluable efforts in and contribution to the works of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly and organising this meeting.

My warmest thanks and appreciation also go to His Excellency Dr Mohammad Reza Majidi and APA Secretariat for their considerable efforts they put into the works of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly and the responsibility they take for revitalization of this organisation.

I also would like to salute with respect and thank all Representatives from APA Member Parliaments and distinguished delegates for their presence here and contributions to these meetings.

Distinguished Members of Parliaments,

In my capacity as Representative of the President of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, I am also honoured to deliver the warmest greetings and best wishes for success in your endeavour here to you all from His Excellency Professor Numan Kurtulmuş, President of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly and Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye.

Dear Colleagues,

As we have witnessed dramatic and profound changes and transformation in the international system and world order especially with the rise of Asia, I believe it is our responsibility to actively impact on such developments in a positive manner. We ought to put our efforts together and move forward to contribute to these grand transformations for our peoples. In order to positively impact upon these developments, it is of significance to establish and facilitate sustainable multilateral

channels and networks forged amongst Asian Nations for negotiation, cooperation and harmony as well as for the ultimate integration in Asia.

In so doing, we could, on the one hand, have grounded mechanisms for international relations and modern diplomacy, and advance multilateralism as the essence of the international politics, on the other. This could also contribute to our endeavours in avoiding or minimising the likelihood of the conflicts and frictions, tackling the ongoing stalemates in the region, upholding peaceful and cordial ties between the countries and promoting the welfare and well-being of our peoples.

Dear Colleagues,

Today, we have rather a novel and autonomous mechanism to contribute to international affairs, which is called parliamentary diplomacy. Parliamentary diplomacy allows parliamentarians to put their own inputs into international developments and impact on the global politics in a cooperative, democratic and inclusive manner. It basically provides us novel communication and cooperative channels, especially through direct interactions and engagements between parliamentarians and parliamentary bodies. Parliamentarians and international parliamentary assemblies have thus become significant actors in addressing global, regional, and local challenges and guiding how to cope with these problems at multiple levels.

Bearing this in mind, I think we shall strengthen inter-parliamentary platforms and take more robust steps to better institutionalize parliamentary diplomacy in Asia, as well. Because, despite the fact that the rise of Asia promises huge potentials, the countries on the continent should also focus on how to tackle common challenges by going beyond contending and shallow definition of national interests and narrow parochial benefits.

That is the main cause why we have gathered here and strived to strengthen parliamentary diplomacy in Asia by putting our efforts, in our case, on transforming the Asian Parliamentary Assembly into a genuine and better-organized platform for parliamentary diplomacy in Asia.

To conclude, I sincerely hope and believe this meeting will contribute a lot to our purpose of strengthening parliamentary diplomacy in Asia through the Asian Parliamentary Assembly.

Thank you all.

In the Name of God
The Text of Speech of His Excellency Dr. Qalibaf
Speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly of Iran

Distinguished heads of parliamentary delegations,

Ladies and gentlemen,

At the outset, I would like to express my pleasure and gratitude to the participants in the meeting of the Permanent Committee on Planning and Budget of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, who have accepted the invitation of the Islamic Consultative Assembly and attended this meeting. I take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the Secretary-General of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly and his colleagues for their efforts in planning the meeting and preparing its documents. I hope that the outcome of this meeting will include some effective steps in line with strengthening cooperation and solidarity among the member parliaments of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly.

Dear colleagues;

Today, the ancient continent of Asia, with its historical, civilizational, cultural and economic components and characteristics, is at the center of geopolitical developments in the world and enjoys a pivotal position in the international scene. The presence of ancient civilizations, the gradual and continuous shift of the center of gravity of global power from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean, and the prediction of Asia's transformation into the economic powerhouse of the international system, have led to the widespread use of the term "Asian Century" in the literature of international politics in this era. Accordingly, Asian countries can complement each other and endow Asians with a distinct identity in terms of "unity in diversity" in the current century.

Distinguished guests,

What we are witnessing today in the form of a power shift in the international system, can create the grounds for an Asian call for reviewing and renewing the structure of international institutions, such as the United Nations, especially in the economic, trade and financial structures and related institutions. Therefore, Asia's return to the center of global politics and its economic and political empowerment is one of the most important challenges of the Western-centric international system in the 21st century, which, if realized, will lead to a new chapter in the history of Asia's global power projection. Accordingly, the way to achieve this lofty goal and manage this historical shift is to institutionalize multilateral cooperation in the context of regional convergence. This convergence is an opportunity and, more appropriately, a fundamental priority for Asians in the era of the "Asian Century", which should be based on a common identity and establish continental mechanisms and institutions in this path. These mechanisms should be able to solve regional issues and increase regional cohesion and coordination. One of these mechanisms is the "Asian

Parliamentary Assembly” as an experienced and long-standing Asian institution, which I hope this meeting will be an important step in enhancing the efficiency of this institution in diagnosing and identifying the strengths and weaknesses of Asian regionalism, in order to develop intercontinental cooperation and enhance Asia’s global position.

Honorable MPs,

One of the aspects of diversity and plurality in the historical continent of Asia is the inclination to religions. Convergence among different religions and sects of the world is one of the important factors for the survival of humanity and the promotion of a culture of peace, security, tolerance and coexistence. Interaction among different religions and sects plays a key role in strengthening convergence and mutual cooperation among the nations of the world. According to what is stated in international conventions and treaties, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, any kind of religious insult and disrespect and any unlawful act against individuals and groups because of their religion are illegal and prohibited. This is while in some cases we see that the claimants of human rights, under the pretext of freedom of expression, even refrain from condemning such actions that are contrary to the explicit text of international laws. In a situation where respecting opinions and sanctities and whatever that is part of the values of all human societies is one of the primary rights of individuals. Therefore, in today’s world, despite different views, cultures and civilizations, respect for religions and religious values is a universal duty. The recent heinous act of disrespecting the Holy Quran, which took place in Sweden, is completely incompatible with respect for religious values. This action is strongly condemned by the Islamic Republic of Iran and Islamic countries. Allowing insults to heavenly books, religious sanctities and the Holy Quran, with any justification from the Swedish government, is unacceptable. Democracy and freedom reading such actions will also hurt the feelings of more than one billion Muslims around the world. In this regard, the Islamic Republic of Iran expects Sweden and other Western countries claiming democracy to enact laws to protect the sanctity of religious sanctities so that in the future we will not witness such humiliating actions that lead to creating discord among followers of different religions.

Honorable guests,

One of the aspects of diversity and plurality in the historical continent of Asia is the tendency to religions. Convergence among different religions and sects of the world is one of the important factors for the survival of humanity and the promotion of a culture of peace, security, tolerance and coexistence. Interaction among different religions and sects plays a key role in strengthening convergence and mutual cooperation among the nations of the world. According to what is stated in international conventions and treaties, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, any kind of religious insult and disrespect and any unlawful act against individuals and groups because of their religion are illegal and prohibited. This is while in some cases we see that the claimants of human rights, under the pretext of freedom of expression, even refrain from condemning such actions that are contrary to the explicit text of international laws. In a situation where respecting opinions and sanctities and whatever that is part of the values of all human societies is one of the primary rights of individuals. Therefore, in today’s world, despite different views, cultures and civilizations, respect for religions and religious values is a universal duty. The recent heinous act of disrespecting the Holy Quran, which took place in Sweden, is completely incompatible with respect for religious values. This action is strongly condemned by the Islamic Republic of Iran and Islamic countries. Allowing insults to heavenly books, religious sanctities and the Holy Quran,

with any justification from the Swedish government, is unacceptable. Democracy and freedom reading such actions will also hurt the feelings of more than one billion Muslims around the world. In this regard, the Islamic Republic of Iran expects Sweden and other Western countries claiming democracy to enact laws to protect the sanctity of religious sanctities so that in the future we will not witness such humiliating actions that lead to creating discord among followers of different religions.

Honorable participants,

The intensification of criminal actions by the Zionists in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in recent months, and the massacre of oppressed Palestinian children, women and elderly people, as well as the destruction of Palestinian property and homes, are clear examples of organized crime and terrorism. In the recent attack and aggression by Zionists on the 13,000-person Jenin camp, Zionist soldiers targeted vital infrastructures of the city, including medical centers, ambulances, water supply and sewage facilities, and during this brutal aggression, dozens of Palestinian fighters were martyred and hundreds were wounded, among whom there were 4 teenagers under 18 years old. These cruel actions, which are considered to be the largest attack by occupiers on the West Bank in the past 20 years, have taken place while the only crime of the resistant people of Jenin was to confront the aggressions of this illegitimate and child-killing regime, which besieged the camp inhumanely, fired tear gas, threatened to bomb houses, and forced 4,000 Palestinians to leave their homes. Today, Netanyahu's extremist and radical cabinet, which has been involved in protests and insecurity for months, has no choice but to resort to such actions and crimes to escape from widespread insecurity, in front of the growing power of resistance and to show its weak capabilities; but at the same time Western and American circles have always had a supportive or passive position against the crimes of the Zionist regime as in previous decades. On the other hand, the oppressed but powerful Palestinian nation once again resisted against Zionist regime's crimes like previous aggressions with steadfastness and perseverance made occupiers retreat completely from Jenin city and camp achieved another victory proved once again that only way to confront occupiers reclaim rights freedom occupied Palestinian lands with perseverance resistance. In this regard, Islamic Republic Iran from all Islamic countries well institutions countries supporting Palestine cause human rights groups individuals communities nations seeking justice freedom oppressed calls them stand beside oppressed powerful Palestinian nation defending their rights hold Zionist regime accountable committing these crimes actions violating international laws regulations. Sustainable peace only possible solution based ending Zionist aggression Islamic lands guaranteeing protecting rights Muslim Palestinian people including right return all displaced Palestinians their homeland establishing independent Palestine state Quds al-Sharif capital this path Islamic Republic Iran addition emphasizing popular resistance Palestine supports democratic solution based holding comprehensive referendum presence all Palestinian people Muslim Christian Jewish soonest possible time determine their fate.

Dear colleagues,

In conclusion, on behalf of the honorable representatives of the Islamic Consultative Assembly of Iran, I declare the full readiness of the parliament of the Islamic Republic of Iran for cooperation and active and purposeful interaction with its counterparts in other parliaments of the region, in pursuit of the valuable approach of strengthening convergence and achieving common goals at the Asian level. It goes without saying that in meeting with the distinguished heads of parliamentary delegations participating in this meeting, we will exchange views on important issues and implementable programs within the framework of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly. Thank you.

Asian Parliamentary Assembly



Standing Committee on Budget and Planning

Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran
9 - 12 July 2023



Draft Agenda

- 1- Adoption of the Agenda
- 2- Election of the Bureau
- 3- Opening Remarks by Chairperson
- 4- Report by APA Secretary General
- 5- Consideration of:
 - Draft Resolution on Planning APA Budget
- 6- Adoption of Final Report
- 7- Any other matters



Standing Committee on Budget and planning

**Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran
9-12 July 2023**

Report of the Secretary General

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

It is a great pleasure and opportunity for me to welcome you all to the Second APA Standing Committee meeting being held in the year 2023. I also highly appreciate all member parliaments who are present here today at this meeting for their commitment to the lofty goals of the APA. At the same time, allow me to seize this opportunity to thank and appreciate the Islamic Parliament of Iran for bearing the burden of holding and chairing this important meeting in the capacity of Vice-President of the 13th APA Plenary.

Dear Colleagues,

As a matter of fact, the APA member parliaments have been engaged in discussing this draft resolution since 2017 at the Abu Dhabi Session of the Standing Committee. The main goal of this draft resolution is to enhance the efficiency and organizational capacity of the APA and underscoring the importance of participation by all Member Parliaments in sharing the financial needs of the APA and its Secretariat. The principle of transparency, accountability, and efficient management of financial resources in APA budgeting and spending have been also underlined in this draft resolution.

As you may recall, this draft resolution with minor changes were adopted at the 11th Plenary Sessions in 2018 in Turkiye. Yet, at the 12th Plenary Session in Antalya in December 2019, after intensive discussion the draft resolution deferred to the next Standing Committee meeting. At the Virtual Meeting of August 4, 2021 in Moscow, delegates were engaged in a thorough discussion and finally the draft resolution deferred to the next Standing Committee meeting.

In order to implement this resolution, at Abu Dhabi session in 2017, the Committee after

lengthy discussion on the model of payment, came to the conclusion that the majority of the participating members are in favor of equal payment and some in favor of GDP & IPU system of payment. I, as Secretary-General, at the 11th Plenary in Istanbul in 2018, offered three model of payment based on GDP, Equal and mixture of GDP and Equal payment and subsequently sent a letter to all member parliaments and requested them to include their contribution to the respective parliament's yearly budget.

The model of payment and financial contributions by all APA member parliaments were also discussed in the meeting of the Standing Committee in 2019 in Baghdad. At this meeting, I stated that the APA Budget Estimate for the year 2019 is around 900,000 USD and even if all active member parliaments pay their contribution based on the current adopted model of payment, the Secretariat could hardly survive.

At the Second APA Bureau meeting in Urgup, Turkiye in October 2021, the Secretariat presented in details three models of contributions to the meeting, but after lengthy discussion, it was decided to refer the issue to the next Executive Council session due to the limited number of the members of the Bureau.

APA member parliaments were also seized the opportunity to exchange views on this important issue at the 13th Plenary Session in January 2023 in Antalya, Turkiye. At this meeting the model of contribution based on "equal pay" grabbed more attention.

Dear Colleagues,

In conclusion, I would like to once again underline that the financial contribution provided by all the members of an international organization is the key factor to the successful implementation of its programs. The APA had a long journey from 2008 up to now in this regard, but regrettably, we have not yet arrived to an acceptable formula for all members in order to manage our budget. Thus, in positive side, thanks to the financial and logistical support provided to the APA Secretariat by the Islamic Parliament of Iran and generosity of the APA Presidents and vice presidents by holding APA meetings in their respective countries, we succeed to move forward our organization effectively and successfully together.

I sincerely hope that our meeting today will succeed to come up with a consensus in finding a solution for the model of payment by the APA members to the APA Budget .

Finally, before I conclude my report, I would like to emphasize on the important issue of the APA efficiency and enhancement of its organizational capacity, which was thoroughly and professionally raised by the current APA Term President during the opening session of the 13th Plenary in Antalya Turkiye.

I will take the opportunity this afternoon during the Second Session of the WG on statutory Document to further elaborate the institutional steps needed to be taken in the course of reinvigoration and capacity building process of the APA.

I do call on you to actively contribute in this respect and share your insights with us on this important topic.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Speech of Iran

سخنرانی خانم پاشایی مجمع مجالس آسیایی

تیرماه ۱۴۰۲

همکاران گرامی،

خانم ها و آقایان،

در ابتدا مایلم مراتب قدردانی و تشکر خود را از شرکت کنندگان در این نشست ابراز کنم. امیدوارم دستاوردهای این نشست، همانند سایر فعالیت های ما در مجمع مجالس آسیایی منجر به تقویت این نهاد، بسط و گسترش روابط و در نهایت که هدف غایی همه اعضا هست، ارتقاء جایگاه و نقش مجمع مجالس آسیایی در عرصه دیپلماسی پارلمانی میان کشورهای عضو و سایر نهادهای مرتبط بین المللی باشد.

اعضای محترم، همکاران گرامی؛

جمهوری اسلامی ایران از زمان تأسیس مجمع مجالس آسیایی تاکنون تلاش همه جانبه خود را به همراه سایر اعضا جهت ارتقاء و تثبیت این نهاد مهم منطقه‌ای به کار برده است. ما معتقدیم که آنچه امروز مجمع مجالس آسیایی به آن نیازمند است، تقویت «کارآمدی»، «اثربخشی»، و به ویژه «رویکرد نظام حل المسائلی» می باشد. بر این اساس همانگونه که جناب آقای شنتوپ، رئیس مجمع مجالس آسیایی در مجمع عمومی آنتالیا به آن تأکید داشته اند، می بایستی به سمت ایجاد «تحول» در مجمع مجالس آسیایی حرکت نمائیم و این مهم صرفاً با خواست و اراده واقعی اعضا در خصوص ایجاد تغییر و تحول به دست خواهد آمد. در این راستا، روند طی شده در خصوص بازنگری اسناد پایه مجمع مجالس آسیایی و تجربه چندین ساله ما در این مورد، حاکی از آن است که در این بخش با وجود برخی تلاش‌ها، آنچنان که شایسته بود موفق عمل نکردیم. لذا به نظر می‌رسد تأکید بر ادامه این مسیر و روش، ما را به موفقیت نخواهد رساند. زمان به سرعت در حال طی شدن بوده و فرصت ممتاز بهره گیری از دیپلماسی پارلمانی آسیائی در حال تضعیف شدن است.

همکاران گرامی،

آنچه در مرحله نخست ما نیازمند آن هستیم، آسیب شناسی و بررسی نقاط ضعف و قوت «مجمع مجالس آسیایی» پس از گذشت چندین دوره فعالیت با هدف طراحی افق آینده و ایجاد طرح تحول و بهره گیری شایسته تر از ظرفیت این نهاد است. تأکید ویژه ما بر این موضوع است که هدف طرح تحول می بایستی اصلاح ساز و کارهای مربوط به منظور دستیابی به مأموریت‌های سازمان، با محوریت «چابک سازی» و «روان سازی» این نهاد با هدف عالی دستیابی به «نظام حل المسائلی» در این مجمع باشد. با این حال فرایند مربوط به طرح تحول نباید طولانی و زمان بر باشد، لذا پیشنهاد مشخص مجلس شورای اسلامی در این خصوص همانگونه که پرفسور شنتوپ اظهار داشته اند، اعطاء مأموریت طراحی و ارائه این طرح توسط دبیرخانه و دبیرکل محترم مجمع می باشد. لذا دبیرخانه با همفکری و مشاوره با پارلمان های عضو مجمع در یک بازه زمانی مشخص، طرح تحول مجمع مجالس آسیایی را به منظور بررسی نهائی به شورای اجرایی به منظور تصمیم گیری نهائی ارائه می نماید.

در پایان تأکید مجدد بر این موضع اصولی کشورمان، مبنی بر اینکه تقویت و توسعه مجمع مجالس آسیایی پیوسته مورد توجه ویژه مجلس شورای اسلامی قرار داشته، لذا همچنان جمهوری اسلامی ایران در مسیر ارتقاء جایگاه این مجمع تا رسیدن به اهداف غائی و نهایی آن از هیچ کوششی فروگذار نخواهد کرد.

متشکرم.

Speech of Indonesia

Remark on "Institutional Steps for APA Effectiveness"

Delivered by:

Hon. Dr. Fadli Zon, M.Sc (Head of Delegation of the Indonesia House of Representatives)

Honorable Chair of the Standing Committee on Budget and Planning, Honorable Chair of the Working Group on Statutory Document, Honorable Secretary General of APA, Honorable Fellow Parliamentarians.

First of all, I would like to extend my highest appreciation particularly for the Secretary General of Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) and the Parliament of Iran for hosting this working group meeting...

As we discussed during the 13th APA Plenary Session in Antalya earlier this year, it is clear that the APA, as the only Asian level inter-parliamentary platform, shall be playing a vital role in global system.

First, formulation of both long-term and mid-terms strategic planning. Following the financial contribution and establishing a new permanent Secretariat, APA shall strengthen the strategic objectives...

Second, reformatting the decision making mechanism through voting system by one country one vote. Reformatting this collective decision making mechanism will allow APA to produce more progressive outcomes.

Third, identifying an institutional partner of the APA. As we all know, parliamentary organs normally have executive partners such as the Inter-Parliamentary Union partnering with the United Nations.

Similarly, we can see also how the Pan-African Parliament partnered with African Union, Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) with Asia Pacific

There shall be a fair criteria for financial contribution membership that does not put any burden to our members.

There shall be a fair criteria for financial contribution membership that does not put burden to our members.

Economic Cooperation (APEC), Parliamentary Union of Islamic Countries with OIC (Organization of Islamic Countries) and so on. In this regards, APA should also identified what organisation that we can partnering with in order to strengthen our significances. *or we can decide that APA is independent*

In short, I believe that APA has a lot of potential to become more powerful. *Asian*
Therefore, strengthening the APA's organizational aspect is a must. *Parliamentary platform*

I thank you.

Speech of Pakistan

Tehran, Iran
09-12th July, 2023

APA Standing Committee on
Budget and Planning

Statement



Senate Secretariat
RESEARCH DIRECTORATE

0

Statement

Honorable Parliamentarians!

Distinguished Guests!

Ladies and Gentlemen!

Asalam-o-Alaikum!

I thank the Islamic Parliament of Iran for their warm hospitality, and for successfully hosting the meeting of Standing Committee on Budget and Panning.

At the outset, with great concern I want to draw the attention of this august gathering towards the recent incident of desecration of the Holy Quran in Sweden. Pakistan strongly condemns this despicable act and such willful incitement to discrimination, hatred and violence cannot be justified under pretext of freedom of expression. Parliament of Pakistan in its joint sitting held on 6th July, 2023 has passed a unanimous Resolution condemning the vicious act.

From the platform of APA, we must convey a strong message urging both the international community and national governments must legislate to criminalise desecration of holy symbols of religions including holy books, personalities, places of worship and followers. Moreover, we Members should devise a collective strategy to promote interfaith harmony and prevent such incidents of xenophobia and Islamophobia.

Ladies and Gentlemen!

With regard to funding of the APA, it is high time that APA Members must reflect on the importance of cooperation and understanding as since last ten years, we have been not able to arrive at any consensus and our efforts and time bears no fruitful outcome.

I deem it pertinent to recall that during the 11th APA Plenary Session, held from 29th Nov-1st Dec, 2018, Member Parliaments unanimously adopted the Model of Payment of Assessed Contribution as follows:

“Every APA Member Parliament will pay equally \$20,000 per year and extra budget will be taken into account on the basis of GDP.”

Senate of Pakistan had also allocated the requisite funds in the subsequent year budget but could not be actualized due to lack of a proper and effective mechanism duly approved by all Member Countries.

To make APA more structured and vibrant, like other regional parliamentary fora, there is need for putting in place a proper mechanism of APA funding by all Member Countries. Pakistan believes that any model of payment proposed should be based on the principle of equality while considering the fact that many Member countries are still coping with difficult economic situation.

In conclusion, we seek to share a few proposals and suggestions.

- As a starting point, APA Secretariat may suggest a minimum contribution, ranging between US\$ 5,000 to 10,000 of assessed contribution.
- Furthermore, experts may be engaged to formulate a comprehensive mechanism for its utilization and shared with all Members for soliciting their views.
- As the mechanism of funding and its utilization contribution is finalized through experts or APA Members, it should be placed before the next plenary for final approval.
- Once the financial mechanisms is operationalized and starts working, any subsequent changes required can be made in future.

I hope that together in this meeting, we will chalk out the ways and means to arrive at a consensus and sustainable mechanism for APA budgeting and funding without wasting any further time.

I once again thank the Chair for giving me the opportunity to express views at this august forum.

Thank you!

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А.А.Ремезков, первый заместитель председателя комитета Госдумы России по бюджету и налогам, депутат фракции СПРАВЕДЛИВАЯ РОССИЯ-ЗА ПРАВДУ

Выступление на заседании Комитета по бюджету и планированию
Тегеран, 11.04.2023г.

Хотел выразить благодарность
Парламенту Исламской Республики Иран и секретариату АПА

Уважаемые коллеги!

Достопочтенный председатель!

→ Делегация Федерального Собрания России принимает активное участие в дискуссиях Азиатской парламентской ассамблеи.

Мы искренне признательны секретариату и исполнительному совету АПА за возможность работать на этой уникальной платформе, объединяющей парламентариев 44 стран мира для обмена мнениями, опытом, идеями мирного развития и прогресса.

Здесь, на заседании Комитета по бюджету и планированию, мы, члены Азиатской парламентской ассамблеи отмечаем, что российская сторона не имеет принципиальных возражений по проекту резолюции о планировании бюджета АПА.

Мы выступаем за равномерное и справедливое распределение взносов между всеми государствами, входящими в состав этой международной межпарламентской организации. Мы считаем нецелесообразным введение дополнительной финансовой нагрузки на наиболее «богатые» страны и расчет размера взносов с учетом объема ВВП. Полагаем, что все участники АПА должны вносить равные суммы взносов в обеспечение деятельности нашей организации межпарламентского сотрудничества.

Хотелось бы отметить, что введение обязательных взносов необходимо надлежащим образом оформить, предусмотрев внесение соответствующих изменений во все уставные и процедурные документы АПА.

Спасибо большое за внимание. Надеюсь, что наше сотрудничество и дальше будет плодотворным и эррективным.

Speech of Syria



ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON BUDGET AND PLANNING &
2ND SESSION OF THE APA WORKING GROUP ON STATUTORY DOCUMENTS
TEHRAN - ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN / JULY 2023 9-12



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

السيد الدكتور محمد باقر قاليباف رئيس مجلس الشورى في الجمهورية الإسلامية
السيد الدكتور محمد رضا مجدي الأمين العام للمجموعة البرلمانية
الأسيوية - السيد عادل عسوي رئيس الدفء البرلمانية العربي
السيد علي زاود رئيس المجموعة البرلمانية في المجموعة البرلمانية
الأسيوية لمجلس الشورى الإسلامي في الجمهورية الإسلامية الإيرانية
السيدات والسادة أعضاء الوفود المحترمين - السادة أعضاء الوفود
في البداية أتقدم بخالص التكر والافتخار للقيادة البرلمانية وعلى
رأسها قائد الثورة الإسلامية في الجمهورية الإسلامية الإيرانية
سماحة السيد علي الخامنئي ورئيس الجمهورية الإسلامية الدكتور إبراهيم
رئيس مجلس الشورى الدكتور محمد باقر قاليباف
على الدعوة الكريمة وهذا هفاوة الإستقبال
وسيدني ويسرنني أنه أمل أنا وزملائي بيزوي في إهتفاع اللجنة
الدائمة للميزانية التي تخطط في المجموعة البرلمانية الأسيوية
وأنه أنقل إليكم تحية ومحبة رئيس مجلس الشورى في الجمهورية العربية السورية
السيد حمودة صباغ والذي نتمنى لكم درام النجاح والتقدم ولازدهار
لتصويكم والنجاح لصل اللجنة الدائمة وأنشأ أي تطوير وتحديث
لصل الجمعية كما نؤيد إقرار مشروع الميزانية مع أهل خدمة أهدان
الجمعية السامة ولتحققه جاداً وميثاقاً هذه للوقوف الأسيوية

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وإستقرار الموارد والإقتصادية الهائلة للمقاومة الإسلامية
 والذي يجعلها في مقدمة القوات لما تمتلكه من ثروات ضخمة
 بشرية ومادية تتحكم به الدفاع عن قضايا الشعوب هذا الموقف
 في وجه كل الممارسات الإسلامية ولا سيما تلك من قبل بعض حكومات
 العالم الخارجة على القوانين والأعراف الدولية ممثلة بالهزينة
 العالمية وأثراتها والتي تعمل على إقتلال الشعوب
 وهذا الكفاح من طرزان المقاومة والنضال والصمود. أذعو بحاجته أيضا
 الجمعية للعلم بما لهم وبرلماناتهم وحكوماتهم للموقوف الى جانب الشعب
 العربي السوري ضد الحرب الإرهابية المفروضة عليه من قبل قوى الشر البغيض
 في العالم وكسر الحصار المفروض على شعب سورية بحريه قانونه وقدره الفاعل
 والجائز والذي يخيم القذاري والسرور وهذا الجار عن الشعب والذي يفر
 بالاقترار الرطبي ونيزيد معاناة الشعب وبهمم البنا الحية للدولة
 وانه عودة سورية الى الجباة العربية يجهد الإقوة والاستقاد من العرب
 والصدناء وإقامة العلاقات مع الدول العربية إلا خطوة بإتجاه إنهاء
 معاناة الشعب من القضي وإعادة الأعمار

رسن دفتر الحكومة
 محمد الارسف

السكر لكم جميعا
 دعم ذفر الانسانية
 والسلام عليكم
 11 / 7 / 2023

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Speech of Türkiye

Statement by H.E. Mr. Abdulkadir Emin ÖNEN, Representative of the APA Term President and Head of the Turkish Delegation to the APA, in the Meeting of the Standing Committee of Budget and Planning

Honourable Secretary-General,

Distinguished Chairperson,

Dear Delegates,

As Türkiye, in the light of our “Enterprising and Humanitarian Foreign Policy and “the Asia Anew Initiative”, we strongly believe that establishing an effective and properly working international mechanism for parliamentary diplomacy in Asia should be our primary objective, keeping the need for elaborated, comprehensive and clearly prepared statutory documents in mind.

As I pointed out in my opening remarks, our focus here must be on the institutionalisation of parliamentary diplomacy under the Asian Parliamentary Assembly. To do this, we should take a more constructive attitude and strive to take more robust steps so as to actualise and utilise the potentialities of the APA.

With regard to the payment model, as far as I know, it has been under discussion since at least the meeting of the Ad-hoc Committee on the APA Financial and Staff Regulations held in Phnom Penh, the Kingdom of Cambodia in 2014.

There a specific formula for the payment model, known as Cambodian Model, was prepared and proposed based on the calculation taking into account the APA Member Countries’ population size, just as specified in the APA Charter Article 8, and GDP Per Capita by country. I believe this model is quite convenient and fair for our Member Countries to contribute to the APA budget. Because we have very diverse and different Member Countries in terms of the amount of population, GDP and GDP Per Capita.

This formula is also convenient for the Member Countries with comparatively small population and low level of the GDP Per Capita to contribute to the APA Budget. By adopting this formula, we can encourage them to maintain their motivation and active efforts under this platform. We did propose this model in the APA Bureau Meeting held in Türkiye, in October 2021.

Regarding the amount of the APA Budget, we should be provided with a detailed and updated report by the Secretariat on the expenses and expenditure of the organisation.

Having said all that, we will welcome and support any other proposal in terms of the payment model such as “IPU Model” or “Fixed Model” if the majority here is in favour of it so that we could reach a final decision on the topic. I suppose the pressing need here is to make a decision so as not to get caught in such stalled discussions further.

To conclude, in order to maintain the activities of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly and to best institutionalize this mechanism as a strong platform for inter-parliamentary dialogues in the Asian continent, we believe that we should avoid any further adjournment and deadlock in concluding debates regarding the payment model.

Thank you for your attention.



Draft Resolution on Planning APA Budget

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA/Res/2008/04 and APA/ Res/2014/09 and other relevant APA documents;

Determined to enhance the efficiency and organizational capacity of the APA to achieve its goals and objectives enshrined in its Charter;

Underscoring the importance of participation by all Member Parliaments in sharing the financial needs of the APA and its Secretariat;

Emphasizing the principles of transparency, integrity, accountability, and efficient management of financial resources in APA budgeting and spending;

We therefore,

1. **Request** all APA Member Parliaments to take required measures to secure the necessary funds for the payment of their annual contributions to the APA budget, according to their respective internal budget planning procedures;
2. **Encourage** willing APA Member Parliaments, until their annual contribution is determined, to make voluntary financial contributions over and above their assessed contribution to the APA budget and decisions;
3. **Appreciate** the provision of financial and logistical support to the APA Secretariat by the Islamic Parliament of Iran since 2007, and request the continuation of its generous support pending the full implementation of Financial Regulations and until the regular payments of assessed contributions by all Member Parliaments are made , tentatively for APA budget of 2025;
4. **Acknowledge** the generosity of the APA President and Vice-Presidents in contributing to the APA expenses by hosting activities and meetings based on commitment to the APA Decision on Modalities for Effective Organization of the APA Meetings adopted by the 7th Plenary on 10 December 2013 through supporting APA Secretariat expenses;
5. **Request** the Secretary General to prepare the Draft APA Annual Budget based on the

- (Program & Performance Budget model), that requires programs, projects and expenses estimation based on the Assembly objectives, and on the policies and plans approved by consensus of the standing committee, and then to be presented to the APA Executive Council for final approval by consensus by the Plenary Session.
6. **Request** the APA Secretary General to provide proposals to be considered in the next meeting of the Standing Committee, based on the views expressed by the APA President during the 13th Plenary on Revitalization for the enhancement of organizational capacity and its effectiveness;
 7. **Allocate** the APA Budget through the following three Items:
 - I. Operational and Strategic Budget Item: expenses allocated initially upon the Budget approval and attestation.
 - II. Additional Budget Item: amounts decided to be added to cover APA new projects and programs.
 - III. Emergency Budget Item: which shall be determined by a decision of the APA Executive Council, to cover emergency events or incidents.
 8. The Secretary General is responsible for the implementation of the APA Budget and the management of its assets;
 9. The Secretary General shall specify the principles, objectives & rules for the Budget preparation and present it to the Standing Committee on budget and planning;
 10. **Affirm** that there should be equal payments for assessed contributions by all member parliaments regardless of population, geographical area or GDP. The amount of such contributions will be discussed and decided during the next meeting of APA Executive Council.
 11. **Recommend** to exempt Palestine from the assessed contribution until the end of occupation, and the establishment of its independent state.