



## Executive Council Meeting

Baku, Azerbaijan  
18 February 2025

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## Final Report

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At the invitation of the Milli Majlis of Azerbaijan, the Executive Council (EC) meeting of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) was held on 18 February 2025 in Baku, Azerbaijan, with the participation of the following member countries:

Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Lebanon, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, UAE, and Uzbekistan.

Special guest:

Republic of Belarus

### 1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted unanimously. ([Attachment I](#))

### 2. Election of the Bureau

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

- Chairman : Azerbaijan
- Vice Chair : Jordan

- Rapporteur : Bhutan

### **3. Remarks by Chairperson**

H.E. Mr. Rizvan Nabiyeu, Chairman of the Executive Council and Head of Azerbaijan delegation presented his opening remarks. ([Attachment II](#))

### **4. Report by APA Secretary General**

The Secretary General presented his Report on the APA activities in 2024/2025. ([Attachment III](#))

### **5. Nomination of APA President for 2026-7**

Bahrain and Iran were the candidates for the post of APA Presidency for 2026-7. After cordial consolation, the following arrangements have been agreed among them, through good offices of APA Secretary General and under the chairmanship of the representative of the APA President:

1. Kingdom of Bahrain will hold the position of APA Presidency for 2026.
2. Islamic Republic of Iran will hold the position of APA Presidency for 2027-2028.
3. Iran as the APA vice-president will host the Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development in 2026.

### **6. Nomination of Vice Presidents for 2025**

The nomination of the Kingdom of Bahrain, the State of Qatar, and the Russia Federation were endorsed by the EC for the post of APA vice - Presidency for the year 2025 and recommended to the 15<sup>th</sup> APA Plenary.

**7. Request of Sultanate of Oman for APA full membership** Sultanate of Oman on 12 September 2024 officially requested for APA full membership. The Executive Council unanimously approved the Application of the Sultanate of Oman for full membership and recommended to the 15<sup>th</sup> Plenary. The delegation of Oman expressed its appreciation and offered its

full solidarity and support towards promotion of APA objective.  
([Attachment IV](#))

## **8. Request of the Republic of Belarus for APA observer status**

The Republic of Belarus on 10 October 2024 officially requested for APA observer status. The Executive Council unanimously approved the application of the Republic of Belarus for APA observer status and recommended it to the Plenary. The delegation of Belarus in a cordial statement, appreciated the status being granted to its parliament.  
([Attachment V](#))

## **9. Consideration of Draft Resolutions of Standing Committees on:**

- Social and Cultural Affairs

The Executive Council considered minor amendments and corrected several typographical errors and approved the 13 draft resolutions presented by the Standing Committee and sought the endorsement of the 15<sup>th</sup> Plenary. The draft resolution on the "Commission on Women" has been forwarded to the next meeting of the Standing Committee for further consideration.

- Budget and Planning

The Executive Council considered minor amendments and corrected several typographical errors and approved the draft resolution on Budget & Planning presented by the Standing Committee with equal assessed contributions of 22000 USD and recommended to the 15<sup>th</sup> Plenary.

- Economic and Sustainable Development

The Executive Council Meeting considered minor amendments and corrected several typographical errors and approved the 7 draft resolutions presented by the Standing Committee and sought the endorsement of the 15<sup>th</sup> Plenary.

- Political Affairs

The Executive Council considered minor amendments and corrected several typographical errors and approved 8 draft resolutions presented by the Standing Committee and sought the endorsement of the 15<sup>th</sup> Plenary.

## **10. Report of the Committee on Palestine**

The APA Secretary General presented a brief report to EC and stated that the Executive Council in its meeting in November 2023 in Antalya, Türkiye, decided to establish the “Committee on Palestine” and called-on 14<sup>th</sup> APA Plenary to approve it. The first meeting of the Committee was held on January 10, 2024 in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran. The Second meeting of the Committee was held on the sidelines of the APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs in Baghdad on January 12, 2025. ([Attachment VI](#))

## **11. Report on activities of Working Group on Statutory Documents**

The chairperson of the Executive Committee presented the report of the WG on Statutory Documents. He stated that at the meeting of the APA Working Group on Statutory Documents which was held on December 2024 in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain the proposed amendments to the Article 8 of the APA Charter were considered and adopted. Subsequently, at the WG meeting in January 2025 in Baghdad the proposed amendments to the Article 5 of the APA Charter and Rule 15 and Rule 34.1 of the APA Rules of Procedure were considered and adopted. The adopted texts of the reviewed Articles 5 and 8 and Rule 15 and 34.1 of the Rules of Procedure by WG, were presented by the APA Secretariat to the meeting. The EC considered and adopted the proposed text and recommended it to the 15<sup>th</sup> Plenary for the final approval.

By adoption of these amendments to the APA Charter and Rules of procedure, the Working Group on Statutory Documents has fulfilled its mandate. ([Attachment VII](#))

## **12. Report on the Bureau Sessions**

The representative of the Secretariat presented the Report. He stated that during the year 2024/2025, the APA Bureau had four sessions on the sidelines of the Standing Committee meetings in Moscow, Doha, Manama, and Baghdad. The reports of Bureau meetings were presented by APA Secretariat to the Executive Council for its consideration and approval. The EC approved the Reports of the Bureau. ([Attachment VIII](#))

## **13. Draft Agenda of 15th APA Plenary**

The Executive Council considered and adopt the draft Agenda of the 15<sup>th</sup> APA Plenary. ([Attachment IX](#))

## **14. Any other matters**

No issue was raised.

## Attachment I

# Asian Parliamentary Assembly

## The 15<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session

## Executive Council Meeting



Baku, Azerbaijan  
18 February 2025



## Agenda

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Election of the Bureau
3. Remarks by Chairperson
4. Report by APA Secretary General
5. Nomination of APA President for 2026-7
6. Nomination of Vice Presidents for 2025
7. Request of Sultanate of Oman for APA full membership
8. Request of the Republic of Belarus for APA observer status
9. Consideration of Draft Resolutions of Standing Committees on:
  - Social and Cultural Affairs
  - Budget and Planning
  - Economic and Sustainable Development
  - Political Affairs
10. Report on the Committee on Palestine
11. Report on activities of Working Group on Statutory Documents
12. Report on the Bureau Sessions
13. Draft Agenda of 15th APA Plenary
14. Any other matters

## Attachment II

**Speech by Dr. Rizvan Nabiyeu,  
Representative of the APA Term President and Head of the delegation  
of Azerbaijan to the APA,  
APA Executive Council Meeting,  
Baku, Azerbaijan, 18 February 2025**

**Honorable colleagues,**

**Distinguished Secretary General, Dr. Majidi,**

**Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Azerbaijan is considered the homeland of parliamentary democracy in the Muslim East. 107 years ago, in May 1918, the first parliamentary republic in the Muslim East, Democratic Republic of Azerbaijan was founded. Although this parliamentary republic existed for only two years due to Bolshevik-Soviet occupation, it made a significant contribution to the formation of parliamentary state tradition. The present-day Republic of Azerbaijan, which declared its independence in 1991, is the successor to the Democratic Republic of Azerbaijan.

In September of the last year, extraordinary parliamentary elections were held in our country. The importance of these elections lies in the fact that, for the first time, they were conducted across all sovereign territories of Azerbaijan after ending the occupation of these territories.

Following this grand tradition, I would like to express my gratitude to all of you for accepting the kind invitation extended by Her Excellency Professor Sahiba GAFAROVA, Speaker of the Milli Majlis of Azerbaijan and the APA Secretary General, Dr. Majidi, to participate in the Executive Council Meeting.

As the Representative of the Term President of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly and the Head of Delegation, it is really a great pleasure for me to welcome more than 250 representatives from 26 countries and 7 organizations in Azerbaijan on the Executive Council Meeting and the 15th Plenary Session of the APA.

Dear colleagues,

Today's global challenges require parliamentary diplomacy to promote multilateralism as the cornerstone of international politics. Parliamentary institutions create fresh avenues for communication and cooperation. As a result, parliamentary assemblies have become one of key actors in addressing challenges on global and regional scales.

In this context, Azerbaijan views the Asian Parliamentary Assembly as a unique platform for promoting Asian solidarity and cooperation across various fields. The APA offers a distinct opportunity to amplify our voices in the complex landscape of international relations. At present, the Asian Parliamentary Assembly unites 43 states. I would like to note with great satisfaction that the ranks of our organization are expanding. In today's meeting, we will discuss the full membership of the Sultanate of Oman and the observer status of the Republic of Belarus within the APA, with a view to final approval by the Plenary.

Our goal is to strengthen the organizational capacities of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, which can also play a vital role in shaping a unified stance on major international issues of the mutual interests. It is no coincidence that, in our Executive Council Meeting, we will consider a total of 29 resolutions covering a broad range of issues.

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

thanks to its favorable geographical location between Europe and Asia and modern infrastructure, Azerbaijan has become one of the most important transport and logistics hubs in Eurasia. The North-South, East-West, Middle transport corridors pass through our territory. We hope that with the opening of the Zangazur corridor, which connects the western regions of Azerbaijan with its Nakhchivan enclave, all economic and transport links in the region will be restored. The Zangazur Corridor, as part of the East-West, Middle Transport Corridor, will contribute also to the strengthening of trade and economic relations between Asian and European countries.

As multipolarity rises and multilateralism faces new challenges, Asia must respond with cooperation, and shared responsibility. In this context, I would



like to highlight the activities of Azerbaijan in organizations comprising also Asian countries, such as the Non-Aligned Movement, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, D-8 -Developing Eight Organization for Economic Cooperation, CICA - Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia, the Organization of Turkic States.

Today's urgent challenges, such as humanitarian crises, conflicts, climate change are negatively affecting the broader Asian region.

As you know, Azerbaijan successfully hosted UN Climate Conference-COP29 in November last year by launching 14 initiatives. President Ilham Aliyev described COP29 as a pivotal moment in climate diplomacy and hailed the “Baku Breakthrough” as a triumph of multilateralism.

A parliamentary meeting as part of COP29 co-hosted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Milli Majlis of Azerbaijan has contributed to our joint efforts in parliamentary diplomacy to combat the adverse effects of climate change.

COP29 made history not only for its outcomes, but also for the COP29 Truce Initiative, inspired by the Olympic Truce.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

We are concerned about the situation in the Middle East and therefore we support efforts to reduce tensions region and find a political solution, both in Gaza and in Lebanon. As has been repeatedly stated at various international forums, Azerbaijan supports a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in line with international law and relevant UN resolutions: the establishment of an independent Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its capital. Azerbaijan also supports the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Syria. Azerbaijan's experience in restoration and reconstruction, gained after liberating its territories from occupation, could be utilized in Syria's recovery process.

## **Honorable Colleagues,**

In this context, the end of the 30-year-long armed conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan has created a significantly new political situation in the South Caucasus and beyond its borders, grounded in international law. Azerbaijan has successfully restored its sovereignty and territorial integrity, exercising its right to self-defense as outlined in Article 51 of the UN Charter, and in accordance with the four UN Security Council Resolutions of 1993.

For the first time since decades, stability has been achieved on the ground, and de facto peace has been established.

The President of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev, took the initiative to propose a peace treaty and normalize relations with Armenia. Over the past years, a certain significant progress towards peace has been achieved through direct bilateral negotiations. A commission for border delimitation between two countries has been established and is currently continuing its work.

However, full normalization can only be achieved if Armenia undertakes constitutional changes and renounces its territorial claims against Azerbaijan. A sharp increase in military spending and the acquisition of offensive weapons by Armenia is hindering progress toward normalization.

## **Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I am about to conclude my remarks.

Azerbaijan is working to overcome the consequences of the three-decade military occupation of its territories by Armenia.

The formerly occupied territories of Azerbaijan, 7 cities and more than 300 villages have suffered unprecedented destruction. The city of Aghdam, left in ruins, is tragically called the "Hiroshima of the Caucasus." The cultural

heritage, including almost all the Mosques were destroyed or desecrated. It is also crucial to address the fate of around 4,000 Azerbaijanis who went missing during the First Karabakh War in the early 1990s.

Despite these challenges, Azerbaijan has been undertaking extensive post-conflict reconstruction efforts in the liberated territories to facilitate the “Great Return” of 700,000 internally displaced persons from Karabakh and surrounding regions.

Meanwhile, around 300,000 Azerbaijani refugees from Armenia — distinct from internally displaced persons from Karabakh — also remain displaced from their ancestral homes. These Azerbaijani refugees were forcibly expelled from Armenia in the late 1980s and subjected to ethnic cleansing. Despite repeated appeals by the Western Azerbaijani Community, which represents the Azerbaijani refugees from Armenia, to engage in a dialogue about their safe and dignified return, the Armenian government denies them the fundamental right of return. This right is enshrined in various international human rights instruments and should be implemented for the sake of peace and stability and historic justice.

Dear ladies and gentlemen,

We will continue to support efforts to achieve a just, lasting, and peaceful resolution to all outstanding issues in the greater Asian region in accordance with the fundamental norms and principles of international law.

Thank you very much.

## Attachment III



### **Asian Parliamentary Assembly**

#### **The Executive Council Meeting**

**18 February 2025**

**Baku, Azerbaijan**

#### **Report by the APA Secretary General**

**Mr. Chairman,**

**Distinguished Delegates,**

**Dear colleagues,**

It is a great honor for me, as Secretary General, to address the APA Executive Council Meeting and present my report on the latest APA activities and the outcomes of the APA Standing Committees.

Before starting my report, let me congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, and the Milli Majlis of Azerbaijan for presiding over this important meeting. I am confident that, we will accomplish the objectives set for this meeting under your prudent and tactful leadership. Allow me once again to take this opportunity to express, on behalf of my colleagues in the APA Permanent Secretariat and myself, our deepest appreciation to the state officials and the Milli Majlis of Azerbaijan, for their gracious hospitality and excellent organization of the meeting in the magnificent city of Baku.

**Mr. Chairman,**

**Distinguished Delegates,**

Following successful holding of the 14<sup>th</sup> APA Plenary in Baku in February 2024 I am glad to report that, under the leadership of the APA President and the capable management of the APA Vice-Presidents and the Chairs-of the four Standing Committees, we were able to successfully hold the four Standing Committee meetings according to the schedule for the year 2024/2025.

### **Standing Committee Meetings:**

- The meeting of the Standing Committee on **Social and Cultural Affairs**, hosted by the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, was held on 25-28 September 2024 in Moscow. Sixteen parliamentary delegations from member countries participated in this meeting. H.E. Boris Chernyshov, deputy chairman of the State Duma, chaired the meeting, and during the course of two sessions, *13 draft resolutions* were updated and adopted by consensus. A new draft resolution on “*Asian Parliamentarians in Support of a More Just Multipolar World Order Reflecting Its Cultural and Civilizational Diversity*” was introduced as new draft resolution by the Russian delegation and adopted by consensus. The draft resolution on the “*Commission on Women*” was thoroughly debated at this session of the Committee and deferred to the next meeting for further debate. Under the item of “*Situation of Women Parliamentarians in Asia*,” the Deputy Chair of the Federation Council Committee on Science, Education, and Culture of Russian Federation, reported on the results of the IV Eurasian Women’s Forum in St. Petersburg, Russia (18-20 September 2024). The Chair of the State Duma Committee on Family Protection also presented her statement on the defense of traditional values.

- The second event was the meeting of the Standing Committee on **Budget and Planning**, which was held on 4-7 November 2024 in Doha, at the invitation of the Shura Council of the State of Qatar, and chaired by H.E. Mr. Ahmad bin Hitmi AL-Hitmi in the capacity of APA Vice-President. Parliamentary delegations from 15 member countries participated in this meeting. The *draft resolution on Budget & Planning* was extensively debated with all proposed amendments and adopted by consensus. The meeting finally agreed on an equal amount of 22,000 USD as annual contribution. It was emphasized that the sum of 22,000 USD is a fair amount with no pressure on any member country, and voluntary contributions by certain wealthier members can also be taken into consideration.

- The meeting of the Standing Committee on **Economic and Sustainable Development**, as the third Standing Committee meeting, was held on 8-9 December 2024 in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain. The meeting was hosted by the Council of Representatives of the Kingdom of Bahrain and chaired by H.E. Mr. Ahmad Alsloom in his capacity as APA Vice-President. Parliamentary delegations from 18 member countries participated in this meeting and presented

their remarks on regional and global developments, as well as on the content of draft resolutions. There were 7 *draft resolutions* on the agenda of the meeting. These draft resolutions were considered and adopted after incorporating several amendments.

- Finally, at the invitation of the Iraqi Council of Representatives, the Standing Committee on **Political Affairs** was held on 11-12 January 2025 in Baghdad, Republic of Iraq, as the last Standing Committee meeting. Fourteen parliamentary delegations from APA member countries participated in this meeting, and H.E. Mr. Al-Kinani, head of the Iraqi delegation, presided over the meeting. The Standing Committee had before it 8 *draft resolutions* for consideration. After interactive discussions on proposed amendments to the draft resolutions, the meeting adopted all draft resolutions. Under the agenda item “General Debate,” *many delegations addressed the unfolding disastrous situation in the Gaza Strip, expressing their full support for and solidarity with the Palestinian people.*

**Mr. Chairman,**

**Distinguished Delegates,**

In addition to the Standing Committee meetings during the year 2024-2025, the APA had four more major events:

### **1. Committee on Palestine**

The APA Executive Council, in its meeting in November 2023 in Antalya, Türkiye, decided to establish the “*Committee on Palestine*” and called on the 14<sup>th</sup> APA Plenary to approve it. The first meeting of the Committee was held on January 10, 2024, in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran. The “*Final Communiqué on the Current Situation in Palestine*” was considered and adopted by consensus at this meeting. The second meeting of this Committee was held on the sidelines of the APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs in Baghdad on January 12, 2025. The meeting was opened by the Chair of the Committee, H.E. Ali Faysal, head of the delegation of Palestine, and participants made their remarks on the catastrophic situation of the Palestinian people in Gaza, expressing hope that a lasting and sustained ceasefire would be established in the region. The draft resolution on “*Asian Parliament’s Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People*” was considered and adopted at this meeting.

### **2. Working Group on Statutory Documents**

The APA Bureau, at its meeting in September 2024 in Moscow, decided that the WG would hold meetings in parallel with Standing Committee meetings. The first meeting of the WG took place on December 8, 2024, on the sidelines of the

Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain. The meeting was chaired by the Council of Representatives of the Kingdom of Bahrain and considered and agreed on proposed amendments to Articles 8 of the APA Charter. The issue of equal payment and equal voting rights was addressed and agreed upon by all participants.

The second meeting of the WG was held on January 11, 2025, on the sidelines of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs in Baghdad, Republic of Iraq. The WG, chaired by the Council of Representatives of Iraq, reviewed Article 5 of the Charter as well as Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure. It was agreed that there should only be four Standing Committees and that any other issues should be considered within the scope of sub-committees.

### **3. Bureau Meetings**

During the year 2024-2025, the APA Bureau, composed of the APA President, the four Vice-Presidents, and the APA Secretary General, had four sessions on the sidelines of the Standing Committee meetings in Moscow, Doha, Manama, and Baghdad. At these meetings, a wide range of issues related to APA activities were discussed, and several important decisions were made to facilitate the implementation of the APA annual program of work.

### **4. APA Coordination Meeting on the Sidelines of the IPU Assembly**

As you are aware, the APA Coordination Meeting on the sidelines of the IPU Assemblies has been held since 2009 as a usual practice mandated under the APA Resolution adopted on November 2008. The resolution calls on the APA Secretariat to do its best to benefit from the IPU potential as a big parliamentary platform in favor of strengthening parliamentary diplomacy and as part of the initiative to deepen cooperation and coordination on important international issues of common interest. During the year 2024, the Coordination Meeting of the APA was held on the sidelines of the 148<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly in March and the 149<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly on October in Geneva, Switzerland, with participation of good number of lawmakers representing APA member parliaments. These two events were chaired by the Republic of Azerbaijan in its capacity as APA President.

**Mr. Chairman,**

**Distinguished Delegates,**

**Dear colleagues,**

One key task of the Executive Council Meetings is **endorsing nomination of the new APA President**. Additionally, we must finalize nominations for APA Vice-Presidents to chair the four Standing Committees in 2025. I expect that, in the course of this Executive Committee meeting, we will be able to fulfill our obligation to finalize candidacies for the Presidency of 2026-2027 and the chairmanship of the four Standing Committees for 2025.

At this meeting of the Executive Council, we are pleased to address the **Application of the Sultanate of Oman full membership and the Republic of Belarus for Observer Status**. I warmly welcome them both and I am confident of their full support from APA member parliaments.

Before concluding, I once again express my heartfelt thanks to H.E. Ms. Sahiba GAFAROVA, Speaker of the Milli Majlis of Azerbaijan, and H.E. Mr. Rizvan Nabiyeu, Representative of the APA President, and head of Azerbaijan delegation for their exemplary leadership as APA President.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.



## Attachment IV

Sultanate of Oman  
Majles A'shura  
Chairman Office  
Muscat



سُلْطَنَةُ عُومَانِ  
مَجْلِسُ الشُّورَى  
مَكْتَبُ الرَّئِيسِ  
مَسْفُط

التاريخ: ٨ ربيع الأول ١٤٤٦ هـ  
الوافق: ٢٢ سبتمبر ٢٠٢٤ م

التصنيف: سرّي  
الرقم: ٢٠٢٤ / ٢٠٧٦ / ١

معالي البروفيسورة/ د. صاحبة غافاروف  
رئيسة الجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته... وبعد،،،

### الموضوع: طلب الانضمام إلى عضوية الجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية

بالإشارة إلى المادة (٤) من ميثاق الجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية والقاعدة (٢) من النظام الداخلي لها، المتعلقة بالانضمام لعضوية الجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية.

في البداية، لا يسعنا إلا أن نتوجه إلى معاليكم وإلى سعادة/ د. محمد رضا مجيدي، الأمين العام للجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية بأسمى عبارات الشكر والتقدير على كافة الجهود المبذولة خلال فترة متابعتنا لأعمال الجمعية بصفة مراقب، وعلى ما تحقق من إنجازات ملموسة، حيث تساهم الجمعية في تعزيز العلاقات بين البرلمانات والمجالس التشريعية للدول الآسيوية على كافة الأصعدة.

من هذا المنطلق، وإيماناً منا بأهمية الدور الذي تؤديه الجمعية ورغبة من مجلس الشورى بسلطنة عمان في المساهمة الفاعلة في أنشطة الجمعية وعملها، نتقدم إلى معاليكم بطلب الانضمام لعضوية الجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية، مؤكداً لكم حرصنا على تعزيز العلاقات بين مجلس الشورى والجمعية وأعضائها، خدمة للمصالح المشتركة لبلدان الدول الآسيوية.

وتفضلوا معاليكم بقبول فائق الاحترام والتقدير،،،

خالد بن هلال بن ناصر المعولي  
رئيس مجلس الشورى  
سلطنة عُمان



ص.ب. ٩٨١ - الرمز البريدي: ١١١ - سلطنة عُمان - هاتف: ٢٤٨٥٥١١١ - فاكس: ٢٤٨٥٥١٥٥ - البريد الإلكتروني: chairmanship@shura.om  
P.O. Box 981, C.P.O. 111, Sultanate of Oman - Tel.: 24855111 - Fax: 24855455 - E-mail: chairmanship@shura.om

Sultanate of Oman  
Majles A'shura  
Chairman Office  
Muscat



سلطنة عُمان  
مجلس الشورى  
مكتب الرئيس  
مسقط

Unofficial Translation

**Prof. Dr. Sahiba GAFAROVA**  
**President of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA)**

**Your Excellency,**

**Subject: Application for Membership in the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA)**

With reference to Article (4) of the Charter of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly and Rule (2) of its Rules of Procedure, which outline the mechanism for membership in the Asian Parliamentary Assembly.

At the outset, we extend our deepest gratitude and appreciation to Your Excellency and H.E. Dr. Mohammad Reza Majidi Secretary General of the Assembly for all the efforts exerted during our participation as an observer, and for the tangible achievements realized. The Assembly has been playing a significant role in strengthening relations among the parliaments and legislative councils of Asian countries at all levels.

In view of this, and out of our belief in the vital role played by the Assembly, coupled with the Shura Council of Sultanate of Oman desire to contribute actively to its work, we hereby submit to Your Excellency our request for membership in the Asian Parliamentary Assembly. We reaffirm commitment to enhancing relations between the Shura Council and the Assembly, along with its members, in the service of the common interests of the Asian countries.

**Please accept, Your Excellency, the Assurances of our utmost consideration,**

**Khalid bin Hilal Al Maawali**  
**Chairman of Majlis A'Shura**  
**Sultanate of Oman**

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ص.ب ٩٨١ - الرمز البريدي ١١١ - سلطنة عُمان - هاتف : ٢٤٨٥٥١١١ - فاكس : ٢٤٨٥٥٤٥٥ - البريد الإلكتروني : [chairmanship@shura.om](mailto:chairmanship@shura.om)  
P.O. Box 981, C.P.O. 111, Sultanate of Oman - Tel.: 24855111 - Fax : 24855455 - E-mail : [chairmanship@shura.om](mailto:chairmanship@shura.om)

## Attachment V

СТАРШЫНЯ  
САВЕТА РЭСПУБЛІКІ  
НАЦЫЯНАЛЬНАГА СХОДУ  
РЭСПУБЛІКІ БЕЛАРУСЬ



ПРЕДСЕДАТЕЛЬ  
СОВЕТА РЕСПУБЛИКИ  
НАЦИОНАЛЬНОГО СОБРАНИЯ  
РЕСПУБЛИКИ БЕЛАРУСЬ

Минск, 28 февраля 2025 года

Ваше Превосходительство,

Признательна Вам за поздравление в связи с предоставлением Национальному собранию Республики Беларусь статуса наблюдателя в Азиатской парламентской ассамблее (АПА).

Парламент Беларуси приложит все усилия, чтобы совместно с партнерами по АПА содействовать укреплению межпарламентского диалога и развитию конструктивных и взаимоуважительных отношений между государствами.

Примите, Ваше Превосходительство, уверения в моем самом высоком к Вам уважении.

Наталья Кочанова

Его Превосходительству  
господину Мохаммаду Резе Маджиди,  
Генеральному секретарю  
Азиатской парламентской ассамблеи  
Тегеран

Unofficial translation

**CHAIRPERSON  
COUNCIL OF THE REPUBLIC  
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS**

Minsk, February 28, 2025

Excellency,

I do appreciate your congratulations on granting the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus the Observer status in the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA).

The Parliament of Belarus will make every effort to contribute jointly with its APA partners to the strengthening of inter-parliamentary dialogue and development of constructive and mutually respectful relations between States.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Natallia Kochanova

His Excellency  
Mr. Mohammad Reza Majidi,  
Secretary General  
of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly  
Tehran

## Attachment VI



### **Asian Parliamentary Assembly**

#### **Executive Council Meeting**

Baku, Azerbaijan

18 February 2025

#### **Report on the Committee on Palestine**

The APA Executive Council in its meeting in November 2023 in Antalya, Türkiye, decided to establish the “Committee on Palestine” and 14<sup>th</sup> APA Plenary to approve it. The first meeting of the Committee was held on January 10, 2024 in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran. Parliamentary delegations from 17 member countries participated in the meeting.

The main topics underlined in the statements of the majority of the countries was the condemnation of the Israeli regime’s aggression against the Palestinian people resulting in massacre of thousand civilians among them several thousand women and children, war crimes, Genocide, and crimes against humanity against the Gaza Strip. They also expressing concerns that the flames of evil actions of the Israeli regime will go beyond the borders of the occupied territories and the entire West Asian region faces a very serious challenge with dangerous consequences for world peace and security. The "Final Communique on the Current Situation in Palestine" was adopted by unanimity at this meeting.

The Second meeting of the Committee was held on the sidelines of the APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs in Baghdad on January 12, 2024. This meeting was opened by the Chair, H.E Mr. Ali Faysal, Head of Delegation of Palestine, who welcomed the participants and

asked them to observe one minute silence in memory of the martyrdom of the Palestinian People. The APA Secretary General also made an address on the tragic and painful situation of the people of Gaza and Lebanon. Participants also made their remarks on the catastrophic situation of the Palestinian people in Gaza and expressed that a lasting and sustained ceasefire would be established in the region. The draft resolution on “Asian Parliament’s unwavering support for Palestinian People” was extensively addressed and adopted by participants.

## Attachment VII



### **Asian Parliamentary Assembly**

### **Executive Council Meeting 18 February 2028 Baku-Republic of Azerbaijan**

### **Report on: APA Working Group on Statutory Documents**

To accelerate the reform process, the APA Executive Council decided to establish a working group on Statutory documents in October 2019 in Rize, Türkiye.

As an initial step, parliament of Kuwait invited WG members in February 2020 to hold the first session of the WG. Unfortunately, the planned meeting in Kuwait was canceled due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Two years later, in October 2021, the First Session of the WG was convened in Ürgüp, Türkiye. During the First Session, the participants could only address amendments of 5 Articles of the APA Charter.

It took nearly two years, from October 2021 to July 2023, for the Secretariat and the APA's term presidency to arrange the Second Session of the WG in July 2023 in Tehran.

Finally in an attempt to maintain momentum, the APA Bureau, at its meeting in September 2024 in Moscow, decided to hold WG sessions alongside the Standing Committee meetings.

Under the new approach, the first meeting of the WG took place on December 8, 2024, on the sidelines of the Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development in Manama. The meeting considered and agreed on proposed amendments to Articles 8 of the APA Charter.

The second meeting of such WG was held on January 11, 2025, on the sidelines of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs in Baghdad. The WG reviewed Article 5 of the Charter as well as Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure.

The Executive Council is to consider the revised texts of Articles 5 and 8 of the Charter and Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure as proposed by the WG.

Once the 15<sup>th</sup> Plenary approves the final texts, the mandate of the WG on Statutory Documents will be exhausted.



# Asian Parliamentary Assembly



## The 15<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session

Baku, Azerbaijan  
17-21 February 2025



## Amendments to the APA Charter

### Article 8: Number of Votes

In the Plenary, each member parliament shall have one vote and has two delegates plus additional delegates determined as follows:

- Countries with population between 1 million up to 50 million will have two additional delegates,
- Countries with population between 50 and 200 million will have three additional delegates,
- Countries with population between 200 and 500 million will have four additional delegates, and
- Countries with population over 500 million will have five additional delegates,

### Article 5: Basic Organs and Structures:

#### A: Basic APA Organs:

The APA shall be composed of the Plenary, the Executive Council, the Bureau of Assembly, the Standing Committees and the Secretariat.

Activities of the APA Organs and establishment of subsidiary bodies shall be regulated by the APA Rules of Procedure.

#### B: Organizational Structure of the APA:

The organization of the hierarchy structure shall be arranged in a democratic manner indicating clearly the specific composition, function, powers and Rules of Procedure to reach balance, harmony and effectiveness of the APA work, as an institution, all, shall be subject to the approval of the Plenary.

# Asian Parliamentary Assembly



## The 15<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session

Baku, Azerbaijan  
17-21 February 2025



## Amendments to the APA Rules of Procedure

### **IV: Standing Committees and Sub-Committees:**

#### **Rule 15:**

1. The Plenary may set up Standing Committees and Sub-Committees as it deems necessary to deal with any subject of interest and to examine the issues on its agenda. These bodies shall submit as appropriate their draft resolutions, reports and recommendations to the Plenary for its consideration and decision.
2. The APA shall have four Standing Committees on: Political Affairs, Economic and Sustainable Development, Social and Cultural Affairs, Budget and Planning. Decisions of the Standing Committees shall be taken by consensus. Any other issues of interest are to be considered within the scope of sub-committees under direct supervision of the relevant Standing Committee
3. Upon suggestion of the Bureau or at least ten Member Parliaments, establishment of Sub-Committees, shall be put on the agenda of the Executive Council for its approval. The recommendation of the Executive Council on this issue shall be approved by the majority votes of the delegates present and voting in the Plenary.

#### **Rule 34:**

Each member parliament shall have one vote.

## Attachment VIII



### Executive Council Meeting

18 February 2025 – Baku

### **Report of APA Bureau meetings**

During the past few years as we proceeded to tackle our efforts for addressing the important topics of interests to all the APA members, it was strongly felt that there was an urgent need for a higher supervisory mechanism ever than before in order be able to streamline our decision-making process within the APA hierarchical structure.

There were issues and topics that by nature needed certain coordination or recommendation beforehand in order to be able to streamline the concerned activities, but could not be place in the Agenda of Standing Committees or that of other basic organs of APA.

In the course of its consultations, the APA Secretariat came up with this common understanding to benefit from the capacity of the Bureau Meetings. To this end, the first meeting of APA Bureau was held on the sidelines of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs in Moscow, Russian Federation with participation of Heads of delegations of Azerbaijan (as Representative of the APA President), Bahrain, Iraq, and Russian Federation in their capacity as APA Vice-Presidents as well as Secretary General.

Since then, APA Bureau has succeeded to hold 4 meetings on the sidelines of Committee Meetings and exchanged views on several valuable information and decisions of significance for smooth

operation and acceleration of the APA activities. Reports of the four Bureau meetings are hereto attached for your consideration.

# Attachment IX

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## Asian Parliamentary Assembly



### The 15<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session

Baku, Azerbaijan  
19-20 February 2025



### Draft Agenda

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Election of the Bureau
3. Remarks by APA President, H.E. Speaker of Milli Majlis of Azerbaijan
4. Report of the Chairperson of the Executive Council
5. Report of the Secretary General on the work of the Organization
6. Adoption of the full membership of the Sultanate of Oman
7. Adoption of the Observer status of Republic of Belarus
8. General Debate: Statements by Head of Delegations on *"Role of Parliamentary Diplomacy in Strengthening Multilateral Cooperation in Asia"*
9. Meeting of the Standing Committees
10. Meeting of the Drafting Committee on Baku Declaration
11. Presentation and adoption of Reports of:
  - Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs
  - Standing Committee on Budget and Planning
  - Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development
  - Standing Committee on Political Affairs
12. Approval of the APA Vice- Presidents for 2025

13. Nomination of APA President for 2026-7
14. Adoption of the amendments to the APA Charter and Rule of Procedure recommended by the Executive Council
15. Any other matter