



APA Coordinating Meeting on the Sidelines of 151st IPU Assembly

Geneva-Switzerland
Sunday, October 19, 2025

Summary Report

At the invitation of the APA Secretariat, the Coordination Meeting of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) was convened on Sunday, October 19, 2025, in Geneva, Switzerland, on the sidelines of the 151st the Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly. The meeting brought together delegations from the following APA member parliaments:

Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Cambodia, Cypress, India, Iran, Jordan, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Turkiye, Thailand, Turkiye, United Arab Emirate and Yemen

Chaired by Prof. Dr. Sahiba Ghafarova, the Speaker of the Milli Majles of the Republic of Azerbaijan in her capacity as the APA President, the meeting provided an opportunity for the participating delegations to exchange views on issues of common interest and discuss ways to further strengthen cooperation among APA member parliaments.

1. Adoption of Draft Agenda:

The Chair presented the draft agenda of the APA Coordinating Meeting which was adopted by acclamation. Items of the Agenda included as follows:

Agenda of the Meeting

1. Adoption of Agenda,
2. Opening Remarks by the Chair of Meeting, H.E Prof., Dr. Sahiba Gafarova, honorable Speaker of the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan in her capacity as the APA President,
3. Report by H.E Dr. Mohammad Reza Majidi, the APA Secretary General on the activities of the APA Secretariat and future programs of the Organization.
4. General debate for adoption of unified position concerning Consideration the requests for inclusion of an emergency Item in the agenda of the 151st IPU Assembly,
5. Any other matters,

2. Opening Remarks by the Chair of the APA Coordinating Meeting:

Her Excellency, Prof. Dr. Sahiba Gafarova, Speaker of the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan welcomed the participants for attending the meeting. She then referred to the importance of this meeting and emphasized the vital role of such meetings in expanding cooperation and coordination on key international issues of shared interest.

Dr. Ghafarova noted that the APA coordinating meetings provide an excellent platform to fully utilize the APA's significant potential for discussing and exchanging views on pressing global matters, which is particularly crucial in these sensitive times.

In another part of her remarks, she underlined that next year will mark the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, which over the years has evolved into an important platform for interparliamentary cooperation, constructive dialogue, and solidarity.

Referring to the importance of parliamentary cooperation, she added” the Asian Parliamentary Assembly brings together the parliaments of its member countries under one umbrella, amplifies their collective voice, and contributes to achieving common goals”.

Briefing the participants about the activities carried out since Azerbaijan assumed the chairmanship of the organization in 2024, Dr. Sahiba Gafarova noted that efforts have been made to strengthen cooperation and dialogue within the Assembly.

“Azerbaijan has identified several priorities aimed at enhancing joint work — including the development of the APA's institutional capacity, the expansion of its membership, and the improvement of the efficiency of its existing bodies”. She remarked

During this period, she stated that the organization's membership has expanded and several parliaments affiliated to our organization. Among them, the Majlis A'Shura of the Sultanate of Oman which became a full member of the APA, while the Council of the Republic of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus obtained observer status. The number of international organizations granted observer status also increased, with the Association of Secretaries-General of Arab Parliaments joining as an observer.”

Azerbaijan Parliament Speaker also noted that, during Azerbaijan's Presidency, a consensus was reached on forming the APA's budget — an important step toward further strengthening and building the capacity of the Organization.

Highlighting the scale of the global challenges faced today, Sahiba Gafarova stated that these issues cannot be resolved without collective action and joint efforts — as once again demonstrated by the recent ceasefire agreement reached on Gaza.

Dr. Ghafarova concluded by expressing hope that all stages of the agreement would be properly implemented and that the outcomes of the Middle East Peace Summit would contribute to achieving a just and lasting peace in the region.

Attachment I

3. APA SG's Report on the activities of the APA Secretariat:

APA Secretary General, Dr. Majidi began his report with some words of thanks to the APA delegates of APA Member Countries who honored the APA Secretariat and attended the meeting.

Dr. Majidi, then, expressed his appreciation for the keen interest as a sign of full support to the initiative of the APA founders in the early days of its establishment nearly 20 years ago for adoption of the resolution mandating the APA Secretariat to regularly hold meetings on the sidelines of the two IPU Assemblies in order to discuss and coordinate positions of APA Member Parliaments on major international issues of importance to APA.

He underlined that this resolution which was adopted by the APA Plenary dated November 29, 2008, serves as the backbone of the efforts intended to pave an appropriate ground for the promotion of multilateral parliamentary cooperation in close collaboration with IPU, the global organization of national parliaments.

APA Secretary General continued expressing his heartfelt gratitude to Her Excellency Dr. Sahiba Ghafarova, honorable Speaker of the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan in her capacity as the APA President for her unreserved support to advance the programs of the APA through close cooperation with the APA Secretariat during the past two years since she took over the APA Presidency.

During this period, he said, APA could successfully implement its regular programs under the sagacious and wise leadership of Dr. Ghafarova, followed by her tactful chairing of the 14th and 15th APA Plenaries in Baku and generous hospitality of the Milli Majlis with successful outcomes.

Dr. Majidi, then, touched on the recent developments in the Middle East and said” the issue of Palestine has been a key agenda item of various regional and international meetings, with no exception to the Asian Parliamentary Assembly since its establishment in 2006.

He also underlined that any peace initiative must adhere to the principles of international law and ensure that the future of Palestine is determined by the Palestinian people themselves, free from external imposition or coercion aimed at controlling their destiny. The Palestinian right to self-determination is non-negotiable, and the Israeli occupation must cease immediately, completely, and unconditionally, accompanied by appropriate reparations to the Palestinian people.

In another part of his remarks, APA Secretary General referred to the regular calendar of event since last Coordinating Meeting held in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan alongside 150th IPU Assembly. He said “the four Standing Committees are holding their meetings under the scheduled programs preceding to the 16th APA Plenary which will be held and hosted under the presidency of the Kingdom of Bahrain in Manama late February.

Finally, he stated that convening of the Bureau Sessions on the margin of Standing Committee Meetings was a set of admirable approach started in the year 2024. “Accordingly, this initiative helped to further benefit from the potential capacity of the Standing Committee Meetings as part of the strategy to speed up implementation of the APA programs,” he concluded

[Attachment II](#)

Following delivery of report by the APA Secretary General, the Chair gave the floor to the Speaker of the Council of Representatives of the Kingdom of Bahrain, H.E. Mr. **Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam**, in his capacity as the APA Vice-President to address the meeting.

In his brief remarks, the Speaker of Bahrain Council of Representatives highlighted the meeting's aim to enhance Asian parliamentary cooperation and expressed appreciation for Bahrain's parliamentary group being entrusted with the APA Presidency for 2026.

He commended Professor Dr. Sahiba Gafarova, Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Azerbaijan, for her significant contributions during her presidency, enhancing Asian parliamentary cooperation and the Assembly's role in international parliamentary forums.

H.E. Al Musallam underlined that Bahrain's parliamentary group would continue advancing the Assembly's role by opening broad cooperation and coordination for the benefit of the Asian countries and peoples during the presidency of the APA in the coming year.

Finally, he appreciated the commitment of parliaments and legislative councils lending their support for Asian parliamentary cooperation and achieving the desired aspirations and goals.

Attachment III

Following the address presented by H.E. Mr. Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam, Speaker of the Council of Representatives of the Kingdom of Bahrain, the Chair expressed her regret for not being able to continue presiding over the meeting due to prior official commitments.

In this regard, she entrusted the administration of the Meeting to H.E. Mr. Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam, in his capacity as Vice-President of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA). The Chair also designated Mr. Rizvan Nabiyeu, Head of the APA Group of the Republic of Azerbaijan, as her representative for the remainder of the session.

Consequently, at the request of the APA Secretary-General, H.E. Mr. Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam assumed the chairmanship and continued to preside over the proceedings of the meeting.

4. General debate for adoption of a unified position concerning consideration of the requests for inclusion of an emergency in the agenda of 151 IPU Assembly

Under this item of agenda, the APA Secretary General gave the floor to the delegates who requested to address the meeting on this item. Delegates from Thailand, Iran, Turkiye, Cambodia, Azerbaijan, Jordan and Yemen respectively took the floor and expressed their comments as follows:

Thailand: Delegate from Thailand took the floor to give some explanation and clarification on the reason behind submission of the proposal requested to be included in the agenda of 151st Assembly as emergency item and to encourage support of the member parliaments. The proposed item entitled:

“Strengthening parliamentary action against transnational cybercrime while upholding humanitarian principles”

He said that the scale of transnational cybercrimes facing our region has reached to a highly threatening point. The gravity and magnitude of this plight call for collective endeavor, as otherwise this threatening situation will definitely jeopardize the economic and security of the whole region.

He then, called on all parliaments to take all the required necessary measures needed for adoption of the legislations needed to seriously confront this problem.

Iran: H.E. Mr. Hamid Reza Haji Babaei, First Deputy Speaker of the Islamic Parliament of Iran thanked Azerbaijan for taking the responsibility of the APA presidency for the past two years and appreciated the Council of Representatives of Bahrain for assuming this responsibility for the next year(2026).

He referred to the APA as a parliamentary platform with unique potential that can establish solidarity among the member parliaments. In addition, he continued “this parliamentary body helps us to take coherent and effective decisions in the face of common regional and global challenges.

He continued “Today, the world, and especially the Asian continent, is on the path of rapid global developments; political, economic, security and environmental developments that challenge the borders and national security of countries. Therefore, solidarity among Asian countries is more vital than ever before.”

In this regard, he added, “the Asian Parliamentary Assembly can and should play its strategic role at three broad levels”:

- 1) Developing joint regional policymaking to address common threats and to enhance economic and infrastructural integration;
- 2) Consolidating peace and security in Asia and the Middle East through parliamentary diplomacy aimed at conflict prevention, monitoring human rights, and countering unilateralism;
- 3) Strengthening solidarity and legislative capacity of parliamentary institutions by creating a permanent network for cooperation, exchange, and oversight.

He added that such challenges, though are undeniable realities of our times, yet they can serve as a sufficient ground for our solidarity as well.

In another part of his statement, he referred to the crucial situation in Gaza as a glaring example of genocidal act in flagrant violation of human rights.

He criticized the deadly silence of international bodies and that of international powers alleging to be defender of human rights, against the war crimes taking place in Gaza.

Under such condition, he called on the APA Member parliaments to use their diplomatic and parliamentary capacities to prevent perpetuation of such crimes, finding a way to facilitate all necessary action for sending humanitarian aid to the besieged enclave.

Attachment IV

Turkiye: H.E. Mr. *ABDULKADİR EMİN ÖNEN*, Head of the APA Parliamentary Group in the GNA began his remarks with great concern over the rising geopolitical tension, prevalent armed conflict, ongoing humanitarian crisis and global economic shocks as well as other related worryingly issued that has deteriorated global development.

He continued” Türkiye is strongly committed to multilateralism, and believing that it is the only most effective tool in the hands of today’s international community against these challenges.”

In another part of his address he referred to the current situation in the Gaza Strip and said” The genocide that has unfolded in Gaza over the past two years stands as one of the darkest and most devastating chapters in modern history, and this tragedy has wound all humanity conscience”

Mr. **ÖNEN** reiterated that today, we are witnessing a hopeful turning point in the long-standing conflict between Israel Palestine. The peace agreement signed between the two side opens the door to lasting stability, not only for their peoples but for the entire region.

He concluded by referring to APA as significant potential and said “In order to fully realize this potential, the work and position of the Secretariat are of key importance. “adding that the resolution of the long-standing budget, which had remained unresolved for a quarter of a century, marks a significant step forward. I am confident that such positive developments will pave the way for further progress in the organizational development of the APA.”

Attachment V

Cambodia: Delegate from Cambodia took the floor to state concern of his subject country about the proposed emergency item on Cybercrimes submitted by the delegation of Thailand.

In this regard he said the global scale of transnational cybercrimes today is unprecedented and that we observed with the concern that the current draft resolutions proposed by Thailand fall short of the IPU principles and establish trafficking guidelines.

Then, he enumerated the reasons for the concern of his subject country and said in this context, Cambodia and emphasized for regional cooperation in this respect.

Azerbaijan: Mr. Rizvan Nabiyev, the Representative of the APA President and Head of the delegation of Azerbaijan to the APA took the floor and that fostering cooperation between various inter-parliamentary organizations is highly effective in achieving our common goals.

He continued to emphasize that Azerbaijan views the APA as a crucial platform for coordinating multilateral initiatives and advancing parliamentary diplomacy to support peace and security.

As regards the issue of Palestine he said “As a responsible member of international community, Azerbaijan will continue to support the efforts to achieve a just, lasting and peaceful solution to the issue of Palestine in all its aspects in line with fundamental norms and principle of international law.”

“In addition to peace initiatives to resolve the crisis in the region, the humanitarian assistance efforts are also important. In this context, as a continuation of Azerbaijan’s support for the brotherly Palestinian people in previous years, the country has provided humanitarian aid amounting to 2 million US dollars since the escalation began in 2023. Azerbaijan has been implementing support projects in the fields of education and healthcare for Palestine,” He highlighted

In another part of his remarks, he said “Today, Azerbaijan is a contributor to global peace and humanitarian efforts. We have provided aid to over 80 countries during disasters, crises, and health emergencies — including during the COVID-19 pandemic.

He concluded his remarks extending his gratitude for the support and trust that member parliaments have placed in the presidency of Azerbaijan. He also expressed confidence that through collective efforts, the Asian Parliamentary Assembly will continue to serve as a vital platform for strengthening our cooperation and advancing our shared goals.

Attachment VI

Following the presentation by H.E. Mr. Rizvan Nabiyeu, who was the last speaker under this item of the agenda, the Secretary-General opened the floor to delegates wishing to make comments on item 5 of the agenda, entitled “Other Matters.”

Jordan: Delegate from Jordan began his remark with heartfelt congratulation to the Kingdom of Bahrain for assuming the APA presidency and expressed special thanks to Dr. Ghafarova for her efforts as APA President.

He then thanked the support extended by the participating delegations for the right of Palestinian to self-determination and also appreciated the comments of some participants made about Palestine regarding ceasefire.

Finally, he thanked Türkiye, Saudia Arabia and Egypt for the great job done and the key role they played in respect of ceasefire in Gaza.

Yemen: The delegate of Yemen expressed his appreciation to Dr. Sahiba Ghaforava for her leadership as President of the APA and extended his best wishes to H.E. Musallam as the incoming APA President.

He stated that the people of Yemen are facing severe hardships due to the ongoing anti-humanitarian acts committed against them. All members of the Yemeni Parliament are encountering great difficulties as a result of the atrocities perpetrated by Al-Houthi forces, who continue to inflict the worst forms of suffering upon the Yemeni people.

He further noted that Yemen is experiencing one of the most serious economic crises in its history, and for years, the people have been unable to secure even the minimum living conditions. He appealed for the continued support of member states and urged that the actions of Al-Houthi forces be strongly condemned. He added that these groups obstruct the delivery of humanitarian aid, making it impossible for Yemenis to survive solely on such assistance.

The delegate also pointed out that certain countries are profiting from the ongoing war in Yemen. He expressed gratitude to those nations that have extended protection and support to Yemen and reiterated that the injustices committed against the Yemeni people must be universally condemned.

Yemen was the last delegate to address the meeting. Following the Yemeni statement, the Chair of the Meeting, H.E. Al-Musallam, declared the session closed. He announced that the Kingdom of Bahrain stands ready to host the 16th APA Plenary Session in Manama and extended a warm welcome to all member parliaments to attend.

Having completed all items on the agenda, the Chair officially closed the meeting and thanked all participants for their active and constructive contributions.

Attachment I

APA Coordinating Meeting alongside 151st IPU Assembly Sunday, October 19, 2025, 15:00 Geneva

**Dear Colleagues,
Distinguished Members of the Parliaments,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

With great pleasure, I would like to greet you all and thank for your participation in the Coordinating Meeting of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly.

As is known, in accordance with the APA Resolution, dated November 29th, 2008, during each meeting of the IPU Assembly, the Asian Parliamentary Assembly organizes a Coordinating Meeting.

This is the fourth Coordinating Meeting of the APA on the sidelines of the IPU, which is held under the Chairmanship of Parliament of Azerbaijan. Undoubtedly, these meetings play a vital role in enhancing our cooperation and coordination on key international issues of mutual concern.

Coordinating meetings provide an excellent opportunity, especially in such highly sensitive times, to make full use of the APA's considerable potential in discussing and exchanging views on issues of vital international importance.

Distinguished Colleagues,

As we are preparing to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of Asian Parliamentary Assembly next year, it gives an immense pleasure to witness that the Assembly has already become a significant platform of inter-parliamentary cooperation, constructive dialogue and solidarity. This institution unites us all under its umbrella, makes our voices heard and provides parliamentary contribution to the efforts of our countries for achieving common goals.

Dear Colleagues,

In 2024, the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan has assumed the presidency of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly for the next two years.

During this period, we spared no efforts in enhancing our cooperation and dialogue in the framework of the Assembly.

Let me remind that the Azerbaijani chairmanship put forward several priorities for its presidency on further strengthening our joint work - development of institutional capacity of the APA, expanding our ranks, increasing the effectiveness of the existing bodies.

First of all, I would like to emphasize that during the two years of Azerbaijan's presidency of the APA, the ranks of our organization have expanded.

The Shura Council of the Sultanate of Oman became a full member of the APA, and the Council of the Republic of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus obtained status of observer. The number of international organizations with observer status in the APA has also been increased. Thus, Association of Secretaries General of Arab Parliaments (ASGAP) was granted the status of observer.

It should also be noted that during the presidency of Azerbaijan, a consensus was reached on the decision to form the APA budget, which is very important for further strengthening and increasing the Assembly's capabilities.

We are also delighted to witness active work of the APA Bureau.

In line with our proposal, the work of the Bureau has been revitalized and it started to convene its meetings during each meeting of the Standing Committees and Coordinating Meetings. Undoubtedly, it allows for timely review and discussion of all issues on the organization's agenda.

And taking this opportunity, I would like to express my deep gratitude to Mr. Mohammad Reza Majidi, the Secretary General of the APA and the Secretariat for their continuous support and steady efforts in development of our organization and advancement of its goals.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The magnitude of challenges that our world faces make it impossible to deal with them without collective actions and joint efforts. The agreement reached on ceasefire in Gaza once more demonstrated it.

We should also commend the mediation by Türkiye and Qatar, along with other countries, in achieving this outcome. We truly hope that all the phases of the agreement will be duly implemented and the results of the Middle East Peace Summit will bring just and lasting peace to the region.

I believe, our colleagues will later discuss this issue more in detail. Indeed, coordinating meeting of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly on the sidelines of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, is a valuable opportunity to exchange views on the issues that concern us all and coordinate our positions.

Distinguished Colleagues,

As Azerbaijan concludes its two-year presidency of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, we are pleased to note that next year, the Kingdom of Bahrain will assume the presidency of the APA. We are confident that under Bahrain's leadership, the Assembly will continue to strengthen inter-parliamentary cooperation across Asia and further contribute to promotion of peace, solidarity, and sustainable development across our continent in line with our common goals.

I am confident that this Coordinating Meeting of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly will be highly productive, and I wish all participants a successful and fruitful discussions.

Thank you for attention!

Attachment II

**Report of Dr. Mohammad Reza Majidi
Secretary General of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly**

To

**The APA Coordinating Meeting on the Sidelines of the 151st IPU Assembly
Sunday 19 October 2025
Geneva- Switzerland**

**Mr. /Madam Chairperson
Distinguished Delegates
Ladies and Gentlemen**

It is a great honor and pleasure for me to sincerely welcome you for your participation at this APA Coordination meeting. I am also grateful to you for your keen interest extending your full support to the initiative of the APA founders in the early days of its establishment nearly 20 years ago for adoption of the resolution mandating the APA Secretariat to regularly hold meetings on the sidelines of the two IPU Assemblies in order to discuss and coordinate positions of APA Member Parliaments on major international issues of importance to APA.

In effect, this resolution which was adopted by the APA Plenary dated November 29, 2008, severs as the backbone of the efforts intended to pave an appropriate ground for the promotion of multilateral parliamentary cooperation in close collaboration with IPU, the global organization of national parliaments. Therefore, let's share this valuable opportunity to draw together and consult about the issues of common interest under the umbrella of parliamentary diplomacy at this highly critical situation when our region is inundated with the most inhumane and catastrophic atrocities.

Dear Colleagues,

Before I go ahead, allow me to seize this valuable opportunity and express my heartfelt gratitude to Her Excellency Dr. Sahiba Ghafarova, honorable Speaker of the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan in her capacity as the APA President for her unreserved support to advance the programs of our organization through close cooperation with the APA Secretariat during the past two years since she took over the APA Presidency. During this period, APA could successfully implement its regular programs under the sagacious and wise leadership of Dr. Ghafarova, followed by her tactful chairing of the 14th and 15th APA Plenaries in Baku and generous hospitality of the Milli Majlis with successful outcomes.

Let me also point out that at the end of Azerbaijan's two-year successful term of Presidency in late January 2026 concurrent with the convening of the 16th APA Plenary scheduled to be held in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain, the APA leadership will be transferred from Milli Majles of Azerbaijan to the Council of Representatives of Bahrain as the new APA President for the period 2026.

Dear Colleague,

As you are well aware, the issue of Palestine has been a key agenda item of various regional and international meetings, with no exception to the Asian Parliamentary Assembly since its establishment in 2006. As part of its mandate to uphold the aspiration of Palestinians in their struggles for self-determination, APA has raised this important issue in all the related Standing

Committee Meetings and several resolutions and declarations have been adopted condemning the crimes of Apartheid regime of Israel.

No doubt, any peace initiative must adhere to the principles of international law and ensure that the future of Palestine is determined by the Palestinian people themselves, free from external imposition or coercion aimed at controlling their destiny. The Palestinian right to self-determination is non-negotiable, and the Israeli occupation must cease immediately, completely, and unconditionally, accompanied by appropriate reparations to the Palestinian people.

Dear Colleagues

Since our last meeting in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan alongside 150th IPU Assembly, the APA Secretariat has been in close contact with the President of the Organization, Her Excellency Dr. Sahiba Ghafarova, and member parliaments to outline the APA calendar of event for the year 2025

Under the Calendar of Events for the year 2025, the APA Secretariat made all necessary arrangements to hold its regular meetings as planned. Accordingly, the four Standing Committee meetings were scheduled to be held as follows:

1. **Kingdom of Bahrain:** The Standing Committee Meeting on Economic and Sustainable Development was held from 14-16 September in Manama with participation of 17 member parliaments.
2. **Russian Federation:** The Standing Committee Meeting on Social and Cultural Affairs is scheduled for next week (28-30 October, 2025) in Moscow.
3. **State of Qatar:** the Standing Committee Meeting on Budget and Planning is scheduled to be held in Doha in 22-23 December
4. **The 16th APA Plenary** is also scheduled for late February in Manama.

Activities of the APA Bureau

The year 2024 also witnessed a set of admirable approaches to further benefit from the potential capacity of the Standing Committee Meetings as part of the strategy to speed up implementation of the APA programs.

- In consultation with other APA members, it was decided to hold sessions of the APA Bureau on the sidelines of the Standing Committee Meetings and that of the IPU Assemblies immediately after convening the Coordinating Meeting.
- Accordingly, as coordinated beforehand, we had the opportunity to hold the APA Bureau Session in Tashkent alongside the 150th IPU Assembly, following our Coordinating Meeting with fruitful results.
- The Bureau session was also held in Manama, alongside the Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development, and decided on several important issue, most particularly holding the meeting of the Secretary Generals of the APA Member Parliament alongside the APA Plenary Meetings.
- Today morning, we had a Bureau Session with several agenda items which intended to further elevate the status of APA Coordinating Meeting in order to make its decisions more applicable in future.

Last but not least, this is a welcome initiative that helps take much benefit from the practical experiences of the Secretary Generals of the Member Parliament as a major step forward for better exchange of views on legislative practices with the APA .

Thank you for your attention

Attachment III

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

معالي البروفسورة، الدكتورة صاحبة غافاروفا، رئيسة الجمعية الوطنية بجمهورية أذربيجان
أصحاب المعالي والسعادة، رؤساء وأعضاء المجالس والبرلمانات، والوفود المشاركة..

سعادة الدكتور، محمد رضا مجيدي .. الأمين العام للجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية..
الحضور الكرام..

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته..

يسرني، أن أرحب بكم جميعا في هذا الاجتماع، والذي يأتي انطلاقا من حرصنا المشترك على تعزيز التعاون البرلماني الآسيوي، ومعبرا عن بالغ الشكر والتقدير للثقة الرفيعة التي نالتها الشعبة البرلمانية لمملكة البحرين لرئاسة المجموعة البرلمانية الآسيوية للعام ٢٠٢٦.

وأن مملكة البحرين بقيادة حضرة صاحب الجلالة الملك حمد بن عيسى آل خليفة، ملك البلاد المعظم، حفظه الله ورعاه، وبدعم ومساندة من صاحب السمو الملكي الأمير سلمان بن حمد آل خليفة، ولي العهد رئيس مجلس الوزراء، حفظه الله، حريصة على تعزيز التعاون البناء مع الدول الآسيوية الشقيقة والصديقة، وتحقيق الاستثمار الأمثل في كافة المسارات التنموية.

وأود أن أشيد بدور معالي البروفسورة، الدكتورة صاحبة غافاروفا، رئيسة الجمعية الوطنية بجمهورية أذربيجان، خلال رئاستها للجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية، وما بذلته من جهود بارزة ومشكورة، في تعزيز التعاون البرلماني الآسيوي، وتفعيل دور المجموعة الآسيوية في المحافل البرلمانية الدولية.

وأؤكد لكم أن الشعبة البرلمانية لمملكة البحرين، وخلال رئاستها للجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية، ستواصل النهج البرلماني المتميز، للارتقاء بدور المجموعة الآسيوية، وفتح آفاق رحبة من التعاون والتنسيق، لما فيه خير وصالح دول وشعوب القارة الآسيوية.

شاكرا ومقدرا حرصكم جميعا على دعم التعاون البرلماني الآسيوي، وتحقيق التطلعات والأهداف المنشودة.

والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته..

Attachment IV

Speech by the Parliamentary Group of the Islamic Republic of Iran at APA

On the Sidelines of the IPU151 Session – Geneva

In the Name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

Esteemed Parliamentarians, Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, I would like to express my pleasure at the opportunity to be present among my colleagues from the parliaments of Asian countries.

The Asian Parliament Assembly, with unique capacities, can tangibly demonstrate the bond and solidarity between member states and help us to take coordinated and effective decisions in the face of common regional and global challenges.

Dear Colleagues,

Today, the world, and especially the Asian continent, is on the path of rapid global developments; political, economic, security and environmental developments that challenge the borders and national security of countries. Therefore, solidarity among Asian countries is more vital than ever before.

In this regard, the Asian Parliamentary Assembly can and should play its strategic role at three broad levels:

- 1) Developing joint regional policymaking to address common threats and to enhance economic and infrastructural integration;
- 2) Consolidating peace and security in Asia and the Middle East through parliamentary diplomacy aimed at conflict prevention, monitoring human rights, and countering unilateralism;
- 3) Strengthen solidarity and legislative capacity of parliamentary institutions by creating a permanent network for cooperation, exchange, and oversight.

Excellencies,

Based on the above, some urgent challenges require joint action by the APA. These challenges are not only our realities, but can also be the basis for our unity.

- A foremost example is the **crisis in Gaza** and the blatant and systematic violations of human rights. What has taken place in Gaza is not merely a political conflict but a profound human and moral tragedy that has challenged the very principles of international law.

Regrettably, international organizations and powers claiming to defend human rights have often adopted either a heavy silence or a double standard toward these atrocities — a stance that has perpetuated the suffering of the innocent people of Gaza.

What happened in Gaza is not simply a political conflict; it is a human and moral tragedy that has challenged the fundamental principles of international law. It must be said with regret that international institutions and powers claiming to defend human rights have often adopted a heavy silence or a dual approach to these human tragedies; a stance that has led to the continuation of the oppression and suffering of the defenseless people of Gaza.

In such circumstances, Asian countries cannot remain bystanders. This continent, which is the cradle of civilizations and human values, must use all its diplomatic, parliamentary and legal capacities to stop the crimes, lift the blockade, facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid and support a just and sustainable process for peace, with a unified and coordinated position within the framework of the Asian Parliaments.

- Another critical issue is the **migration crisis** caused by wars and climate change, which threaten human security and regional stability and require coordinated supportive and legal policies.
- Finally, we face the economic and environmental threats resulting from resource mismanagement and unilateral sanctions, which can be addressed through parliamentary cooperation, preventive and supportive regional policies.

Dear Colleagues,

The establishment of a comprehensive and genuine Asian Parliament is the best path forward, as it can safeguard the interests of Asian countries in the face of growing challenges. This assembly should act with a preventive, proactive and strategic approach and highlight the voice of Asian nations on the global stage.

To fulfill this mission, the APA should, through **internationalizing its Secretariat and processes**, make full use of its diplomatic and legislative capacities to ensure peace, security, prosperity, and human rights across Asia.

Asia is our shared home — our past and our future. Through Asian convergence and unity, we can build a future worthy of the peoples of this great continent.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Thank you for your attention.

Attachment V



TÜRKİYE BÜYÜK MİLLET MECLİSİ BAŞKANLIĞI
Dış İlişkiler ve Protokol Başkanlığı

ADDRESS BY MR. ABDULKADİR EMİN ÖNEN

**ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (APA) MEETING TO BE HELD IN THE
MARGIN OF INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION**

(October 19-23, 2025, Geneva/Switzerland)

Honorable Speaker;

Dear Secretary General;

Distinguished Parliamentarians;

I am very pleased to meet you again on the occasion of the IPU meeting.

We meet today at a time of historic responsibility for all of us.

The rising geopolitical tension, prevalent armed conflict, ongoing humanitarian crisis, global economic shocks, trade wars and impacts of climate change worryingly deteriorate global development.

Global challenges are so complex and multidimensional, that no country can address them alone.

Türkiye is strongly committed to multilateralism, and believing that it is the only most effective tool in the hands of today's international community against these challenges.

Dear Colleagues,

The genocide that has unfolded in Gaza over the past two years stands as one of the darkest and most devastating chapters in modern history, and this tragedy has wound all humanity conscience.

Today, we are witnessing a hopeful turning point in the long-standing conflict between Israel Palestine. The peace agreement signed between the two side opens the door to lasting stability, not only for their peoples but for the entire region.

As you know, Türkiye stands as one of the guarantor countries of this historic peace agreement. In this context, I would like to reaffirm that Türkiye will remain both a steadfast supporter and a vigilant follower of every positive development in the region for the sake of lasting peace, stability, and prosperity.

Dear Colleagues,

The APA holds significant potential. In order to fully realize this potential, the work and position of the Secretariat are of key importance.

The resolution of the long-standing budget, which had remained unresolved for a quarter of a century, marks a significant step forward. I am confident that such positive developments will pave the way for further progress in the organizational development of the APA.

Thank You.

Attachment VI
Asian Parliamentary Assembly
APA Coordinating Meeting Alongside the 151st IPU Assembly
Sunday, October 19, 2025
Venue: CICG, (Plenary B&C Level 0)

**Speech of the Representative of the APA President and Head of the delegation of
Azerbaijan to the APA, Mr. Rizvan Nabiyev**

Distinguished Speakers,

Distinguished APA Secretary General,

Members of the Parliaments,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me in my capacity of the Representative of the APA President and Head of the Delegation of Azerbaijan to welcome you all to the Coordinating Meeting of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly alongside the 151st IPU Assembly.

We believe that fostering cooperation between various inter-parliamentary organizations is highly effective in achieving our common goals. In this context, the Asian Parliamentary Assembly uniting 44 states, serves as a unique platform for promoting Asian solidarity and cooperation across various fields.

In this regard, we would like to emphasize that Azerbaijan views the APA as a crucial platform for coordinating multilateral initiatives and advancing parliamentary diplomacy to support peace and security.

Honorable colleagues,

Today's urgent challenges, such as humanitarian crises, conflicts, terrorism, uncontrolled migration, and the rise of discrimination are negatively affecting the broader Asian region.

At this critical moment, we would like to reaffirm our unrelenting support to the legitimate issue of the Palestinian People for statehood, peace and stability, and a bright future.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan also welcomed, on 10 October 2025, the agreement reached on Gaza, which aims to establish a ceasefire, enable the release of hostages and prisoners, and ensure unhindered humanitarian aid and the reconstruction of Gaza. Azerbaijan hopes that all phases of the agreement will be fully implemented and that efforts toward a just and lasting peace in the region will be intensified. Azerbaijan commends the mediation efforts of the United States, Türkiye, Qatar, and Egypt in achieving this outcome.

The participation of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, in the Peace Summit held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, on October 13, 2025, is a clear demonstration of our support for achieving lasting peace and stability in Gaza. Azerbaijan was among the few countries whose heads of state were invited to the summit. We also support humanitarian initiatives in the region.

As a responsible member of international community, we will continue to support the efforts to achieve a just, lasting, and peaceful solution to the issue of Palestine in all its aspects in line with fundamental norms and principles of international law. Azerbaijan supports the restoration of peace and security in the region.

In addition to peace initiatives to resolve the crisis in the region, the humanitarian assistance efforts are also important. In this context, as a continuation of Azerbaijan's support for the brotherly Palestinian people in previous years, the country has provided humanitarian aid amounting to 2 million US dollars since the escalation began in 2023. Azerbaijan has been implementing support projects in the fields of education and healthcare for Palestine.

In September 2025 the Azerbaijani authorities evacuated students from the Gaza region who had been granted the opportunity to pursue higher education in Baku. As a result, 14 Palestinian students have now started their studies at various Azerbaijani universities under the "Heydar Aliyev International Education Grant" program. It should be noted that, based on nominations submitted by the State of Palestine, 8 of these students were admitted to the program last year, and 6 more were accepted this year.

Dear colleagues,

The end of the armed conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan has created a new political reality in the South Caucasus — one based firmly on international law. Azerbaijan has restored its sovereignty and territorial integrity in line with Article 51 of the UN Charter and relevant UN Security Council resolutions from 1993. For the first time in decades, stability and de facto peace have been achieved in the region.

Following its victory in the 44-Day Patriotic War, Azerbaijan, under the leadership of President Ilham Aliyev, proposed a peace treaty with Armenia — based on mutual recognition and respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Our peace agenda gained new momentum in August 2025. The visit of our President to Washington resulted in a historic breakthrough. The Foreign Ministers of Azerbaijan and Armenia initialed a Draft Peace Agreement, and a Joint Declaration was signed in the presence of U.S. President. This marks a turning point in our efforts toward lasting peace.

Another key outcome of the peace efforts was the first-ever trilateral summit, which produced a Joint Declaration in Washington DC on a special connectivity project. This project will establish direct access between mainland Azerbaijan and Nakhchivan via Armenian territory — the Zangezur Corridor. This corridor will enhance regional connectivity and economic cooperation, linking East and West, North and South.

Azerbaijan has also launched one of the world's largest post-conflict reconstruction efforts. Cities, villages, and infrastructure destroyed during the occupation are being rebuilt under the "Great Return" program. Already, over 50,000 people have returned to the liberated areas.

We are also investing in green energy zones in Karabakh and Eastern Zangazur, showing our commitment to sustainable development and climate goals.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The consequences of decades-long occupation are severe. Azerbaijan's formerly occupied territories were devastated — mosques destroyed, cemeteries mined, cities and villages razed to the ground. Since 2020, over 400 civilians and military personnel have been killed or injured by landmines. Nearly one million internally displaced Azerbaijanis are waiting to return home, and the fate of around 4,000 missing persons from the First Karabakh War remains unresolved.

In 2020, Azerbaijan exercised its legitimate right to self-defense. Our actions restored not only territorial integrity but also justice. Our military operations were conducted in full compliance with international humanitarian law. We protected civilians and avoided targeting non-military infrastructure. This is a clear example relevant to the current General Debate of the IPU on the theme: 'Upholding humanitarian norms and supporting humanitarian action in times of crisis.'

Today, Azerbaijan is a contributor to global peace and humanitarian efforts. We have provided aid to over 80 countries during disasters, crises, and health emergencies — including during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As President Ilham Aliyev declared at the UN General Assembly in September 2025:

“Our vision is clear: peace and development based on international law, non-interference, mutual respect, and cooperation. Let us build a world without double standards, where justice is not selective, and peace is achieved not through words, but through actions.”

Azerbaijan has turned a new page — from war and occupation to peace and reconstruction. We stand ready to share our experience and work together to build a more just and peaceful world.

Honorable colleagues,

In conclusion, I would like to once again express my gratitude for the support and trust you have placed in our Presidency. I am confident that through our collective efforts, the Asian Parliamentary Assembly will continue to serve as a vital platform for strengthening our cooperation and advancing our shared goals.