



Standing Committee on Political Affairs

8 January 2023
Antalya, Republic of Turkiye

Final Report

The meeting of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly was held on 8 January 2023 in Antalya, Republic of Turkiye. Under the chairmanship of H.E. Almandalawi, the First Deputy Speaker of the Council of Representatives of Iraq. Delegations from following member countries participated in the meeting:

Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Cyprus, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lao DPR, Kuwait, Qatar, Pakistan, Palestine, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, UAE, Timor-Leste, Turkiye and Yemen.

1. Adoption of the Agenda:

The participants unanimously adopted the Draft Agenda of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs.

(Attachments I)

2. Opening remarks by the Chairperson:

The chairperson presented his opening remarks.

(Attachment II)

3. Report of the Secretary-General:

The APA Secretary-General delivered a report on the latest development of Standing Committee meeting and its 9 Draft Resolutions.

(Attachment III)

4. Consideration of Draft Resolutions:

The Standing Committee considered all the 9 draft resolutions before it and the participants made their general remarks on the contents of the documents. Several delegations proposed their amendments on some draft resolutions. Representative of the APA Secretariat requested the participants to send their views/amendments to the Secretariat for circulation and further discussion - during the next meeting of this Standing Committee. On the draft resolution titled "*Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People*" the delegation of Palestine proposed that a "Commission" be established within APA to address the Palestinian issues. Majority of participants, in general, supported the proposal. The draft resolution on "*Towards an Asian Parliament*" and consideration of the new draft resolution on "*Enhancing Cooperation among the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly to Protect and Promote Multilateralism*" were deferred to the next meeting.

(Attachment IV)

5. Any Other Matters:

No issue was raised.

Asian Parliamentary Assembly



Standing Committee on Political Affairs

**Antalya , Türkiye
8-10 January 2023**



Draft Agenda

(12/12/2022 by APA Secretariat)-V6

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Opening Remarks by Chairperson
3. Report by APA Secretary General
4. Consideration of Draft Resolutions:
 - Draft Resolution on "Towards an Asian Parliament"
 - Draft Resolution on Good Governance
 - Draft Resolution on the Rule of Law and Judicial Empowerment
 - Draft Resolution on Good Parliamentary Practices
 - Draft Resolution on Building Prosperity in Asia through Friendship and Cooperation
 - Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments and Governments Together for Prosperity in Asia
 - Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People
 - Draft Resolution on Harmonious Development through Democracy
 - Draft Resolution on Enhancing Cooperation among the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly to Protect and Promote Multilateralism
5. Any Other Matters
6. Closing Session, Adoption of Final Report

Opening Remarks by Chair of Standing Committee on Political Affairs:

- It is my pleasure to Chair this meeting today.
- Iraq was elected as VP and Chair of St. Com. on Political Affairs in 12th Plenary.
- Being engaged in Parliamentary election in Iraq in 2021, we were not able to host this Committee.
- Our appreciation goes to the Host country Turkiye to provide us with opportunity to hold this important meeting today.
- There are 9 Draft resolutions under discussion. Ever since 2019 when the last meeting was held in Isfahan, Iran, we have witnessed many international political developments, delegations are requested to present their brief remarks on Draft resolutions. The detailed amendments to draft resolutions will be considered during the future Standing Committee.

Attachment III



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8 January 2023

Türkiye

Standing Committee on Political Affairs

Antalya, Türkiye
8-10 January 2023

Report of the Secretary General

**Madam Chairperson,
Distinguished Delegates,
Dear Colleagues,**

It is a great pleasure for me to welcome you all to the Standing Committee meeting of Political Affairs in the magnificent city of Antalya. I highly appreciate all member parliaments who have participated at this meeting in such a short notice. I also express my special thanks to the APA President for the full support extended to the Secretariat to hold this meeting. At the same time, allow me to seize this opportunity to thank and appreciate the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye as APA President for taking the burden of this important event.

Dear Colleagues,

As you may recall, at its last meeting, held in June 2019 in Isfahan, Islamic Republic of Iran, the Standing Committee on Political Affairs considered the following nine draft resolutions:

1. Draft Resolution on “Towards an Asian Parliament”
2. Draft Resolution on Good Governance
3. Draft Resolution on the Rule of Law and Judicial Empowerment
4. Draft Resolution on Good Parliamentary Practices
5. Draft Resolution on Building Prosperity in Asia through Friendship and Cooperation

6. Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments and Governments Together for Prosperity in Asia
7. Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People
8. Draft Resolution on Harmonious Development through Democracy
9. Draft Resolution on Enhancing Cooperation among the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly to Protect and Promote Multilateralism

At this meeting, 6 draft resolutions out of the 9 drafts resolutions were adopted by consensus and consideration of the following three draft resolutions were deferred to the next SC meeting:

- Draft Resolution on “*Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support for the Palestinian people*”
- Draft resolution on “*Towards an Asian Parliament*”
- The new draft Resolution on “*Enhancing Cooperation among the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly to Protect and Promote Multilateralism*”

At the meeting in Isfahan the Chair of Working Group on Asian Parliament presented his report as required under the related Agenda Item. In his report he emphasized on the importance of reaching consensus on the roadmap in order to move towards AP. In his latest report to the Standing Committee during 12th Plenary in Antalya, the Chair of the WG also stated that: “Due to the complexity of political, security and different levels of democracy in the Asian states, exploring such a key issue will lead to deviation from APA goals and mandates”.

Regarding this important issue, I am of the view that, we should further focus on the draft resolution, *Towards Asian Parliaments*, in the coming Standing Committee meetings in order to explore and debate the very significant issue of AP.

**Madam Chairperson,
Distinguished Delegate,
Dear Colleagues,**

In conclusion, I would like to bring to your attention that due to time constraint and the fact that this Standing Committee meeting was last held on 2019 and we have witnessed many international political developments ever since, delegations are requested to present their brief remarks on draft resolutions. The detailed amendments on such draft resolutions will be considered during the future Standing Committee meeting.

I thank and appreciate once again the commitment of the APA president for holding and chairing of this important SC Meeting and I wish to further witness your active contribution at the APA Executive Council and 13th Plenary Sessions.

Thank you very much

Draft Resolutions of Standing Committee on Political Affairs

1. Draft Resolution on “Towards an Asian Parliament” (Deferred)
2. Draft Resolution on Good Governance
3. Draft Resolution on the Rule of Law and Judicial Empowerment
4. Draft Resolution on Good Parliamentary Practices
5. Draft Resolution on Building Prosperity in Asia through Friendship and Cooperation
6. Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments and Governments Together for Prosperity in Asia
7. Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments’ Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People
8. Draft Resolution on Harmonious Development through Democracy
9. Draft Resolution on Enhancing Cooperation among the Members of the Asian Draft Parliamentary Assembly to Protect and Promote Multilateralism (New)



Draft Resolution on “Towards an Asian Parliament”

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling the document titled “Foundations of an Asian Parliament” prepared by the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) Permanent Secretariat in May, 2014;

Further recalling the Lahore Declaration adopted on 3rd Dec, 2014 by APA Plenary that established the Special Committee on the Creation of the Asian Parliament (SCCAP), to consult with Member Parliaments in order to formulate a road map for Asian Parliament, reflecting the emergence of the Asian Century;

Emphasizing that the creation of an Asian Parliament is a long term objective, various aspects of which need to be explored as stipulated in the report of APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs held on 2 June 2016 in Jordan;

Welcoming the decision made in the meeting of the SCCAP convened in Jordan in June 2016 and approved by the 9th APA Plenary meeting in 2016, that the SCCAP will function under the APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs;

Recalling the discussion of the SCCAP meeting held on 29 November 2016, Siem Reap, Kingdom of Cambodia;

Therefore,

1. **Reiterate** our resolve to continue efforts and support the fulfilment of SCCAP’s objectives;
2. **Support** the step by step and inclusive efforts of the SCCAP in promoting cooperation through consultation with Member Parliaments on common issues such as environment, poverty alleviation, trade and regional connectivity amongst others;
3. **Support** the creation of Working Group in the APA for providing input to the APA Secretariat. The Working Group for the purpose of the Asian Parliaments shall submit their input through the APA secretariat which will place a report containing proposals to the Standing Committee on Political Affairs before every plenary;



Draft Resolution on Good Governance

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Realizing that good governance is inextricably linked to sustainable development, *which* leads to stability and prosperity;

Taking in to account all characteristic of Good Governance and their effects on achievement of SDGs and prosperity of human being;

Recognizing the importance of good governance in the achievement of SDGs as one of means to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies;

1. **Reiterate** that good governance is a key to achieving inclusive economic, social and institutional development;
2. **Recognizes** that transparency in all its forms and manifestations, free, responsible media, popular participation in government, and a vibrant civil society are the pillars of good governance;
3. **Stresses** upon the Member Parliaments to identify gaps in governance which may lead to poverty, injustice and inequality;
4. **Calls upon** Member Parliaments to ensure as appropriate enhanced participation of women, youth and persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities in the national political process;



Draft Resolution on the Rule of Law and Judicial Empowerment

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Reaffirms the universal realization of the right of peoples under colonial, foreign and alien dominations, to self-determination is a fundamental condition for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights and for the preservation and promotion of such rights;

Recalling the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, including those of sovereign equality and independence of all States, which are indispensable foundations for a more peaceful, prosperous and a conflict free world;

Recognizing that the rule of law at national and international levels is essential for all states equally, and respect for and promotion of the rule of law and justice are the guiding principles for every state;

Further recognizing that all persons, institutions and entities, public and private, have a right to be accorded equal protection of the law and to be treated in accordance with the law, without any discrimination;

Reaffirming the duty of all Member States to settle their international disputes through peaceful means, including, negotiation, mediation, conciliation, arbitration and judicial settlement;

Further reaffirming that the rule of law is essential for independence of judiciary and the protection of human rights can be realized through the empowerment of the judiciary;

Convinced that the rule of law and sustainable development are inextricably linked and mutually reinforcing and contribute to the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

Supporting the principles of sovereign equality of states, non-intervention in the internal or external affairs of states and condemning as a violation of this principle any interference by states in the internal affairs of other states with the aim of forging change of legitimate governments;

Stressing that the key role in maintaining of the rule of law belongs to states and those international efforts to strengthen the rule of law should complement national efforts, but not substitute them;

1. **Stress** the importance of capacity development through rule of law;

2. **Emphasize** the importance of institutional strengthening by maintaining the rule of law;
3. **Stress** also the necessity for strengthening the international judicial cooperation among judicial authorities of all Member States.
4. **Urge** Member Parliaments to ensure compliance with internationally agreed human rights and humanitarian laws.
5. **Encourage** the promotion of a system of justice which incorporates the full range of judicial measures to ensure accountability, justice, provide remedies to victims, reconciliation, and establish independent oversight;
6. **Reiterate** our strong and unequivocal condemnation of terrorism, extremism in all its forms and manifestations, committed by whomever, wherever and for whatever purposes, as it constitutes one of the most serious threats to the rule of Law; and
7. **Emphasize** the importance of our continued efforts for promotion of the rule of law in all its aspects, and to take steps to strengthen the rule of law for realization of peace and security, human rights and development.



Draft Resolution on Good Parliamentary Practices

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Noting the ever increasing and assertive role of parliaments in public affairs and in the promotion of democratization for ensuring good governance;

Taking into account the fact that 181 states have adopted parliamentary systems for managing their national affairs;

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

Noting the cardinal role that parliaments play in a democratic polity and in addressing issues of public importance;

Recognizing that parliaments must be truly representative, transparent, accessible, accountable and effective in its functions;

1. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to adopt transparent modes of public communications, through ensuring access to their administrative system and to develop their own websites and broadcasting channels;
2. Further **urge** APA Member Parliaments to devise effective outreach mechanisms for engagement with public, including, civil society, with a view to ensure their meaningful contribution in the legislative processes;
3. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to adopt measures for ensuring public confidence in the integrity of parliamentarians, through enforceable codes of conduct and transparency in managing the affairs of political parties and their funding;
4. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to streamline their legislative process by encouraging public hearing in respective constituencies;
5. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to ensure their effective participation at regional and international forums with a view to promote transnational collaboration amongst Member Parliaments, and to devise a strategy towards this end by the APA;
6. **Also call upon** APA Member Parliaments to ensure their oversight of the executive, particularly, in the formulation of international policy, and to make

recommendations to their respective governments towards a peaceful settlement of international disputes;

7. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to adopt positive measures for ensuring a meaningful participation of women, minorities and marginalized communities in their working;
8. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to promote inter-parliamentary cooperation through formation of friendship groups and working groups on issues of common interest;
9. **Further Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to encourage developing democracies through sharing their experiences and best parliamentary practices and provide technical and other required support with a view to facilitate their process of democratization.



Draft Resolution on Building Prosperity in Asia through Friendship and Cooperation

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling relevant APA resolutions on Advancing the Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia (APA/Res/2015/01—11 December 2015); Resolution on Measures and Methods of Materialization of Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia (APA/Res/2014/01— 3 December 2014); Resolution on Consolidation of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia (APA/Res/2013/01-- 9 December 2013); Resolution on Reinforcing the Declaration on Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia (APA/Res/2010/09—30 November 2010); Resolution on Pursuing Implementation of the Declaration on the Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia (APA/Res/2008/09, 29 November 2008) and Resolution on the Friendship Pact in Asia; (APA/Res/2007/06, dated 19 November 2007); Text of the Declaration on Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia (APA/Res/2007/06/Annex, 19 November 2007);

Relying on deep-rooted ties of history, geography, culture, economy, politics, and civilization which bind Asian nations together;

Recognizing the amity and the friendly relations among the Asian Nations, Parliaments, and States as an indispensable asset which need to be further strengthened by all kinds of inter-governmental; inter-parliamentary as well as inter-national interaction and cooperation;

Deploring the current widespread war and violence in West Asia which undermine peace and security and entail massive killing and indiscriminate targeting of innocent people;

Offering in Good Faith all our capacities and capabilities in parliamentary diplomacy for mediation, reconciliation, and supporting dialogue with a view to promoting friendship and cooperation and contribute to peaceful resolution of conflicts in Asia;

Emphasizing the fundamental role of the principles of sovereign equality, political independence, the territorial integrity of States, the non-use of force or of the threat of use of force in international relations and non-interference in internal affairs of States in the promotion of friendship and cooperation in Asia and calling upon all Member Parliaments and their respective Governments to ensure equal and non-discriminatory access of their citizens to civil political, economic, social and cultural rights;

Reiterating the importance of the Declaration on the Principles of Friendly Relations in Asia as a proper framework for promoting peace and prosperity in Asia;

Encourage all member states to enhance public relations among nations of different countries in order to better understand of each other and to strengthen the friendly relations among nations;

Encouraging further expansion of friendly relations including cultural, diplomatic, scientific, and commercial relations among all Asian States and further interaction among Asian Parliaments and Nations in pursuance of the purposes of the Declaration;

1. **Call upon** all Member States to focus on exchanging cultural experiences and deepening social communication through holding forums and events under the umbrella of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, for the positive objectives that benefit the Member States;
2. **Urge** collective and concerted efforts by all Asian States whose parliaments are APA Members to provide humanitarian assistance of all kinds to the vulnerable people in war- torn countries;
3. **Call Upon** all Asian States to direct their diplomatic efforts at reducing political tensions and utilize all ways and means within their power to avoid and de-escalate controversies which have potential to undermine principles of friendship and cooperation in Asia;
4. **Welcome** the initiative of the Inter-Parliamentary Union supported by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 72/278 to organize a world conference on interfaith and inter-ethnic dialogue with the participation of Heads of State, parliaments and world religions.
5. **Urge** Asian Parliaments to disseminate information about the APA Declaration on the Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia by all available means including parliamentary and state publications, parliamentary friendship groups, public programs, etc.
6. **Decide** that every Member Parliament would motivate public and private media networks, websites and the like at local and national levels to engage in promoting and spreading the word about the content, importance and positive results of the adoption and implementation of the APA Declaration on the Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia;
7. **Encourage** Asian academic institutions, think-tanks and research centers, universities and educational institutions, as well as professional associations throughout Asia to take part in promoting and adhering to the tenets and guidelines enshrined in the APA Declaration on the Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia,

8. **Call upon** all APA Member Parliaments to inform the APA Secretariat of measures they have taken in promoting the APA Declaration on Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia,
9. **Request** the Secretary-General to continue his consultations and coordination with the APA Member Parliaments as well as interested Asian organizations and academic institutions for promoting further activities and joint initiatives pertaining to Friendship and Cooperation in Asia.



Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments and Governments Together for Prosperity in Asia

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA resolutions on Mobilizing Interactions Between APA and Asian Governments (APA/Res/2015/02—11 December 2015); Engaging APA with Asian Governments and Inter-Governmental Organizations (APA/Res/2014/02); Asian Parliaments and Governments: Together for Solidarity and Prosperity in Asia (APA/Res/2013/02 –9 December 2013); Measures for Enhancing Cooperation Between APA and Asian Governments (APA/Res/2010/11, 30 November 2010) and resolution on Enhancing Cooperation Between Asian Parliamentary Assembly Member Parliaments and Their Governments for Implementation of APA Decisions (APA/Res/2008/10, 29 November 2008);

Emphasizing the need to foster closer coordination and cooperation between APA and Governments of APA Member Parliaments;

Taking note of the necessity of smooth cooperation and coordination between Parliaments and Governments in order to pass relevant enactments;

Encouraging Member Parliaments to consider endorsing and adopting common legislations on issues of mutual interest to both APA and Asian Governments;

1. **Urge** all Member Parliaments to inform relevant high-ranking officials of their respective governments of the great potentials, activities, and achievements of the APA as the largest inter-parliamentary organization in Asia and report thereon to the Secretariat for circulation;
2. **Decide** to form APA parliamentary groups comprising nominated delegates from volunteer Member Parliaments under the supervision of the APA Vice-President for Political Affairs and in full coordination with the APA Secretariat, to hold contacts and meetings with relevant inter-parliamentary and inter-governmental organizations, with a view to converging points of view and considering possible joint initiatives pertaining to regional and global issues, including the creation of an Asian Parliament;
3. **Encourage** Member Parliaments to seek the views of their respective Governments on the subject of Asian Parliament and to contribute to the work of the APA Special Committee on the Creation of Asian Parliament (SCCAP) by providing their points of views and analyses of the subject matter;

4. **Request** APA Member Parliaments to identify and describe their priority desirable topics for receiving training, as well their capabilities to offer training and best practices, and share them with other Parliaments through the APA Secretariat, in order to organize training programs on exchanging best practices and learning from each other;
5. **Request** the Vice-President for Political Affairs to report to the Executive Council and the Plenary Sessions on his/her activities pertaining to the formation of working groups from interested Member Parliaments to focus on the implementation of APA decisions on political affairs;
6. **Request** the Secretary-General to expand the scope of its contacts and communications with inter-governmental as well as inter-parliamentary organizations who work on issues relevant to the items on the APA agenda in order to facilitate further interaction and joint efforts on common grounds with a view to enhancing cooperation between Asian Parliaments and Governments and report thereon to the next session of the APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs and the Executive Council.



Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA Resolutions on Supporting Palestinian State and Protecting Rights of Palestinian People, (APA/Res/2013/03, 9 December 2013); Violations of International Humanitarian Law in the Palestine and the War Crimes Committed By the Zionist Regime in Gaza (APA/Res/2009/01, 8 December 2009); and Humanitarian Crisis in Palestine Particularly in the Gaza Strip (APA/Res/2008/08, 29 November 2008); and the catastrophic humanitarian impact of the aggressive war on the Gaza Strip in July 2014.

Also recalling the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council, including resolutions 242 (1967), 252 (1968), 267 (1969), 298 (1971), 446 (1979), 465, 474, 478 (1980), 468 (1980) and 1322 (2000), 2334 (2016), and resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and other relevant international documents.

Inspired by the Principles and objectives enshrined in the APA Charter and the relevant APA resolutions;

Committed to contribute to the promotion of peace and security at regional and global levels on the basis of justice and the rule of law;

Affirming the responsibility of the international community to support implementation of resolutions and recommendations of the United Nations Security Council; the UN General Assembly; the Human Rights Council; and the APA pertinent to the situation in Palestine, particularly in Al-Quds;

Supporting the struggle of Palestinian people against Israeli occupation by its all means to liberate its land and establish an independent Palestinian State with Al-Quds city as its capital;

Denouncing the transfer of the American Embassy from Tel-Aviv to the occupied city of Jerusalem in disregard of the principles and rules of international legitimacy and UNSC Resolutions;

Expressing serious concerns on Israel's lack of commitment to abide by resolutions and recommendations of the UN Security Council, the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and the APA regarding the human rights situation in the occupied Palestinian territories, particularly in Al-Quds;

Reaffirming the applicability of the fourth Geneva Convention relative to the protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the occupied Palestinian territories, including Al-Quds;

Recognizing that Israel's severe violations of international humanitarian law and of the human rights of Palestinian people undermine international efforts towards achieving a just and lasting peace in the region;

Affirming that the road to peace, stability and prosperity in the Middle East comes first by ending the Israeli occupation of Palestine in implementation of the relevant resolutions of international legitimacy, and not to replace the political solution with economic solution through economic conferences aimed at legitimizing the Palestinian lands occupation and coexistence, and prolongs the occupation tenure.

Emphasizing that the practice of worship, prayers and all Islamic religious rituals in Al-Aqsa Mosque is a natural and guaranteed right for only Muslims. The Israeli occupation has no right to intimidate and prevent them from carrying out their duties, while Israeli occupation allows settlers and extremists to break into the sanctity of islamic sacred places, especially Al-Aqsa Mosque.

1. **Urge** all Members of the APA to support and treat the State of Palestine as a full member of the United Nations.
2. **Reject** and strongly condemn the statements made by the Israeli Prime Minister on 10th of September 2019, in which he announced his intention to annex the entire Palestinian Jordan Valley, the northern Dead Sea and settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, in a massive and flagrant violation of the rules of international law and the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and its resolutions, particularly Security Council resolution 2334 for 2016. We call upon the United Nations to defend its resolutions that end the Israeli occupation and enable the Palestinian people to self-determination on their land.
3. **Affirm** our adherence to the relevant resolutions of international legitimacy as the sole reference to the resolution of the Palestinian issue, and we confirm our absolute rejection of all plans and deals of the so-called "American Deal of the Century" and conferences that do not abide by those resolutions. We affirm that there is no peace, no security or stability in the Middle East without ending the Israeli occupation, and establishing of an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital on the borders of 4th of June 1967, and the resolution of the refugees issue in accordance with Resolution 194.
4. **Condemn** all violations of international law that threaten international peace and security, including all acts of terrorism and organized crime, and human rights violations by Israeli occupying forces and settlers in Palestine, and call for

international protection of the Palestinian people in accordance with General Assembly resolution A / Es-10 / L. 23 of 11 June 2018, and the relevant Geneva Conventions.

5. **Encourage** all members of the international community to take up with the pressure on Israel to immediately release all the Palestinian prisoners including the Members of the Palestinian Parliament and condemns the Israeli Knesset's failure to respond to the fact-finding and investigation committees established by the Inter-Parliamentary Union on prisoners in Israeli jails as evident in to International Parliamentary meetings in St. Petersburg and Geneva in March 2018, and dismantle all illegal settlements as well as the entire separating wall and put an end to confiscating Palestinian lands.
6. **Declare** all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, including expropriation of land and properties which tend to change the legal status of Jerusalem as invalid and bearing no legal effect on their original status.
7. **Condemn** Israel's continuation of building settlements defying applicable international law particularly Security Council resolution 2334 of December 2016; disregarding the legitimate rights of the Palestinian People including their right to resist and protest against foreign occupation of their lands; and hampering international efforts towards achieving a just and lasting peace in the region;
8. **Express** grave concerns on the suppression and injustice, as well as continuing violence practiced against the Palestinian people, particularly women and children, in the occupied Palestinian territories under the Israeli occupation including East Jerusalem, and in the Syrian Golan occupied by Israel;
9. **Call Upon** all members of the APA and the United Nations as well as all regional and international organizations concerned, particularly the United Nations Security Council and the International Criminal Court to address, under the UN Charter and the Rome Statute, the crimes against humanity and the war crimes committed by Israel in Palestine which threaten the international peace and security;
10. **Condemn** the closure of the PLO diplomatic mission in Washington in retaliation for the membership of Palestine to the International Criminal Court;
11. **Praise** the decision taken by the European Union not to purchase any products produced in the settlements based in the occupied territories and call on states of the APA Member Parliaments to act in a similar way and affirm the full support for international boycott movement against Israeli occupation;
12. **Reject** the occupation policies and measures contrary to international law and the international legitimacy resolutions practiced by the Zionist entity to change the historical, cultural, religious and demographic features of the Occupied Palestinian

Territory, especially the city of Jerusalem and its Islamic and Christian sanctities in general, and Al-Aqsa Mosque in particular, and also reject the Knesset law aimed at splitting the Al-Aqsa Mosque temporally and spatially; This constitutes a blatant attack on the freedom of worship and the practice of religious rites, as stipulated in human rights charters, and the First Geneva Protocol of 1977, Article 53 of which prohibits hostilities directed against places of worship.

13. **Reject** the illegal decisions taken by the Israeli Knesset, such as the Judaization of Jerusalem, the Law of Loyalty to Citizenship, the Denial of the Palestinian State and the rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Territories, the Law of Jewish Nationalism, and / withholding the Financing of the State of Palestine, and the theft of clearing funds that belong to the State of Palestine under the pretext of Palestinian caring for the families of the martyrs and wounded and the families of prisoners and detainees, who are victims of the occupation, in violation of Articles 89 and 98 of the Geneva Convention.
14. **Reject** and condemn the US Administration's decision to suspend its financial contributions to UNRWA, and all attempts, resolutions and alternatives that affect the status and role of UNRWA established by UN Resolution 302 of 1949. We call on all countries in the world, especially the members of this Assembly, to support and protect UNRWA's budget so that it can fulfill its obligations to about 6 million Palestinian refugees until their case is resolved in accordance with UN Resolution 194.
15. **Call upon** the international community to fulfill its pledges to rebuild infrastructure and rehabilitate people in Gaza, which have been destroyed by Israeli forces, and to support the Palestinian economy in the occupied Palestine.
16. **Call upon** countries that have established embassies, offices or diplomatic missions in occupied Jerusalem, to draw back the decisions in compliance with the UN Security Council resolutions referred to in the preamble to the resolution, in particular resolution 478 of August 1980, and UN General Assembly Resolution: A / ES-10 / L. 22 of December 2017, which considered the recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital as null and void, and calling on all APA member states to refrain from establishing diplomatic missions in occupied Jerusalem.
17. **Affirm** that development, investment and improvement of the standard of living are rights denied to the Palestinian people for 52 years now, due to the continuation of the Israeli occupation. It's a must first to end the occupation, in order to liberate the Palestinian economy, and enable the Palestinian people to control their natural resources and economic wealth, and invest to live a decent life away from blackmail and bargaining.
18. **Reaffirms** its rejection of US Secretary of State declaration on 18th of Nov 2019 that Israeli settlement in the Occupied Palestinian Territories is not inconsistent

with the international law and considers the declaration a flagrant violation of international law and UN resolutions in particular UN Security Council resolution 2334.

19. **Invites** the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to expedite the publication of the “Black List” of Israeli and foreign companies dealing and/or working in Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territories as a necessary step to isolate settlements and protect human rights.



Draft Resolution on Harmonious Development through Democracy

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter, which reaffirms the dignity and worth of human beings, in the equal rights of nations large and small and the principle of the sovereign equality of the UN Members;

Recalling also the United Nations Member commitment stipulated in the UN Charter to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all people;

Reiterating that democracy, dignity of human beings, rule of law and justice are universal, interconnected, mutually reinforcing and crucial for development;

Recognizing that the eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development and in this regard, stressing on the importance of an enabling environment based on principals of democracy for the promotion of higher living standards, decent employment, and conditions for economic and social progress and development;

Mindful of the need for leading role of Parliaments towards the full realization of SDGs;

1. **Acknowledge** the core role of Parliaments in the socio-economic development by involving the will of the people through transparent, accessible, accountable and effective institutions at all levels;
2. **Consider** democracy, transparency and accountability among the important means to sustainably end poverty, promote shared prosperity and the basic social and economic needs;
3. **Commit** to remove and eradicate all obstacles in the administration of socio-economic polices and all forms of discriminations, including, but not limited to race, color, creed, cast, sex, language, religion, nationality, and ethnicity;
4. **Recognize** the need for active engagement with civil society organization and youth at all tiers of governance to ensure equitable development;

5. **Urge** that APA Members Parliaments shall continue to encourage sustainable human development through social security programs for marginalized segments of the society;
6. **Acknowledge** that regional disparities in economic development are amongst the leading causes of marginalization of efficacy and efficiency of democratic setups. Requiring affirmative actions to bring equitable and judicious development across the region;
7. **Emphasize** to improve regional and inter-regional connectivity to promote socio-economic development of the people of Asia and
8. **Urge** APA Members to generate an informed debate and share experiences at APA platform on the democratic process leading to development.



Draft Resolution on Enhancing Cooperation among the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly to Protect and Promote Multilateralism

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling the relevant principles set forth in the Charter of the Assembly and the Charter of the United Nations;

Mindful of the existence of mutual interests and common problems among the Member Parliaments and *convinced* of the need to further strengthen the existing cooperation;

Recognizing the serious danger and threats posed by the actions and measures which seek to undermine international law and international legal instruments;

Recalling paragraph 4 of the report of Secretary-General of the United Nations entitled “Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization” contained in document A/72/1 wherein it states that “now more than ever, multilateral action is needed to find effective solutions to this mix of challenges”. *Sharing* his concern expressed in paragraph 140 of the same report that “multilateralism is being questioned at a time when we most need coherent global responses to these interconnected events”;

Underscoring the need to strengthen cooperation between APA and other regional and international inter-parliamentary organizations and forums on matters related to Asia;

Expressing opposition to all unilateral coercive measures, with certain destructive effects on the foundation of multilateralism, including those measures used as tools for imposition of unjust political or economic and financial pressure against any country;

Continuing to maintain, strengthen and manifest the unity and solidarity among the members of APA, particularly with those whose nations are suffering from the negative consequences of unilateral coercive measures at political, cultural and economic levels;

Reaffirming that each State has full sovereignty over the totality of its wealth, natural resources and economic activity, exercising it freely;

Gravely concerned that the use of unilateral coercive economic measures adversely affects the economies and the development efforts of all nations, and have a serious general negative impact on international economic cooperation and on worldwide efforts to move towards a non-discriminatory and open multilateral trading system;

Determined, for the sake of peace and stability and promoting friendly and mutually beneficial relations among all nations in the world through, including, contribution to international

cooperation aimed at strengthening multilateralism and curbing the negative effects of unilateralism, we, the Member Parliaments of APA, *agree* to undertake the following measures, among others;

1. **Reaffirm** our commitment to the Charter of the United Nations and universally recognized norms and principles of international law and the objectives and principles enshrined in the Charter of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly;
2. **Reaffirm** our commitment to effective multilateralism with the United Nations at its center;
3. **Assert** on behalf of the parliamentarian community of Asia to work in line with the expectation that the world will become more committed to promote multilateralism in all aspects of world affairs;
4. **Call upon** all Parliamentarians in Asia to redouble their efforts at all possible levels to adopt measures aimed at preventing and curbing the negative effects of illegal unilateral measures undermining free, open and transparent relations among members of the Asian community;
5. **Welcome** all initiatives of the Member Parliaments to promote and strengthen cooperation in various fields including economy, finance, transport and trade within the geography of APA at bilateral and multilateral levels;
6. **Reaffirm** the willingness of the Asian parliamentarians to closely cooperate and collaborate with other branches of their respective governments in formulating proper and effective national plans to help promote multilateral cooperation in all spheres of regional and international relations;
7. **Reject** unilateral coercive measures with all their extraterritorial effects as tools for political and economic pressure against any country in particular against developing countries. **Underscore** the need for all states to avoid politicization of the UN Security Council sanctions regime, particularly with those Member States whose nations are suffering from negative consequences of unilateral coercive measures at political, cultural and economic levels;
8. **Urge** all Member Parliaments to facilitate the adoption of urgent and effective measures to impede the use of unilateral coercive measures against any country that are inconsistent with the principles of international law as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and that contravene the basic principles of the multilateral trading system. **Request** States applying these measures or laws to revoke them fully and immediately;
9. **Reiterate** unwavering support to JCPOA, which remains a significant achievement of multilateral diplomacy endorsed unanimously by the UN Security Council through Resolution 2231 dated 2015 and underscore that JCPOA proved to be

effective and has no alternative and welcome the full implementation by Iran of its nuclear-related commitments, as repeatedly confirmed by the IAEA, and call upon all other parties to fulfill in total their own obligations stemming from JCPOA and the UNSCR 2231 so that overarching goals which induced the conclusion of the accord are achieved in due course and in a timely fashion;

10. **Reaffirm** sovereign right of our people to acquire, manufacture, export, import and retain all economic goods required to ensure an acceptable standard of living and a sustainable development for them, and *emphasizes* that no undue restrictive measure should be taken against any country in this regard;
11. **Emphasize** that under no circumstances should people be deprived of their own means of subsistence and development and stress that no illegal restrictive measures should be taken against any Member State in this regard. *Reiterate* that food and basic goods should not be used as an instrument for unilateral political and economic pressure. *Stress* the importance of international cooperation and solidarity, especially within the framework of APA, to prevent such unilateral coercive measures that affect the trade related to food and basic goods and would endanger food security impacting specially groups in vulnerable situations;
12. **Request** the Secretary-General to submit a report to the next meeting of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs containing initiatives, including those introduced by the Member Parliaments, to promote the role of parliamentarians, especially within the framework of APA, in furthering multilateralism.