

APA Coordinating Meeting alongside 149th IPU Assembly

Sunday 13 October 2024, Hour 15:30 Geneva (Switzerland)

Summary Report

At the invitation of the APA Secretariat, the Coordination Meeting of Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) was held on the sidelines of 149 IPU Assembly on Sunday, October 13 in Geneva, Switzerland with participation of dozens of lawmakers representing the APA member parliaments at 149 IPU Assembly.

The APA meetings on the sidelines of the IPU Assemblies are being held since 2009 as a usual practice mandated under the APA Resolution adopted on November 29th, 2008 by the APA Member Parliaments calling on the APA Secretariat to do its best for benefitting from the IPU potential as a big parliamentary platform in favor of strengthening parliamentary diplomacy and as part of the initiative to deepen cooperation and coordination on important international issues of common interest.

Representatives of the following APA member parliaments attended the meeting:

Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bhutan, Cambodia, Cyprus, India, Iran, Iraq, Maldives, Palestine, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Timor Leste, Türkiye, United Arab Emirate, Oman and Sri Lanka.

- Sultanate of Oman attended this meeting as observer recently communicated with the APA Secretariat indicating its intention for affiliation to the APA as a full member.
- The new secretary general of the Arab Inter-parliamentary Union Dr. Ahmad Alawi Baabood also attended the meeting.

This meeting was chaired by Dr. Rizvan Nabiyev, Head of the Azerbaijan Group to the APA in his capacity as representative of the APA President, who expressed his pleasure for participation at this meeting. The Chair then introduced to the meeting the draft agenda and called on participants for its adoption. As there was no objection, the Chair declared the draft agenda adopted.

AGENDA of the Meeting

- 1. Adoption of Agenda,
- 2. Opening Remarks by the Chair of the Meeting,
- 3. Report by the APA Secretary General:

- Activities of the APA Secretariat since last coordination meeting in Geneva and a brief calendar of the APA regular events till the end of 2024,
- 4. Consideration of the requests for inclusion of emergency items in the agenda of the 149 IPU Assembly,
- 5. Any other matters,

Following adoption of the agenda, the Chair appreciated the members who attended the meeting and moved to item 2 of the agenda to deliver his opening remarks as follows:

Dr. Nabyev started his address with a few words of thanks welcoming the participants and said fostering cooperation between various inter-parliamentary organizations was highly effective in achieving common goals. Having said that, he continued Azerbaijan viewed the APA as a crucial platform for coordinating multilateral initiatives and advancing parliamentary diplomacy to support peace and security. He added "the Asian Parliamentary Assembly served as a unique platform for promoting Asian solidarity and cooperation across various fields".

He also referred to the total number of the APA members stating with great satisfaction that the Chairman of the Shura Council of the Sultanate of Oman Mr. Khalid bin Hilal Ali Maawali, had requested for affiliation as full member under his recent communication with the APA Secretariat and the President.

In another part of his address, the Chair expressed his deep concern about escalation of tensions in the Middle East as a result of expansion of military actions in the region referring to the tensions unfolded in Gaza as one of the most pressing problems in the region.

The Chair concluded his address and once again appreciated the members for their participation at this meeting and then invited the APA Secretary General, Dr. Majidi to deliver his report. (Attachment I)

The APA Secretary General, Dr. Majidi, began his report with a request from the participants to observe one minute silence in commemoration of several thousands of innocent people of Palestine, including women and children who were martyred in Gaza and Lebanon in the aftermath of the brutal mass killings perpetrated by the apartheid regime of Israel since last year.

He then touched on the key idea behind convening of the APA Coordinating meeting alongside IPU Assemblies and referred to the APA resolution passed on Nov. 29,2008 as part of the important initiative to deepen cooperation and coordination among APA Members on important international issues of mutual interest.

In another part of his report, the APA Secretary General referred to parliamentary diplomacy as the cornerstone of democratic governance and driving force to infuse impetus to parliamentary dimension of international cooperation. He then expressed his deep concern over the inaction of the IPU since the flare-up of tension in Gaza and Lebanon.

Dr. Majidi continued, it was very unfortunate that the certain number of delegations representing IPU member parliaments could not reach any common position about the devastating situation in Gaza in a bid to find a solid solution for giving an end to the genocidal

act of the apartheid regime of Israel in the course of their deliberations in the past two IPU Assemblies in Luanda and Geneva.

In conclusion, he expressed his regret that the IPU nicknamed as the global organization of parliaments might lose its credibility under the pretext of the so-called democratic approaches exerted by a number of its members, hindering adoption of a unified position against important international and regional issues.

Finally, he expressed hope that the IPU members could come to a coherent decision about the emergency items to be proposed to the 149 Assembly in support of the people of Gaza and Lebanon and strong condemnation of the Zionist Entity . (Attachment II)

Chair of the meeting thanked the APA Secretary General for his comprehensive report and moved to the next item of the agenda on consideration of the request for emergency items proposed to the IPU.

Under this item of the agenda, he asked the Chairman of the Shura Council of the Sultanate of Oman, as special guest and coordinator of Islamic and Arab Groups to brief the members on the emergency item proposed by Palestine on behalf of Arab and Islamic Groups.

Chairman of the Shura Council took the floor and thanked the Chair of the Meeting as well as the APA Secretary General. He then referred to the current situation in Gaza and Lebanon and ongoing widespread humanitarian crisis lurking over the region .

He also gave a brief summary of the coordination made on the emergency items submitted to the IPU Secretariat about the catastrophic situation in Gaza and Lebanon jointly by Algeria and Palestine and called on the MP from the National Council of Palestine to give a detailed record of the proposed item.

Member of the National Council of Palestine took the floor and thanked the Chair of the Shura Council of Oman for requesting him to give a brief summary of the substantive aspects of the emergency item proposed on the ongoing escalation of tension targeting the people of Palestine in Gaza and Lebanon.

He said the issue of Palestine is not merely limited to this region. This is, indeed, an issued that should be taken due notice of with respect to the right of Palestinians, as otherwise, the ongoing tension will ultimately be a threat to the international security and we would witness further escalation. If no tangible action can be taken, the brutal aggressions by Israel will devastate everything. It was incumbent on all APA members and other Groups to take a unified position against presence of Israel in the occupied territories. The war crimes committed by Israel threatened all the region and it was expected that this items is unanimously adopted.

He then gave a substantive detail of the proposal submitted by Palestine on behalf of Arab Group for consideration and approval by the IPU. This item required" *Enforcing Un General Assembly Resolution ES-10/24 and Ensuring Accountability*".

Following a brief summary of the points expressed by the MP from National Council of Palestine, the Chair asked Dr. Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf to deliver his speech.

The Speaker of the Islamic Parliament of Iran took the floor and addressed the meeting strongly condemning the Zionist regime for perpetration of war crimes in Gaza and Lebanon, deliberately targeting schools, hospitals and civilians, including women and children in defiance of all international law.

Iran's Parliament Speaker said that all ethical and legal achievements of human civilization was trampled by the Zionist regime which openly declared their intension to extend this inhumane policy to other countries in the region.

In another part of his address, Dr. Qalibaf stated that the region was on the verge of explosion adding that the Zionist regime had deeply endangered geopolitical stability and strategic balance of the region.

Lastly, Dr. Qalibaf emphasized that a ceasefire should be brought about in Gaza and Lebanon and that western allies of the criminal regime of Israel should choose to compel this regime to agree with a ceasefire.

(Attachment III)

The Chair thanked Dr. Qalibaf for his speech and then called on the participants to express their viewpoints, if any, before moving to the last item of agenda.

Dr. Abdulkadir Emin ONEN, MP from Turkiye and Head of the APA Group in GNAT took the floor and expressed his clear-cut viewpoints about the importance of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly as a very strong and potent parliamentary body serving as a platform for cooperation.

He called the need for taking a common stand and render close cooperation among APA members, if it was decided to have a strong institution. To this end, he said, it was and urgent need to work for its effectiveness and provide necessary measures and facilities to this effect.

In another part of his speech, he said Asia as the cradle of civilization has been the heart of important events. He continued by referring to the Asian Parliamentary Assembly as a highly important parliamentary body in the Asian Continent with huge potential and capacity and a strong institutional voice to face current challenges, adding that altogether every action was needed to be be taken collectively for peace and stability in the region.

On the ongoing escalation of tension in the region, he said altogether member countries should work hand in hand to deescalate the tension in order to bring peace and security in the region.

MP from the Council of Representatives of Iraq was the next to take the floor. He also expressed his viewpoints about the ongoing escalation of tension in Gaza and Lebanon. In part of his address, he lauded the existing coordination underway among Arab, Islamic and Asian countries for taking a unified position in the face of the war crimes committed by the Zionist regime.

He underlined that crimes and genocidal acts perpetrated by the Zionist regime of Israel would not be limited to merely Palestine and Lebanon, but this regime is a serious threat to other countries including Iraq, Iran, Yemen and many other countries. Israel is, by nature, an aggressive regime and countries of the region should be vigilant to collectively rise against the threats of this regime before it got too late.

MP from Maldives also strongly voiced against the Israeli's crimes in defiance of international law adding that violation of the rights of nations large and small, rich or poor under any condition must not be tolerated. She denounced the ongoing massacre of civilians in Gaza and Lebanon and devastation of schools and hospitals by Israel as a clear violation of the international system and should duly encountered.

She continued "Israel had made every effort not to allow the depth of its brutality in the region to ab unveiled by killing journalist as this regime did not let the crimes to be echoed and disclosed She finally expressed her support for affiliation of Palestine as a UN member.

The Chair then said items of the agenda was fully covered and before closure of the meeting, he asked if there was any comments on the part of the participants.

Mr. Mottaki, MP from the Islamic Parliament of Iran took the floor and said that in the Asia Pacific Geopolitical Group, it was decided to elect representatives for participation in the drafting committee on emergency item and two representatives were elected from this geopolitical group. He recommended that such a procedure could be followed at this meeting and called for election of two representatives from this parliamentary group as well.

Before the meeting was closed, the APA Secretary General took the floor to give some clarification about voting procedure at the Assembly on emergency item to avoid recurrence of the situation facing in the past two IPU Assemblies.

The APA Secretary General recommended members to take due note of the following points in order to make sure of the success of their voting to the emergency items in the IPU Plenary:

To ensure success of the emergency item agreed upon by the Arab Group, it is requested to adhere to the following points from important procedural point of view:

- 1. Please ensure that you attend the Assembly with enough number of members to observe the required quorum in order to have full benefit from your voting rights .
- 2. It is necessary to attend the whole session of the voting program in order not to lose any single number of your voting rights concerning the emergency item.
- 3. To ensure of enough representation of both genders as required by the applicable IPU procedure in order to be able to fully use your voting right. Presence of enough number of MPs at the time voting is necessary in order not to miss any vote and have the desirable result.
- 4. 4. It is necessary to cast all available votes in favor of the agreed upon emergency item, and against other emergency items with no abstention. Please note that abstaining from voting means not voting, as such a position is not considered in favor of the support for the agreed item.

As all the items of the agenda was covered, the Chair declared the meeting close.

Asian Parliamentary Assembly APA Coordinating Meeting Alongside the 149th IPU Assembly Sunday 13 October 2024 (Hour: 15:30 -17:00)

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

Distinguished Speakers, Deputy Speakers of the Parliaments,

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 149th IPU Assembly.

We believe that fostering cooperation between various interparliamentary organizations is highly effective in achieving our common goals. 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.

In this context, the Asian Parliamentary Assembly serves as a unique platform for promoting Asian solidarity and cooperation across various fields. At present, the Asian Parliamentary Assembly unites 43 states and I would like to note with great satisfaction that the ranks of our organization are expanding. Recently (23.09.24) we received an appeal on behalf of the Chairman of the Consultative Council of the Sultanate of Oman, Mr. Khalid bin Hilal Al Maawali, with a request to grant membership in the Organization. This appeal will be considered during the meeting of the APA Executive Council in Baku. This reaffirms the growing significance and role of our organization, which remains the only entity uniting Asian countries at the interparliamentary level.

Honorable colleagues,

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

We are deeply concerned about the escalation of tension in the Middle East. To our great regret, we are witnessing that the geography of military actions is expanding. Unfortunately, one of the most pressing problems in the region is the situation in Gazza. We remain deeply concerned with the continued tension in Gazza.

We support efforts to reduce tensions and find a political solution, both in Gaza and in Lebanon.

We will continue to support the efforts to achieve a just, lasting, and peaceful solution to the issue of Palestine in line with fundamental norms and principles of international law.

The resolution of Palestinian-Israeli relations and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state have always been the focus of our attention. As has been repeatedly stated at various international forums, Azerbaijan's position is unequivocal: Azerbaijan supports a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict: an independent Palestinian State must be established and East Jerusalem should be its capital. Today's tragedy in Gaza must be stopped as soon as possible, the war must be stopped and all issues must be resolved through negotiations. Azerbaijan supports the restoration of peace and security in the region.

Dear colleagues,

The end of armed conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan created substantially new political situation in the South Caucasus based on the international law. Azerbaijan managed to restore its sovereignty and territorial integrity in line with the right of self-defense as outlined in Article 51 of the UN Charter and according the UN Security Council Resolutions of 1993. For the first time since decades, stability has been achieved on the ground, de-facto peace is established.

Following solutions victory in the 44-Day Patriotic War, the President of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, took the initiative to propose a peace treaty and normalize relations with Armenia, based on mutual recognition and respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Over the past year, Azerbaijan and Armenia have made certain significant progress towards peace through direct bilateral negotiations, especially on a peace agreement and the delimitation and demarcation their state borders.

However, for full normalization, Armenia must implement constitutional changes and renounce its territorial claims against Azerbaijan. Armenia's hesitation, combined with a sharp increase in military spending and the acquisition of offensive weapons, is hindering progress toward normalization.

Meanwhile, around 300,000 Azerbaijani refugees, who were forcibly expelled from Armenia in the late 1980s before the collapse of the Soviet Union, remain displaced from their ancestral homes. Despite repeated appeals by the West Azerbaijani Community to engage in dialogue and ensure their safe and dignified return, the Armenian government denies them the fundamental right of return, enshrined in various international human rights instruments.

The formerly occupied territories of Azerbaijan have suffered unprecedented destruction. Almost all the Mosques were destroyed or desecrated. Landmines are everywhere, including cemeteries. Since the end of the conflict in 2020, 377 individuals, among them civilians have fallen victim to landmines. Despite these challenges, hundreds of thousands of Azerbaijani internally displaced persons (IDPs) from the formerly occupied territories, are still waiting to return to their homes in the Karabakh and Eastern Zangazur, in safety and with dignity. In this context, it is also crucial to address the fate of around 4,000 Azerbaijanis who went missing during the First Karabakh War with Armenia in the early 1990s.

Azerbaijan has undertaken extensive post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in the liberated territories. The Azerbaijani government aims to establish green energy zones in Karabakh and Eastern Zangazur.

Honorable colleagues,

I have nearly finished my remarks. Next month, Azerbaijan will host the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change – the first COP in the South Caucasus and the wider region. We are committed to providing a platform for both developed and developing countries to address this global issue. Azerbaijan has elaborated an ambitious Action Agenda comprising 14 initiatives on a range of issues such as finance, human capital, peace, and more.

COP29 will also promote global peace. Azerbaijan has launched the COP29 Truce Initiative, calling on all nations to observe peace during the month of COP29 like during the Olympic Games. Over a thousand NGOs, faith leaders, and various Parties have already joined this initiative. We call on everyone to overcome political and other differences, and respect the Truce and Peace during the month of COP29.

Esteemed Parliamentarians,

in conclusion, I warmly invite you to Baku on November 16-17, 2024, for the parliamentary meeting, which will be co-hosted by the IPU and the Milli Majlis of Azerbaijan as part of COP29. I am confident that this significant event will enhance our collective efforts within the framework of parliamentary diplomacy toward building a better world.

I would like to thank you once again for your valuable presence and wish you all a fruitful meeting.

Attachment II



Report of Dr. Mohammad Reza Majidi Secretary General of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly The APA Coordinating Meeting on the Sidelines of the 149 IPU Assembly Sunday 13 October 2024 Geneva- Switzerland

Mr. /Madam President Distinguished Delegates Ladies and Gentlemen

With much pleasure, I would like to sincerely welcome you for your participation at this APA Coordination meeting. I am also grateful to you for the fruitful insights that you would share with us to further enrich the outcome of our deliberations in order to have an interactive session.

Before we start our meeting, I would like to ask all honorable members to observe one minute of silence in commemoration of several thousands of innocent people of Palestine, including women and children who were martyred in Gaza and Lebanon in the aftermath of the brutal mass killings perpetrated by the apartheid regime of Israeli since past year.

I would like to once again briefly reiterate the reason d'eter of our gathering on the sidelines of the IPU Statutory Assemblies and brush out a few points in this respect.

You may all know that we convene meetings alongside the IPU Assemblies in accordance with the APA Resolution, dated November 29th, 2008, as part of the important initiative to deepen cooperation and coordination on important international issues of mutual interest.

Accordingly, it is indeed a great honor for the APA Secretariat to be able to organize another coordination meeting here in Geneva in cooperation and partnership of our APA parliamentary colleagues who have grave concern to further strengthen structures of parliamentary diplomacy, thanks to the dedicated members of the APA for their unwavering efforts and support in the early days of establishment of our organization, who collectively prompted this insightful initiative in an attempt to provide us with the opportunity to gather every six months on the occasion of the IPU Assemblies and take advantage of the IPU capacity as the biggest platform for deliberation and exchange of views in the advancement of parliamentary cooperation at regional and international levels and to exchange our best practices in the advancement of parliamentary diplomacy as a strong support and complement to traditional approaches by executive in favor of peace and sustainability.

Dear Colleague,

Unfortunately, despite widespread efforts intended to support the core principles of parliamentary diplomacy as the cornerstone of democratic governance and infuse impetus to parliamentary dimension of international cooperation, it is indeed a deep source of concern

witnessing gradual decline of the efforts made during the past two IPU assemblies in Luanda and Geneva where the delegations failed to reach a concrete decision in favor of the people of Gaza in the course of their deliberations, despite all evidences indicating to the unbridled war crimes committed by the Apartheid Regime of Israel in the region. Much to our regret, failure to cement a practical decision on the gloomy situation hanging over Gaza and Lebanon led to further bolstering of the criminal regime of Zionist Entity to continue its genocidal acts and spread its antagonistic nature drawing the war to other parts of the region escalating tension in the south Lebanon after mass killing of over forty thousand innocent people in the Gaza Strip.

This state of indecisiveness should be duly reconsidered as otherwise the core essence of parliamentary diplomacy may be irreparably undermined. This is what I have been preoccupied since our last two coordinating meetings respectively in Luanda and Geneva where the IPU members could not reach a robust decision in the face of Israeli's crimes in Gaza, despite all the coherent positions voiced out by a good number of regional parliamentary bodies at their meetings in the margin of the 147 and 148 IPU Assemblies to galvanize their full support for the innocent people of Gaza.

While, IPU nicknamed as the global organization of parliaments, this parliamentary body under the pretext of the so-called democratic approaches exerted by a number of its members may undermine the longlasting credibility of the IPU as global organization of parliaments in giving a formidable voice to the concerns over such tragic situation. I believe that through solidarity, joint action and unity of purpose we can better work together to overcome the needs and expectations required to give necessary impetus to all efforts underway in defusing the hurdles in our way through parliamentary diplomacy.

Finally, the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, as the institutional voice of the representatives of Asia and the embodiment of an Asian worldview strongly believes that it is in the Asian hands to shape the future of the Continent as one of the most resourceful regions of the world with wonderful capacities, opportunities and bedrocks for desirable cooperation in various domains. In fact, our meeting here is another opportunity to close our ranks and make necessary coordination in respect of the emergency items proposed by the member parliaments.

We should, therefore, try to strength our relations with the IPU in every aspect and have more active participations, particularly at this coordinating meeting as a medium to further increase our cooperation with regional and parliamentary forums if we are to develop parliamentary diplomacy

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

I also hope that we come to a coherent decision about the proposed emergency item and try to make all necessary measures for fruitful consultation with the as much number of IPU delegations to come up with a concrete result on the issue of Palestine and strong condemnation of Zionist regime of Israel when the proposed emergency item on Gaza and Lebanon are raised for adoption of decision.

APA Calendar of Events for 2024:

Under the decision adopted by the 14th APA Plenary during its meeting in 2023 in Baku, the Republic of Azerbaijan, following Member Parliaments accepted APA Vice-Presidency with subsequent readiness to host and chair meetings of the four Standing Committees as follows:

- Russian Federation: Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs
- State of Qatar: Standing Committee on Budget and Planning
- **Kingdom of Bahrain:** Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development
- Republic of Iraq: Standing Committee on Political Affairs

Accordingly, Russian Federation hosted the Standing Committee Meeting on Cultural and Social Affairs in Moscow from 25-28 September 2024 with participation of 16 member parliaments.

At this important meeting all the draft resolutions before the committee were considered.

The meetings also addressed other issues, such as strengthening healthcare in Asia and developing

Meetings of other three Standing Committees are to be hosted and chaired by the related Vice-Presidents respectively as follows:

- Qatar: Standing Committee on Budget and Planning is scheduled to be held in Doha on November 05-06, 2024,
- **Bahrain**: Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development (<u>Date to be</u> confirmed).
- **Iraq**: Standing committee on Political Affairs. (<u>Date to be confirmed</u>).
- **Republic of Azerbaijan:** In capacity as APA President, the First Executive Council (Date to be confirmed) and 15th APA Plenary.

Thank you for your attention

Attachment III

Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA)

APA Coordination Meeting
Statement by His Excellency Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf
Honorable Speaker of the Islamic Parliament of Iran
Sunday October 13, 2024- Geneva-Switzerland
بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

Dear Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to be present here among my colleagues from Asian countries and think that there are several important issues that I deem it necessary to talk about them collectively.

Dear Friends,

I come directly from Beirut to be here. When the planning for my presence at this meeting was made in Tehran, I decided to take a one-day trip to Lebanon and then come here, so I could speak more precisely about the bitter events unfolding in our region. In Beirut, I saw people standing firm and resilient against a criminal enemy—an enemy with no commitment to any red lines, accustomed to the most inhumane behaviors against civilians and innocents. Despite losing their most precious men and children every day, they are determined to stop this killing machine once and for all.

Honorable Colleagues,

The Israeli regime has disregarded international law and has killed over ten thousand children in Gaza. This regime deliberately attacks schools, hospitals, and buildings housing civilians, turning terrorism into its model for security behavior. All ethical and legal achievements of human civilization are now under threat before our eyes, and Israelis openly declare that they intend to extend this behavior to other countries in the region. My question is: What will be the outcome of such a situation? If anyone thinks that the people of Palestine, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, and Yemen will surrender, they are gravely mistaken. As someone who has been familiar with the military and political developments in the Southwest Asia and North Africa region for 40 years, I tell you that a new generation of resistance fighters is emerging, and the people of the region will not wait for anyone to defend themselves against these professional killers.

Dear Friends,

Our region is on the verge of explosion. It is unreasonable to expect thousands of tons of bombs and ammunition to be dropped on innocent people without everything erupting. Israel has deeply endangered the geopolitical stability and strategic balance of

the region, overstepping its limits. I would like to clearly emphasize that we are seeking a ceasefire in Gaza and Lebanon and believe that if the Americans and some Western countries choose, they can compel this regime to agree to a ceasefire.

Honorable Colleagues,

I have brought you the message of the people, officials of Lebanon's government, and Palestinian groups. The time has come for the world, especially Asian countries, to fulfill their humanitarian responsibility and take practical steps to control the criminal Zionist regime. If an agreement is reached here to pressure the U.S. and Israel to stop the violence in the region, I will convey your voice to the people of the region. I assured the officials of the Lebanese government that Iran will support any agreement that is backed by the Lebanese government, people, and resistance. We love lasting peace, but we believe peace is only possible when those who kill children and laugh over their corpses are isolated and condemned by the world.