



Standing Committee on Political Affairs

Baghdad- Republic of Iraq
11-12 January 2025

Final Report

At the invitation of the Iraqi Council of Representatives, the Meeting of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs was held on 11-12 January 2025 in Baghdad, Republic of Iraq with participation of the delegations from the following APA Member Parliaments:

Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Cambodia, Cyprus, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Türkiye, United Arab Emirates

[\(Attachment I\)](#)

Opening Session:

Following dignitaries addressed the opening session:

- H.E. Mr. Al-Kinani, Head of the Iraqi Delegation presided over the Meeting and presented his opening remarks.
- H.E. Dr. M.R. MAJIDI, APA Secretary General
- H.E. Dr. Rizvan Nabiyev, Head of Azerbaijan Delegation in his capacity as representative of the APA President

[\(Attachment II\)](#)

Standing Committee Session:

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Chair put forward the meeting agenda which was unanimously adopted.

[\(Attachment III\)](#)

2. Election of the Bureau:

The Committee elected the members of the Bureau as follows:

- Chairperson: Iraq
- Vice-Chair: Bahrain
- Rapporteur: Pakistan

3. Opening remarks by the Chairperson:

The Head of Delegation of Iraq as Chair of the meeting presented his opening remarks by welcoming all delegations to the meeting of Standing Committee and invited them to participate actively and constructively in proceedings of the meeting.

4. Report of the APA Secretary General:

APA Secretary General gave brief report on the latest developments concerning the activities related to the Standing Committee .

[\(Attachment IV\)](#)

5. General Debate:

Under this Agenda item, Participants presented their remarks on substantive topics of the draft resolutions before the Committee. Many addressed the unfolding disastrous situation in the Gaza Strip , While expressing their full support for and solidarity with the Palestinian people,

[\(Attachment V\)](#)

6. Consideration of the Draft Resolutions:

The Standing Committee had before it the following 8 draft resolutions for consideration. The Committee took due note of the amendments proposed by a number of delegations. Following interactive discussions on proposed amendments, the meeting finally adopted the draft resolutions.

1. Good Governance
2. the Rule of Law and Judicial Empowerment
3. Good Parliamentary Practices
4. Building Prosperity in Asia through Friendship and Cooperation
5. Asian Parliaments and Governments Together for Prosperity in Asia
6. Harmonious Development through Democracy
7. Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People
8. Enhancing Cooperation among the Members of the Asian Draft Parliamentary Assembly to Protect and Promote Multilateralism

[\(Attachment VI\)](#).

7- Any Other Matters:

1-Based on the decision of the APA Bureau, a meeting of the Working Group on Statutory Documents was held on the sidelines of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs.

APA Secretariat presented a non-paper on Article 5 of the Charter and Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure.

The agenda and the non-paper are attached.

After exchange of views on the text of the non-paper , the meeting supported the text of the proposed non-paper and stressed that there will be only four Standing Committees. Any issues to be addressed by the APA will be defined within a sub-committee under preview of one of the four Standing Committees. It goes without saying that the subcommittees will report directly to the concerned Standing Committee.

[\(Attachment VII\)](#)

2. The second meeting of the APA Committee on Palestine was held on the sidelines of the APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs in Baghdad on January 12, 2025.

This meeting was opened by the Chair of the Meeting, Mr. Ali Faysal, Head of Delegation of Palestine, who welcome the participants and asked them to observe one minute silence in memory of the martyrdom of the Palestinian People . Then, he made his statement on the latest situation in Gaza Strip.

The APA Secretary General also made an address on the tragic and painful situation of the people of Gaza and Lebanon.

Participants also made their remarks on the catastrophic situation of the Palestinian people in Gaza and expressed that a lasting and sustained ceasefire would be established in the region.

The draft resolution on “ *Asian Parliament’s unwavering support for Palestinian People*” was extensively by participants and several major amendments, new paragraphs, etc. were introduced into the text aiming at reinforcing the support for the Palestinian people. This draft resolution was unanimously adopted .(a special opinion of the Russian Delegation on this draft resolution was circulated among the participants,)

[\(Attachment VIII\)](#)

Attachment I
List of Participants

الصفة	الاسم	الدولة	ت
Head of Delegation	Jabar Al Kinani	Iraq	1
MP	Dr. Haider Al Salami		
Chairwoman of Foreign Affairs Committee	Delan Ghafour Salih		
MP	Muhammed Sideeq		
SG	Safwan Al Jarjeri		
Member of The Senate/Head of Delegation	SYED MASROOR Ahsan	Pakistan	2
Chairman of Inter-parliamentary Cooperation /Head of Delegation	Mardani Ali Sera	Indonesia	3
Secretary	Sigit Fitriyanto		
Expert Staff	Tide pratama		
MNA/Head of Delegation	Rizvan Nabiyeu	Azerbaijan	4
Advisor/ International Relations Dept	Ilkin Allahverdiyev		
MP/Head of Delegation	Ahmed Alsloom	Bahrain	5
Shura Council Member	Dr. Abdulaziz Abul		
MP	Abdulhakeem Al shanoo		
Shura Council Member	Dr. Jameela Alsalman		
Staff	Hussain Alalaiwat		
Member of The Senate/Head of Delegation	Chanphal NGY	Cambodia	6
Member of The Senate	Chamroeun NGAN		
Staff	Sokhem PECH		
Shura council Member/Head of Delegation	Fares Alosaimi	Saudia	7
Staff	Saad Alangari		
MGNA/Head of Delegation	Omer Ozmen	Turkiye	8
MGNA	Vecdi Gundogdu		
Senior Officer of External Relations and Protocol Dept	Murat Hasturk		
Assistant Expert of External Relations and Protocol Dept	Harun İPEK		
Vise President/Head of Delegation	Ali Faysal	Palastine	9
Shura Council Member/Head of Delegation	Ahmad Al hitmi	Qatar	10
MP	Nasser Al hemaiddi		
Staff	Ali Al Hajri		
Staff	Mohammed AL-Kaabi		
Shura Council Member/Head of Delegation	Shahin Jahangiri	Iran	11
Shura Council Member	Fatemeh Jarareh		
Advisor	Mohammad Ali Noudeh		
Expert	Leila Taati		
Interpreter	Akbar Khorrami Mashkani		
Federation Council Member/Head of Delegation	Gennady Ordenov	Russia	12
Secretary	Olga Folomeeva		
Staff	Veronika Belousova		
APA SG/Head of Delegation	Mohammad Majidi	APA	13
Deputy SG	Kia Tabtabaee		
Senior Expert	SEYEDJAVAD HASHEMI HASSANANDI		
Senior Expert	MAHMOUD YAZDANPOURLETOMI		
Federal National Council Member/Head of Delegation	Nedal Alteneiji	UAE	14
Staff	Shaikha Alteneiji		

Attachment II

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

Mr. Secretary-General of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly

Distinguished members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly

Ladies and gentlemen, all respectful participants.

Peace, mercy and blessings of Allah be upon you

Thank you for joining us today

We welcome you to your second country, Iraq

The meeting of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly comes as we are on the verge of a dangerous phase sweeping the Middle East, a phase in which the basic principles and concepts of international charters and norms such as sovereignty, territorial integrity, the right to self-determination, the right to live in dignity, humanitarian laws, international humanitarian law, the responsibility to protect, multilateral cooperation and the laws of war are being ignored, amidst an ambiguous international system based on double standards and interests and lacking in providing international protection and justice in order to maintain international peace and security. Therefore, it has become very important to work seriously to reform the international system and reconsider its effectiveness in a way that serves the interests of future generations and achieves the goals of sustainable development.

What is happening in Palestine today of massacres and genocide committed by the brutal Zionist entity against innocent civilians is a dangerous precedent that has no precedent in the modern era. The killing of thousands of children and women, the bombing of hospitals and shelters for the displaced, the cutting off of humanitarian aid, the killing of relief workers, mass starvation and the freezing of young children in the bitter cold are scenes that make us all face a great humanitarian responsibility... and due to the lack of a deterrent in all of this and by extension its brutality and violations, we have witnessed the Zionist entity's aggression against beloved Lebanon and its destruction of buildings, the killing of defenseless innocents and the ingenuity of war crimes such as the use of technology to carry out explosives and destroy infrastructure and the displacement of civilians, children and women. The Zionist entity's incursion into the Syrian Golan also warns of a serious threat that may drown the region in conflicts and battlefields that may burn everything if this brutal aggression is not stopped immediately and without compromise as an attempt to establish the foundations of international peace. Hence, Iraq, the government and people, with all its components and spectrums, and the directives of its supreme religious authority, confirm its firm position to support the Palestinian people and the Lebanese people and provide the maximum possible material and moral support. We also call on the international community, its legal institutions and international organizations to work seriously and effectively to immediately stop the war on Gaza, curb the brutal Zionist aggression, implement the binding decision of the International Court of Justice declaring the Zionist presence on Palestinian lands illegitimate and thwart its malicious plans aimed at dividing the region. We should not be satisfied with slogans of condemnation and denunciation, but rather there must be responsible positions and practical steps towards what is happening in the region to avoid a potential regional war.

With regard to the situation in Syria, Iraq confirms its keenness on the integrity of Syrian lands, the right of the Syrian people to self-determination, the unity of its lands, the preservation of its sanctities and its independence away from foreign interference in order to achieve stability, prosperity and living with dignity away from extremism, violence and tearing apart the Syrian ranks.

Dear brothers,

You meet today in Iraq of peace... Iraq of civilization, science and knowledge... Iraq of heroism, glory and pride... Iraq of steadfastness and challenge... This Iraq that faced the most difficult circumstances and the most severe wars, but every time it proved to the whole world that it is like a phoenix rising from its ashes safe and sound... It gets sick but does not die thanks to the efforts of its sons and its heroic and valiant army, the cohesion of its unity and the wisdom of its supreme and wise religious authority...

Iraq today is an axis of convergence, cooperation and peace... an axis of construction, development and prosperity... Iraq has taken great steps to achieve security, victory over terrorism and restore life to destroyed cities through comprehensive plans for construction, reconstruction and development. Today we are witnessing the implementation of major urban, economic and development projects and we are striving to achieve the goals of sustainable development.

The legislative authority in Iraq works side by side with the executive authority and supports the efforts of the Iraqi government in completing its government program and commends the efforts made by the Iraqi Prime Minister, Eng. Mohammed Shia al-Sudan, to maintain the security, stability and unity of Iraq through a successful and moderate foreign policy..

Dear ladies and gentlemen

Iraq seeks to achieve regional and international security and stability, by building strong partnerships to face common challenges through cooperation with participating parties and mutual dependence in a way that serves the interests of all.

We call for international and regional solidarity to face the major challenges facing our world and threatening the safety of our lands and our children, and we affirm our commitment to the principles of shared and fair responsibility between countries towards a more stable and just world that interacts and provides development opportunities for all peoples of the world.

May the peace, mercy, and blessings of God be upon you



**Asian Parliamentary Assembly
Standing Committee on Political Affairs
Baghdad- Republic of Iraq
11-12 January 2025
Statement of Dr. Mohammad Reza Majidi at the Opening Session**

**Mr. President,
Distinguished Delegates
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

With sincere greetings to you in the New Year.

It is a great pleasure and honor for all of us as the APA family members to attend this important meeting in the historical city of Baghdad. As you may be well aware, this event will be the last leg of the regular session of the four Standing Committee meetings, thanks Almighty God for His blessings and guidance leading us to complete the APA calendar of programs to this date as scheduled.

Let me also offer on your behalf and myself, my heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to the honorable Speaker of the Council of Representatives of Iraq, H.E. Dr. Al-Mashhadani, H.E Mr. Al-Kinani, Head of the APA Group of Iraq, the government and the friendly people of Iraq for the gracious hospitality extended to us.

Before I go forward let me extend my wholehearted greetings to all of you for your welcoming response to attend this important meeting, despite the time constraint you were facing to make necessary arrangements for participation at this event.

My sincere thanks will also go to the APA President and Vice-Presidents who spared no effort to follow the programs of the Committees and host the related Meetings as planned.-

Dear Colleagues,

We have gathered here at this crucial juncture in the early days of the New Year, while we have brought with us from the previous year the months -long painful memory of the horrendous tragedy of humanitarian crisis emerged in the aftermath of the uninterrupted Israeli's atrocities in the Gaza Strip followed by widespread crimes in Lebanon. The tragic situation that is still continuing with no mercy.

Under such circumstances, APA, as part of its mandate in the context of parliamentary approaches has strived to make every possible effort needed in the face of continued acts of genocide in Gaza and is quite ready as a key parliamentary platform in the vast Continent of Asia for the enhancement of close cooperation in an attempt to intensify its unsparing support for a lasting and sustainable ceasefire in order to put an end to the alarming massacre of the innocent people in the blockaded enclave by the Apartheid regime of Israel.

Moreover, I hope that current situation in Syria will lead to the establishment of a broad-based administration embracing rights of all the people, recognizing the rights of people to self-determination with full respect to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country. It is only under this circumstances that one can ensure peace and security would be maintained and the people can live in peace and prosperity.

In this regard, I deemed it necessary to highly appreciate the able management of the leadership of the Council of Representatives of Iraq for its sagacious initiative seizing this great opportunity to take advantage of the capacity of this meeting and recommending to host the second meeting of the Committee on Palestine.

I am confident that our meeting would come up with a final outcome document condemning in the strongest term the crimes of Apartheid regime of Israel and that perpetrators of crimes against humanity in this region are brought to justice in the coming future.

Finally, I take this opportunity to extend my condolences to the peoples and parliaments of Azerbaijan and Republic of Korea two of the APA Members for the sad plane incidents happened to them.

Let me conclude my statement with the hope of witnessing re-affiliation of the five APA Member Parliaments (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Kuwait, Sri Lanka, and Syria) to the APA community in the coming future.

Thank you for your attention

**Opening Ceremony of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,
Standing Committee on Political Affairs
Baghdad, Iraq, 11-12 January 2025**

**Speech of the Representative of the APA President and Head of the
delegation of Azerbaijan to the APA, Dr. Rizvan Natiyev**

His Excellency Mr. Mahmoud Al-Mashhadani,
Distinguished APA Secretary General Dr. Majidi,
Honorable Members of the Parliaments,
Dear ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great honor for me to address the Opening Ceremony of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly as the Representative of the APA President and the head of the Azerbaijani delegation.

I am delighted to convey best greetings from Her Excellency Professor Sahiba Gafarova, President of the APA and Speaker of the National Assembly of Azerbaijan.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to the Council of Representatives of Iraq and his Speaker His Excellency Mr. Mahmoud Al-Mashhadani, and also Dr. Jabbar Al-Kinani for the exceptional hospitality and meticulous arrangements and the successful organization of this meeting.

Furthermore, I sincerely thank His Excellency Dr. Mohammad Reza Majidi and the APA Secretariat for their dedicated efforts in enhancing the organization's activities.

The Asian Parliamentary Assembly is an essential platform for coordinating multilateral efforts and enhancing parliamentary diplomacy to foster peace and security. Alongside the developments and achievements in various fields in Asia, serious challenges, inter alia humanitarian crises, regional conflicts, armed clashes continue to negatively impact the Asian region and beyond.

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 Gaza. We remain deeply concerned with the continued tension in Gaza. We support efforts to reduce tensions and find a political solution, both in Gaza and in Lebanon.

The resolution of Palestinian-Israeli relations and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state have always been the focus of the attention of Azerbaijani Side. 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.

The severe tragedy in Gaza must be urgently brought to an end, the war halted, and all outstanding issues addressed through peaceful negotiations.

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.

Dear colleagues,

The Republic of Azerbaijan is also following the developments taking place in Syria. Azerbaijan supports the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Syria and hopes that the problems will be resolved following the will of the Syrian people as well as through domestic political dialogue. It is absolutely essential to restore peace and stability in the country and end the civil confrontation.

Azerbaijan, together with the brotherly Türkiye and other like-minded partners, is ready to contribute to the resolution of the humanitarian problems faced by the Syrian people. In December 2024, Azerbaijan dispatched a humanitarian aid convoy from Baku comprising 10 trucks loaded with 200 tons of various food and grocery products.

In addition, Azerbaijan will also extend necessary support to the new government on the diplomatic arena. To this end Azerbaijan is planning to reopen its embassy in Damascus. We are hopeful that bilateral relations between Azerbaijan and Syria will be restored and cooperation will develop based on mutual friendship and partnership.

Azerbaijan has declared its readiness to provide potential support in Syria's reconstruction process. Azerbaijan's experience in restoration and reconstruction, gained after liberating its territories from occupation, could be utilized in Syria's recovery process.

Dear colleagues,

For the first time since decades, de-facto peace is established between Armenia and Azerbaijan, stability has been achieved on the ground. The end of illegal 30 yearlong occupation created substantially new political situation in the South Caucasus based on the international law.

The President of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, took the initiative to propose a peace treaty and normalize relations with Armenia. Over the past years, 15 of the 17 essential points of the peace agreement already agreed upon. A commission for border delimitation and demarcation between Azerbaijan and Armenia has been established and is currently continuing its work. Demarcation has already been completed along a small part of the provisional state border.

For full normalization, however, Armenia must make constitutional changes to renounce its territorial claims against Azerbaijan.

The formerly occupied territories of Azerbaijan, seven cities and more than 300 villages have suffered unprecedented destruction. The cultural heritage, including almost all the Mosques were destroyed or desecrated. The city of Aghdam, left in ruins, is tragically called the "Hiroshima of the Caucasus." 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.

As a result of 30 years occupation, Azerbaijan is now one of the most heavily mined countries in the world. An estimated 1.5 million landmines pose a serious threat to some 12 per cent of my country's territory. Despite these challenges 700,000 Azerbaijanis who were forcibly displaced and subjected to ethnic cleansing, are still waiting to return to their homes in the Karabakh and Eastern Zangazur, in safety and with dignity.

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.

Dear colleagues,

As multi-polarity rises and multilateralism faces new challenges, Asia must respond with unity, cooperation, and shared responsibility. In this context, at the end of my speech, I would like to inform about the activities of Azerbaijan in the two organizations consisting of the Asian countries. **D-8, Developing Eight Organization for Economic Cooperation and CICA - Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia.**

In December 2024, at the Summit of the Developing Eight, Organization for Economic Cooperation, held in Cairo, Egypt, the Republic of Azerbaijan was elected as a member of the D-8. The foundation of the organization was laid on the initiative of Türkiye in 1996 with the cooperation of Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria and Pakistan.

The Organization for Economic Cooperation D-8 unites now nine Muslim countries on three continents with a population of over 1.2 billion people. The Gross Domestic Product of the member states of the D-8 exceeds \$4 trillion.

The D-8 membership of Azerbaijan will also be a great asset in promoting Islamic solidarity. Azerbaijan has always played the role of a bridge between East and West throughout its history. In this context, the contribution to security and stability in a vast region of Asia, as well as to the development of trade, transport and communications are of paramount importance.

Dear colleagues,

At the Ministerial Council meeting of the **Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia, called CICA**, held also in December 2024, the Chairmanship of the Conference for 2024-2026 was handed over to Azerbaijan. The idea of convening CICA was proposed by the Republic Kazakhstan in 1992, at the 47th Session of the United Nations General Assembly. The driving force behind this initiative was the aspiration to set up an efficient structure for ensuring peace and security in Asia. CICA is a multi-national forum based on the recognition that there is a close link between peace, security and stability in Asia and in the rest of the world.

The Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia, CICA, comprises 28 member states from Asia. The Azerbaijani Chairmanship of CICA is grounded in the theme of "Stronger CICA – Connectivity, Digitalization, and Sustainable Growth in Asia". Azerbaijan's Chairmanship will focus on increasing CICA's international visibility and expanding its network of partnerships with other international organizations. For the sake of peace and prosperity in Asia, I wish the APA continued success.

Thank you for your attention.

Asian Parliamentary Assembly

Standing Committee on Political Affairs Baghdad, Iraq



11 – 12 January 2025

Draft Agenda

(12/25/2024 by APA Secretariat)

- 1) Adoption of the Agenda
- 2) Election of the Bureau
- 3) Opening Remarks by Chairperson
- 4) Report of the APA Secretary General
- 5) General Debate
- 6) Consideration of Draft Resolutions on:
 1. Good Governance
 2. The Rule of Law and Judicial Empowerment
 3. Good Parliamentary Practices
 4. Building Prosperity in Asia through Friendship and Cooperation
 5. Asian Parliaments and Governments Together for Prosperity in Asia
 6. Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People
 7. Harmonious Development through Democracy
 8. Enhancing Cooperation among the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly to Protect and Promote Multilateralism
- 7) Any other matters.

Attachment IV



Asian Parliamentary Assembly Standing Committee on Political Affairs Baghdad- Republic of Iraq 11-12 January 2025

Report of the Secretary General

**Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished Delegates,**

Let me begin my report with a few welcoming words to you for your warm response to the invitation of the honorable Speaker of the Council of Representatives, H.E Dr. Al-Mashhadani, and attended this important meeting as an indication of your interest to duly follow APA Programs, despite the short interval existed since our sitting in Manama. However, time constraint could not cause any hindrances on our will for joining together once again in the historical city of Baghdad.

In response to your commendable effort and firm conviction, I would like to highly appreciate your presence at this event in Baghdad at such a delicate situation we are facing and express my special thanks to the Iraqi Council of Representative for the excellent organization of the meeting and their generous hospitality extended to us.

Based on this sense of responsibility and positive attitudes that every one of you have in respect of our APA community, we are now holding this Committee meeting to wrap up successfully the last leg of sessions of the four Standing Committee Meetings.

Dear Colleagues

As you may have duly noticed, APA has undertaken some policy changes during the past few months to speed up its pace for further advancement of the its regular programs. At the initiative of the APA Secretariat and close cooperation and coordination of the APA Presidency, we succeeded to benefit from the potential capacity of the Standing Committee Meetings and organize couples of side events. This policy which was initiated during our SC Committee Meeting in Moscow received further support of the APA Presidency, currently leading to the regular convening of Bureau Meetings as the key element and driving force to speed up adoption of decisions. The key element for added

value of this policy had led to further success of our Standing Committee Meetings leading to give further momentum to the APA programs.

Dear Colleagues,

As you may recall, at its last meeting in Baghdad on 10-11 Nov 2023, the SC on Political Affairs decided to center its focus on consideration of "Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People", as response to turbulent situation in the Gaza Strip as the only resolution to be considered by the meeting and leave consideration of all other draft resolutions before the Committee to a later date .

Due to the critical situation lingering over the Gaza Strip following the heinous crimes committed by the Apartheid Regime of Israel, this decision received welcome support of the participants and after thorough deliberation the resolution was referred to a drafting committee for final adoption as an indication of firm solidarity and unwavering support to the Palestinian people.

The Standing Committee Meeting on Political Affairs in Baghdad also adopted a final document that affirmed the rights of Palestinian people to struggle and legitimate resistance by all available means for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state with Al-Quds as its capital.

It also called for ending the occupation and aggression of the Zionist entity to all Palestinian, Syrian and Lebanese territories as it represents the path of peace, stability and prosperity

The adopted resolution was approved by the 1st Executive Council Meeting in Nov. 2023, in Antalya, Türkiye. The 1st Executive Council also approved establishment of the "Committee on Palestine" which was endorsed by 14th APA Plenary in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan

The 1st meeting of the Committee on Palestine was held on 9-11 January 2024 in Tehran. It is an opportune moment and welcome coincidence that we are holding the 2nd Meeting of the Committee on Palestine at the same time in the year 2025; thanks to our Iraqi brothers for their invaluable initiative deciding to hold the 2nd Palestine Committee Meeting alongside of the SC Committee on Political Affairs.

Dear Colleagues,

Today, the Standing Committee on political Affairs has before it the following 8 draft resolutions for consideration as itemized below under relevant titles on:

1. Good Governance
2. The Rule of Law and Judicial Empowerment
3. Good Parliamentary Practices
4. Building Prosperity in Asia through Friendship and Cooperation
5. Asian Parliaments and Governments Together for Prosperity in Asia
6. Harmonious Development through Democracy
7. Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People

8. Enhancing Cooperation among the Members of the Asian Draft Parliamentary Assembly to Protect and Promote Multilateralism

I would like to conclude my report with some words of thanks to appreciate once again the Iraqi Council of Representatives for holding this important meeting of the political Committee and other side events at this critical and sensitive situation.

May I also seize this valuable opportunity to appreciate the commitment and generosity of the four APA vice- presidents for their unsparing effort to assist the APA Secretariat for the greater success of the APA.

Thank you for your attention

Attachment V

Dear Honorable Chairman of the session...

Honorable President of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly...

The Honorable Secretary-General...

Your Excellences, distinguished heads of delegations..

Dear attendees..

May the peace, blessings, and mercy of God be upon you

I would like at the very inception of my speech to express our happiness about your presence with us in Iraq, hoping that you will consider it your second country, in accordance with the poet's saying (Oh our guest, if you visit us, you would find that we are the guests and you are the owner of the house.

We salute and welcome you in our country, the cradle of civilizations. It was in Iraq that the concept of the wheel was born, the first letter was written, the first agriculture system was developed and in addition Iraq so many things were discovered and invented.

We greet you in a country that was home to the Sumerian, Akkadian, Assyrian and Babylonian civilizations.

We salute you in a country that God had chosen to be the home of many pure messengers, prophets and imams, may the best prayers and peace be upon them all.

Honorable attendees,

It is not revealing a secret to countries of the Asian continent can achieve at all levels, especially in the domain of political affairs. Asia is considered one of the largest and most diverse continents in the world, and is characterized by enormous human wealth, as two-thirds of the world's population lives on it. It is also characterized by a wide range of climates and geographical regions. The social and economic landscape in Asia includes some of the fastest growing economies in the world.

Based on above-mentioned, we must have confidence in our abilities to achieve the aspirations of the people of Asia. Taking its diversity as an integrative tool capable of producing governments that contribute to upholding the economic and social level based on their deep belief and conviction in law and in respecting the judiciary, protecting rights and preserving the sovereignty of states and without interfering in their internal affairs.

The events we are witnessing today in a number of Asian countries need to be considered and reviewed. Syria, Lebanon, and before them beloved Palestine, have already suffered a lot from the double standards of many major powers, which allow the killing and displacement of people and aim to fulfill their pernicious goals and interests in the region. The crimes being committed by the Zionist entity in our Asian countries calls for our vigilance and caution and for serious steps to be taken in defending the rights of our peoples.

We, as parliamentarians, must represent our people as they aspire and strive to achieve their aspirations by urging our governments to take all measures that contribute to preserving the dignity and freedom of our peoples. Your brothers in the Iraqi parliament have enacted a law criminalizing normalization with the Zionist entity, in an attempt to deter this entity from continuing its crimes, hoping that all countries in the region will follow suit to preclude further brutal killing of innocent peoples in the region.

On another level, we urge Asian countries to initiate cooperation among themselves to achieve what they aspire. We also stress the urgent need find a formula that obliges member states to implement the

draft resolutions that are taken by the Assembly. We call for the formation of a subcommittee to evaluate and follow up the Assembly's draft resolutions and diagnose deficiencies, if any, in preparation for improving those projects.

In conclusion, I renew my greetings to you and wish you a pleasant stay. May God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you.

Parliament MP, Dr. Haider Al-Salami

بِسْمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الحمد لله، والصلاة والسلام على أشرف خلق الله، سيدنا محمد، وعلى
آله وصحبه أجمعين.

معالي السيد/ جبار الكناني رئيس الاجتماع

سعادة السيد/ محمد رضا مجيدي الأمين العام للجمعية البرلمانية
الآسيوية الموقر

أصحاب السعادة، أعضاء المجالس والبرلمانات الآسيوية الموقرين

الحضور الكرام،

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته،

في البداية، أود أن أعرب عن بالغ شكري وتقديري لجمهورية العراق الشقيقة على ما تقدمه من استضافة كريمة وحفاوة بالغة لهذا الاجتماع الهام، كما أعرب عن فائق امتناني للجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية على جهودها المستمرة في تعزيز التنسيق البرلماني بين دول المنطقة، مما يعزز التعاون السياسي ويسهم في دفع قضايا شعوبنا إلى الأمام.

ومن خلال هذا المنبر، يسرني ويشرفني أن أرفع أسمى آيات التهاني والتبريكات إلى مقام حضرة صاحب الجلالة الملك حمد بن عيسى آل خليفة، ملك مملكة البحرين المعظم، حفظه الله ورعاه، وإلى صاحب السمو الملكي الأمير سلمان بن حمد آل خليفة، ولي العهد رئيس مجلس الوزراء، حفظه الله، وإلى شعب مملكة البحرين العزيز بمناسبة العيد الوطني المجيد لمملكة البحرين، وعيد الجلوس الخامس والعشرين لجلالة الملك المعظم، وهو التاريخ الذي يمثل رمزاً لوحدة الوطنية وإنجازاتها التي نواصل البناء عليها في كافة المجالات.

كما يسرني أيضًا أن أهني أبطال منتخبنا الوطني لكرة القدم على حصولهم على كأس بطولة الخليج ٢٦، معربين كأعضاء في السلطة التشريعية عن بالغ فخرنا بما حققوه من إنجاز رياضي رائع، مشيدين بالروح القتالية والتعاون بين اللاعبين والتي كانت مصدر إلهام لنا جميعًا. وأود أن أتوجه بالشكر الجزيل لدولة الكويت الشقيقة على

حسن التنظيم واحتضان هذه البطولة بنجاح، مما يعكس حرصها
المستمر على دعم الرياضة الخليجية وتعزيز الروابط بين الدول.

أصحاب السعادة،

نلتقي اليوم في مرحلة فارقة تشهدها منطقتنا، حيث تتفاقم التحديات التي تواجه شعوبنا بشكل متسارع، مما يستوجب منا حشد الصفوف وتكثيف الجهود لمعالجتها بحكمة وفاعلية، وفي هذا السياق، تبرز الدعوة الاستثنائية التي أطلقها حضرة صاحب الجلالة الملك حمد بن عيسى آل خليفة، ملك مملكة البحرين المعظم، حفظه الله ورعاه، خلال رئاسته للقمّة العربية الأخيرة، لعقد مؤتمر دولي للسلام في الشرق الأوسط. وتعد هذه الدعوة تجسيداً لرؤية استراتيجية راسخة لجلالته، مستندة إلى فهم عميق وشامل لواقع المنطقة وتطلعات شعوبها، بما يسهم في تحقيق الاستقرار والسلام المستدامين. هذه الدعوة لم تكن أبداً مجرد خطوة ظرفية، بل هي دعوة تحمل أبعاداً استراتيجية تسعى إلى إنهاء النزاعات المستمرة وتحقيق سلام دائم يضمن الأمن والاستقرار لكل دول المنطقة.

إن مملكة البحرين، التي تؤمن إيماناً راسخاً بأن الحوار الفعال والتعاون المثمر هما الأساس للوصول إلى حلول شاملة وعادلة، تبذل كل ما في وسعها لتحقيق هذا الهدف النبيل، الذي يمثل السبيل الأمثل لضمان مستقبل آمن ومزدهر للأجيال القادمة.

الجمع الكريم،

إن مواقف مملكة البحرين تجاه القضايا الإقليمية تقوم على مبادئ راسخة ورؤية واضحة تُترجم إلى خطوات عملية تؤكد التزامنا العميق بالسلام العادل والمستدام وأسس الشرعية الدولية. وتأتي في مقدمة هذه القضايا، القضية الفلسطينية، التي تمثل قضية العرب الأولى وتشكل جوهر الصراع في منطقة الشرق الأوسط. إن مملكة البحرين تؤكد التزامها الكامل بدعم الحقوق المشروعة للشعب الفلسطيني، وفي مقدمتها حقه الأصيل في إقامة دولته المستقلة وعاصمتها القدس الشريف. ونحن نؤكد، في هذا السياق، أن المجتمع الدولي مطالب اليوم، أكثر من أي وقت مضى، بتحمل مسؤولياته التاريخية من خلال تحرك حازم وفعال لإنهاء الاحتلال الإسرائيلي للأراضي الفلسطينية، وضمان حقوق الشعب الفلسطيني وفقاً لمبادئ الشرعية الدولية، ليتسنى له ممارسة حقه في تقرير مصيره والعيش في سلام وأمن.

وفيما يتعلق بالجمهورية اللبنانية الشقيقة، فإن مملكة البحرين تُعرب عن اسمى التهاني للبنان بأنتخاب رئيساً جديداً للجمهورية، مؤكدة دعمها الراسخ لهذا البلد الشقيق في مساعيه للحفاظ على سيادته واستقلاله، وترسيخ أمنه واستقراره السياسي والاقتصادي، مؤكداً عن كامل ثقتنا بقدرة لبنان على تجاوز التحديات الجسام عبر تعزيز مؤسسات الدولة وتحقيق رؤية وطنية شاملة تضمن لهذا الشعب الشقيق مستقبلاً مشرقاً ومستقراً.

الجمع الكريم،

أما فيما يخص الأحداث السورية الأخيرة، وفي إطار التزام مملكة البحرين بتعزيز الحوار الهادف لتحقيق الاستقرار والازدهار في الجمهورية العربية السورية الشقيقة، تواصل مملكة البحرين دعمها الثابت للجهود الدولية الرامية إلى إنهاء معاناة الشعب السوري. كما تؤكد المملكة على أهمية احترام إرادة الشعب السوري في تقرير مصيره، وأن الحل السياسي هو الحل الوحيد القابل للتحقيق في سوريا، داعيةً المجتمع الدولي إلى تكثيف الجهود لإعادة الإعمار وتحقيق الاستقرار في هذا البلد الشقيق، مع ضمان العودة الطوعية للاجئين والنازحين إلى ديارهم.

ختامًا،

أكرر شكري وامتناني لجمهورية العراق الشقيقة على استضافة هذا اللقاء الهام، وأتمنى لجميع المشاركين النجاح والتوفيق في مناقشاتهم، وأن نخرج بتوصيات تسهم في تعزيز الاستقرار والازدهار في منطقتنا.

والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته.

**Asian Parliamentary Assembly
Standing Committee on Political Affairs
Baghdad, Iraq, 11-12 January 2025**

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

Distinguished Mr Al-Kinani,
Distinguished APA Secretary General,
Members of the Parliaments,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

We firmly believe that strengthening collaboration among inter-parliamentary organizations is a powerful means of achieving our shared objectives. In this regard, the APA stands out as a distinctive forum for advancing Asian solidarity and fostering cooperation across diverse fields.

We are gathering in the historic city Bagdad to discuss and adopt eight resolutions. These resolutions cover a wide range of topics and can be categorized into the following thematic areas:

- **Good Governance, Rule of Law, Democracy, and Parliamentary Practices:** Draft resolutions focusing on enhancing governance frameworks and promoting effective parliamentary practices.
- Two resolutions on the **Building Prosperity in Asia through Friendship and Cooperation** aim at fostering economic growth and regional collaboration in Asia.

I would particularly highlight the significance of the resolution on the **Promotion of Multilateralism in Asia**, which underscores the importance of cooperative international engagement, including within the interparliamentary sphere.

Additionally, we will deliberate on the resolution titled **Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People**. We are deeply concerned about the escalation of tension in the Middle East, in Gaza and Lebanon. We are hopeful that bilateral relations between Syria and other member states of the APA will be restored and cooperation will develop based on mutual friendship and partnership. During the Opening Ceremony, I provided a detailed explanation on this matter.

Honorable colleagues,

Alongside the developments and achievements in various fields in Asia, serious challenges persist.

As the world witnesses the rise of multipolarity and multilateralism faces evolving challenges, Asia must strive for unity, cooperation and shared responsibility to navigate this transformative era.

In this regard, I have already provided insights into Azerbaijan's active engagement within two organizations comprising Asian countries: the Developing Eight Organization for Economic Cooperation (D-8) and the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia (CICA). These Platforms demonstrate the crucial role of cooperation in addressing regional challenges.

The Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) could play an essential role in promoting multilateralism. To address the challenges we face—be they economic, environmental, or geopolitical—our countries must work collectively. The APA serves as a vital platform for fostering collaboration and advancing multilateral diplomacy, enabling us to align our efforts and amplify Asia's voice on the global stage. Guided by the principles of peace, equity, and justice, this collective approach ensures that our shared goals are effectively pursued.

Thank you for your attention.



**Speech of H.E. Dr. Nedal Al Tunaiji - Member of the Federal
National Council at the meeting of the Standing Committee on
Political Affairs of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly**

11Jan 2025

Baghdad – Republic of Iraq

Excellencies,

Ladies and gentlemen,
Peace, mercy and blessings of God,

At the outset, I would like to thank the Council of Representatives of the Republic of Iraq for the warm reception and hospitality and for your kind efforts and good organization of the work of this meeting.

I would like to emphasize that such participations contribute to strengthening the position of the United Arab Emirates regionally and internationally, especially as they contribute to the exchange of expertise and experiences at the level of national parliaments from various Asian countries.

Our role as parliamentarians today lies through dedicating efforts to advance our societies and priorities through joint cooperation between our parliaments, and developing policies that encourage equality and justice, and ensure an environment that allows effective contribution to building a better future, and that this important forum has a great opportunity to bring about the desired change through the draft resolutions on the agenda of the meeting, which in turn serve Asian communities as a whole, we must fully and fully commit to continue working, especially in light of the circumstances in the world. Today.

I also affirm that the Palestinian cause is a major priority, and that the position of the United Arab Emirates in supporting and supporting comprehensive peace efforts to find a just solution to the Palestinian issue is a firm position that is not neutral, in order to reach a two-state solution,

in accordance with the Arab Peace Initiative, and in a way that guarantees the right of the brotherly Palestinian people to establish their independent state, and that peaceful efforts and calm are the only option, in the face of the current escalation, to reach the desired solution.

In conclusion, we thank you for your kind attention, and we hope that .this meeting will be fruitful with positive results

Delegates Views on the Draft Resolution
Hon. Dr. Mardani Ali Sera
Chair of the Committee of Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation
The House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia

APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs
11 – 15 January 2025

I. Introduction (Jika Diperlukan)

Assalamualaikum Wr., Wb.

May the peace, mercy and blessings of Allah be upon us all,

Allow me begin by congratulating the Council of Representatives of the Republic of Iraq on their warm hospitality, as well as the great organizing and facilitation of this meeting. My name is Mardani Ali Sera, Chair of the Committee of Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation of the Indonesian House.

***Honorable Chair,
Honorable Delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,***

Indonesia welcomes the draft resolutions prepared by the APA Secretariat, especially the new draft resolution regarding the need to protect and promote multilateralism. As we currently understand, multilateralism seems to be increasingly weakening.

Especially given the huge gap between people's aspirations and the response of global institutions, that sometimes did not result in a global decision. This situation then becomes the reason why people in various parts of the world are pressing for stronger democratic accountability from international organizations.

The situation in Gaza for instance. Even though violations of international law have been apparent there, global institutions do not immediately respond. Sometimes they are even held hostage by the unilateral actions of certain countries.

In such setting, we cannot rely only on policy proposals from certain countries. Nor any unilateral act that undermine the will of the majority of international society.

We, as parliamentarians, must remain confident that global governance is still the most viable and significant concept for addressing today's complex challenges.

Parliament must also continually play a role in global governance by reaffirming legislative participation in international diplomatic forums. So that we may participate more actively in global governance talks on numerous present-day issues.

Hopefully, through this meeting, we can work together to produce political documents that have an impact and are able to increase the role of our organization on various important global issues.

Thank you

II. Views on Draft Resolutions

1. Draft Resolution on Good Governance

Indonesia proposes to add new paragraphs on the preamble section of this draft resolution, as follows:

Having aware that parliament serves as the bedrock institution of good governance whereby through its functions in legislation, robust oversight mechanism, budgetary provision, and public grievance channel, the national policies can reflect best the interest of the public;

Deeply concerned about emergencies, including those arising from pandemics and natural disasters, and their impact on, inter alia, good governance, the rule of law at all levels and the achievement of the SDGs, in particular Goal 16 on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and its targets;

Emphasizing the need to foster inter-parliamentary cooperation including through collaboration with other relevant inter-parliamentary institutions such as the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), the Global Organization of Parliamentarians against Corruption (GOPAC), among others as a way to strengthen measures on good governance;

Baca.

The paragraphs that we proposed were aimed to underline the critical role of a legislative institution in shaping a good governance regime at the national level. Further, we also would like to recommends parliament of Asian Countries to consider measures to strengthen the governance during times of emergency, as a way to address corruption and potential of abuse during crisis/emergency ensure that there is a system of checks and balances, and encourage the embodiment of good governance.

Therefore, we also propose to add new paragraphs on the Operative section of this draft resolution, as follows:

Urge Member Parliaments to further the full and effective use of the UN Convention Our against Corruption to develop, put in place, and where appropriate, improve and

strengthen anti-corruption policies and strategies, in accordance with domestic law as part of the steps taken to enhance good governance and the rule of law;

Recommend Member Parliaments to adopt, should have not done so, or strengthen the emergency protocol with robust governance framework legislation as a way to ensure its preparedness and address corruption during times of emergencies, crisis response and recovery;

We also would like to propose an additional paragraph on the last part of the operative section as follow:

Task APA Secretariat to pursue stronger partnership, cooperation and collaboration with relevant inter-parliamentary institutions working to promote good governance and rule of law, and combat corruption.

The proposed paragraph is a suggestion for APA to move forward a potential partnership with other relevant Inter-Parliamentary Institutions which has concern and operates in the field of good governance.

2. Draft Resolution on the Rule of Law and Judicial Empowerment

baca (Regarding to this draft resolution, it is important to understand that the rule of law should also be protected through ensuring the independency of the judiciary and its ethics supremacy. Therefore, we would like to propose in the operative section as follow:

Promote parliamentary measures to protect the independency of the judiciary in making impartial decisions free from any interventions and provide an adequate proper oversight control as a way to ensure the ethics supremacy among judiciary authorities;

baca. (on Furthermore, we would also like to propose a new paragraph which highlight a new reality which was started by Israel in disregarding, ignoring, and violating the international law, international human rights law, and humanitarian laws, that should be condemned as it is ignoring the way the international rule of law works.

Condemn in its strongest term the consistent and continued blatant violations of international human rights and humanitarian laws, a manifestation of total disregard and ignorance of the international rule of law, by Israeli authorities in Gaza and the Occupied Palestinian Territory;

3. Draft Resolution on Good Parliamentary Practices

We propose to add document references in the preamble section of this draft resolution, on the urgency of having good parliamentary practice. The propose paragraph are as follows:

Referring to the Open Government Partnership (OGP) Memorandum on Parliamentary Engagement whereby parliamentary engagement has been an integral part of the open government philosophy and a key element to achieve ambitious open government reforms;

Taking into account the Declaration on Parliamentary Openness launched at the World e-Parliament Conference 2012 in Rome Italy which provide a general guide and scope of openness and good parliamentary practices to the legislative institutions;

We also propose an additional paragraph on the operative section as follow:

Encourage Member Parliaments to strengthen their involvement and engagement to OGP through the possible development of a stand-alone of Open Parliament Action Plan, aiming for a better and good parliamentary practice;

baca.

The paragraph proposes to develop an Open Parliament Action Plan as part of engagement with the Open Government Partnership (OGP), an international organization dedicated to promote openness and transparency. Such measure is aiming to better the existing parliamentary practices.

4. Draft Resolution on Harmonious Development through Democracy

baca

Indonesia welcomes the draft resolutions on Harmonious Development through Democracy considering the fact that collected strategies pursued by APA in the Resolutions of Standing Committee on Political Affairs are consistent with our foreign policy objectives, and therefore, we have always been committed with any programs and actions to promote democratic values.

Having said that, we would like to propose additional paragraph in the operative section of this draft resolution, that aims to underline that democracy needs parliament to functions given its roles of check and balances. Thus, the parliament itself needs to be strengthened.

The propose paragraph are as follows:

Stress the need to strengthen parliament as an institution of check and balances, holding the government to account for every political, socio-economic development policies it creates and implements;

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

baca.

Regarding the resolution "Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People", in principle the contents of the resolution are in line with the various basic positions of the OIC regarding the situation in Gaza, but a number of sentences can be strengthened with updated elements agreed upon by the OIC and international forums.

We therefore propose additional paragraphs on the Preamble section of this draft resolution as follows:

Welcoming the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) of July 2024 on the legal consequences arising from Israel's policies and practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT), including East Jerusalem, and from the illegality of Israel's continued presence in the OPT;

Also welcoming the UN General Assembly (UNGA) resolution A/ES-10/L.31/Rev.1 in follow-up to the advisory opinion of the ICJ adopted at the tenth emergency special session, 13 September 2024;

Further welcoming the International Criminal Court (ICC) issuance of warrants of arrest for crimes against humanity and war crimes on 21 November 2024;

Also, an additional paragraph that combines with the initial paragraph line 15 in the preamble section. The new combined paragraph will be as follow:

Alarmed by the persistent and continuous attack to health facility and personnel as well as humanitarian officers which have left the Gaza Strip's health system severely under-resourced and **regretting** the surge in violence in Gaza since 7 October, 2023 and loss of all civilian lives;

Accordingly, we would also like to propose resentencing for Operational Paragraph one, to be as follow:

Urge all Members of the APA to ensure their governments recognize the State of Palestine and support the full membership of Palestine in the United Nations

This paragraph is to emphasize support for full membership of Palestine in the UN as well as expanding recognition of Palestine consistently agreed upon within the OIC framework, especially in the Resolution of the 5th OIC Summit and the Joint Extraordinary Summit of the OIC-Arab League.

We also propose to resentence Operational Paragraph two, to be as follow:

Also urge the international community to put pressure to Zionist Entity to stop its military aggression against the people of Gaza Strip through an immediate and permanent ceasefire.

This paragraph we propose is aim to affirm the common position in various OIC meetings, including the OIC-Arab League Extraordinary Joint Summit, particularly to expedite a permanent ceasefire.

On Operational Paragraph 6, Indonesia would like to add the UN General Assembly (MU) Resolution ES-10/24, which regulates the end of the Israeli occupation which has been agreed in the context of the OIC, as follow:

***Welcome** the adoption of the UN General Assembly Resolution ES-10/24 on September 18, 2024, which endorses the International Court of Justice's legal advisory opinion dated July 19, 2024 aimed at ending the Israeli occupation and call for its full implementation*

On Operational Paragraph twenty-one, regarding support for UNRWA, which has been consistently agreed upon in the framework of the OIC. The OIC also condemned the Knesset's legislation (Israeli Parliament) which prohibited UNRWA's operations in the OPT (Occupied Palestinian Territory) area:

***Reject and condemn** the Knesset's laws banning UNRWA's operations in the Gaza Strip, West Bank and East Jerusalem, and urge the international community to safeguard UNRWA's indispensable role in delivering lifesaving services to Palestinians without any obstruction.*

On Operational Paragraph thirty, to add after the word people:

Encourage the member parliaments of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly take political initiatives and adopt positions that support the legitimacy of the Palestinian cause and the legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people including abstaining from treaty relations with, entering into economic relations or trade dealings with, and in the establishment and maintenance of diplomatic missions in Israel as mandated by the UNGA resolution A/ES-10/L.31/Rev.1 adopted in September 2024.

11 -12th January, 2025
Baghdad, Iraq

APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs



RESEARCH DIRECTORATE
SENATE SECRETARIAT

Statement

- **Respected Speakers and Honourable Members of APA Parliaments.**
- **Excellencies, Dignitaries, Distinguished Guests.**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen!**

Assalam-o-Alaikum!

It is my honour to address this esteemed gathering of APA Parliamentarians at the meeting of the Standing Committee meeting on Political Affairs. I would like to take this opportunity to extend our acknowledgment to the Iraqi Council of Representatives for hosting us in this historic and beautiful city of Baghdad.

Parliaments, as the cornerstone of public representation, bear a profound responsibility to inspire hope, foster optimism, and guide people toward a brighter future. Asia home to diverse cultures, economies, and ecosystems, faces several challenges such as pandemics, climate change and conflicts, that impact its development and stability.

Ladies and Gentlemen!

Asia despite being a global economic powerhouse grapples with income inequality within and between many countries. Rapid economic growth has lifted millions out of poverty, but the benefits are often unevenly distributed, leaving rural areas and marginalized communities behind. Furthermore, heavy reliance on exports and manufacturing makes several Asian economies vulnerable to

global market fluctuations and trade tensions, particularly with major western economies. Similarly, rising national debts in some countries also strain fiscal stability, limiting their ability to invest in critical sectors like education, healthcare, and infrastructure. On the political front, we are faced with geopolitical tensions that threaten regional cohesion and security. Territorial disputes and resource conflicts, exacerbate mistrust among nations and risk escalating into larger conflicts. These political challenges not only hinder sustainable development but also pose significant barriers to regional cooperation and integration.

We must address these issues through cooperation and collaboration, robust governance, diplomatic initiatives, and a commitment to inclusive growth and stability. Therefore, resolutions to be discussed today hold great significance for our common future and we as Members should make all out efforts to ensure their implementation.

Ladies and Gentlemen!

The Parliament of Pakistan places great emphasis on advancing the interconnected goals of development, human rights, and democracy, demonstrating a steadfast and unwavering political commitment to these principles. It reaffirms that the universal realization of the right to self-determination for peoples under colonial, foreign, and alien domination is essential for ensuring and promoting human rights. Pakistan advocates for a comprehensive resolution of outstanding disputes in the Asian region to achieve lasting peace, emphasizing the need to address all occupations including Palestine and Indian-occupied Kashmir in line with UN resolutions and international human rights conventions. We strongly condemn the indiscriminate and disproportionate use of force by Israel against Palestinian civilians in Gaza,

In the end, I would call upon all the APA Members to work collectively towards addressing the geo-political challenges in the region and strive for the peaceful co-existence in Asia.

Thank You!

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GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF TÜRKİYE
Foreign Relations and Protocol Department

ADDRESS BY MR. VECDİ GÜNDOĞDU
MEMBER OF TURKISH DELEGATION TO ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
(APA)
AT THE MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
ON POLITICAL AFFAIRS
(January 11, 2024, Baghdad/IRAK)

Dear Chair,
Dear Members of Parliament
Distinguished Guests,

It is a great pleasure for me to meet with you on the occasion of the meeting of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs of the Parliamentary Assembly of Asia (APA).

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Iraqi House of Representatives and ~~Mr. Mohammed Al-Abadi~~ ^{Muhammed Mehdi} Speaker of the House of Representatives and Mr Jabbar Frayyeh Abbas AL-KINANI Chair of the APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs, for their generous hospitality. I would also like to express my heartfelt thanks to the Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly of Asia, and in particular to the Secretariat of National Assembly of Azerbaijan, which holds rotating presidency of the APA for their great contribution to the organization of this meeting.

The Standing Committee on Political Affairs has been exerting every effort for shaping the political framework and decision-making processes of our august Assembly.

We must keep the grounds for dialogue and cooperation strong in order to establish peace in the world and promote tranquility in our region. Inter-parliamentary dialogues and international partnerships are of great importance in building peaceful coexistence. It should be known that no country, and no organization alone can ensure peace and tranquility; this can only be possible with a common approach which embraces differences as opportunities.

As Members of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye, we are highly proud of sharing our tradition of parliamentary diplomacy, shaped by more than a century of



GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF TÜRKİYE
Foreign Relations and Protocol Department

accumulation and experience, with 31 member parliaments of the APA through the inter-parliamentary friendship groups we have established with 148 countries so far.

We have a multidimensional and comprehensive relationship with the state of Iraq, with which we have approximately 380 kilometers land border. While the principles of friendship, brotherhood and good neighborliness characterize our relations, our cooperation in areas such as transportation, trade, energy, culture and tourism is getting much stronger than ever.

We aim to further strengthen our bilateral relations on an institutional basis within the framework of our strategic vision with the Iraqi parliament,

The Iraqi economy has a great potential in terms of diversity. In this context, the Development Road Project is particularly significant in transforming this diversity into an economic opportunity. The Development Road project is a valuable asset for regional and global economic integration while connecting Asia to Europe.

Dear Chair,

13-year civil war in Syria has claimed tens of thousands of lives and left many cities in ruins. Having overthrown an oppressive regime almost a month ago, Syrian people now have the opportunity to determine their own destiny and build a stable future.

Currently, Syrian people are facing major challenges, including ensuring security in Syria, eliminating terrorist elements, returning of Syrians to their own lands, delivering urgent humanitarian assistance and rebuilding the country. At this point, it is of utmost importance that member parliaments of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, the countries of the region and the international community help the Syrian people overcome these challenges and establish a more stable government.

Türkiye has maintained its support for the just cause of the Syrian people from the very beginning and was the first country to reopen the Turkish Embassy in Damascus on December 14, 2024, just one week after fall of the regime. As members of the Parliamentary Assembly of Asia, we should encourage further dialogue with the new Syrian leadership and engage in this process.

While we are delighted by some promising developments in Syria, the genocide in Gaza unfortunately interrupts our joy. Gaza, home to more than two million people, is being subjected



GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF TÜRKİYE
Foreign Relations and Protocol Department

to genocide by Israel in full view of the world. Ongoing blockades, limited access to resources and intense bombardment have created an unprecedented humanitarian catastrophe.

As the world watches the situation in Gaza, we as an international community must assume a constructive role to resolve this crisis. The people of Gaza, like all people, have the right to live in dignity, peace and security. The situation in Gaza is a call to action for all of us. It is a reminder that collective conscience must be our guide in addressing the crises we face. We must stand in solidarity with the people of Gaza and defend their right to live in peace and security.

I consider that the draft resolution on the Unwavering Support of Asian Parliaments to the Palestinian People, which we will discuss here today, as a sign of the APA's sensitivity to the issue.

I would also like to emphasize that we attach great importance to the draft resolution on Achieving Prosperity in Asia through Friendship and Cooperation and Harmonious Development through Democracy.

I would like to underline that as Türkiye, we are committed to ensuring prosperity and security in the APA region and for our peoples to live in peace.

I do hope that our meeting will yield fruitful and successful outcomes and wish the decisions we will take will be beneficiary for our region.

Thank you for your kind attention.

APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs

Baghdad, Iraq

11 – 12 January 2025

Intervention by the Head of the Cyprus delegation, Mr. Nicos Tornaritis MP

- First of all, I would like to extend my gratitude to the Republic of Iraq and especially to our colleagues and staff of the Iraqi Parliament for their warm welcoming and for hosting us to the beautiful and historical city of Baghdad.
- The world and our close region of the Middle East and Eastern Mediterranean is currently at turmoil. The stability and well being of our countries and peoples is always our first priority and all of us in the APA have always been working tirelessly towards this goal.
- Cyprus has always been committed to promoting the strengthening of ties between APA member countries in a range of areas, including economic integration, political stability, and social development.
- In its capacity as both the easternmost country of the EU and a country of West Asia, Cyprus has been working hard to foster peace and stability in its turbulent region, advocating for peaceful solutions to regional disputes and supporting democratic governance and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms of all citizens.
- In this respect parliamentary diplomacy has a vital role to play. Through the establishment of frequent channels of communication and cooperation among Asian parliaments, we improve mutual understanding and may address successfully the many challenges our region faces.
- Cyprus is strongly committed to play its full role as a pillar of security and stability in the volatile Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East and a bridge for dialogue and cooperation between Europe and the region.
- The continuous massacre of civilians in ^{KAZA} the region must stop. Too many lives have been claimed, too many citizens live in appalling conditions, which leads to immense suffering and insecurity.

Escalating violence and instability cast a heavy blow to peace and stability, entailing severe economic repercussions.

- Cyprus' "Amalthea" initiative for the transfer of humanitarian aid from Cyprus to Gaza, as well as the facilitation of the evacuation of foreign nationals from the war zone, through a one-way maritime corridor are prime examples.
- Cyprus remains committed to the aim of reaching a peaceful, comprehensive and lasting settlement, based on two-states, Palestine and Israel coexisting side by side within internationally recognized borders, in accordance with relevant UN Security Council Resolutions and previous agreements.
- Overall, Cyprus fully aligns itself with the spirit and ideas set forth in the resolutions examined by this Standing Committee. I am confident that once again our deliberations will deliver the best possible outcome so that the role of the APA as a credible and effective forum for regional cooperation is further enhanced.

ملحق

2025/1/11



منظمة التحرير الفلسطينية
Palestinian Liberation
Organization (P.L.O)

كلمة نائب رئيس المجلس الوطني الفلسطيني علي فيصل
في اجتماع اللجنة السياسية للمجموعة البرلمانية الاسيوية

السيد الرئيس

السيد الأمين العام للمجموعة البرلمانية الاسيوية د. محمد رضا مجيدي المحترم

السيدات والسادة أمناء المجموعة البرلمانية الاسيوية

تحية فلسطين وشعبها وشهدائها الأبرار واسراها الأحرار

تحية غزة أسطورة الصمود الفلسطيني وايقونة أحرار العالم

والتحية موصولة من المجلس الوطني الفلسطيني ورناسته

نلتقي اليوم في بلد عزيز على قلوبنا وبدعوة كريمة من مجلس النواب العراقي وفي ضيافة شعب العراق وحكومته وبلاد الرفادين الرافد الداعم للشعب الفلسطيني الصامد في مواجهة حكومة مثلث الإرهاب الصهيونية، نتنياهو- بن غفير- سموتريتش، بالتحالف مع الامبريالية الاميركية والغرب الاطلسي، الذي يتصدى ببسالة اسطورية لفاشية دولة اسرائيل التي ارتكبت ابشع جرائم حرب الابادة الجماعية والاستنصالية لوجود شعب فلسطين وحضارته وهويته التي فاقت في نازيتها نازية هتلر، ليس فقط منذ 7 اكتوبر بل منذ نشوء الحركة الصهيونية دولة العدو الاسرائيلي حتى اللحظة. وهي ذات السياسة التي تمارسها ايضا اليوم ضد شعوب المنطقة وضد الإنسانية جمعاء.

أيتها السيدات والسادة

نخاطبكم اليوم من بين أشلاء الأطفال نثرا في الارض والسماء والطفولة المتجمدة في احصان-الأمهات اللواتي التحفن الشهادة رداء للحياة، وحكن من رمال غزة وتراب فلسطين أكفانا لجنامين المجد وديمومة الخلود، نتحدث إليكم باسم غزة أسطورة الصمود وفلسطين وطن البطولة، مساحة التاريخ والجغرافية والحضارة والهوية ورواية الشعب الذي لا يقهر، في نضال متواصل، موجا اثر موج وفوجا اثر فوج والشهيد يودع الشهيد في ملحمة قل نظيرها لشعب لا يعرف اليأس رغم ستة وسبعين عاما من الاحتلال الصهيوني الفاشي والتضحيات الجسام لأكثر من ثلاثة الاف وسبعمئة مجزرة ومحركة، تجاوز عديد الشهداء 46 ألف والجرحى أكثر من 115 ألف والمفقودين أكثر من ٢٠ ألف، ومن بينهم 20 ألف طفل و 18 ألف امرأة، وفي القلب منهم قادة شهداء كبار ولفيف كبير من الأطقم الطبية والصحافيين والمهندسين والأكاديميين والعلماء وأطقم الإسعاف والدفاع المدني والموظفين في الأنروا والمؤسسات الدولية ورجال القانون، في حرب إبادة جماعية شاملة للشعب الفلسطيني وحقوقه وهويته وحضارته في

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تحد صارخ للمواثيق والقوانين الدوليه وشرعة حقوق الإنسان والقانون الدولي الإنساني من دولة فاشية خارجة عن القانون الدولي والحياة البشرية.
أما الضفة المحتلة فقد اعتلى جدران مجدها أكثر من 700 شهيد، 12 ألف أسير منذ 7 أكتوبر، في تصد ملحمي لمخطط الاستيطان والضم والتهجير الاستعماري الصهيوني علي يد قطعان المستوطنين وحكومة الارهاب.

أيها السادة والسيدات

غزة اليوم بلا ماء وبلا دواء وكهرباء، المستشفيات مدمرة، وكذلك الجامعات والمدارس والمعاهد ومراكز البحث والدراسات والأماكن المقدسة فيها وفي الضفة، والقدس مستباحة، والأرض ترفض التهويد.

في غزة حظر للاونروا ومنع لتقديم خدماتها وجوع وحصار، وعطش وظلام ولا شي قابل للحياة إلا إرادة الحياة بعدان قصفت بسنة أضعاف من هيروشيما وبقنابل وأسلحة اميريكية وأطلسية وبأيد صهيونية فاشية، وصلت بوزير التراث الاسرائيلي لقصفاها بقتيلة نووية، وبوزير الحرب بقوله إنهم يقتلون حيوانات بشرية، وبالرئيس بايدن ووزير خارجيته اعتناق الصهيونية واليهودية، في محاولة يائسة لترميم قدرة الردع الاسرائيلية بعد صمود غزة وطوفان الاقصى، وللحفاظ على مكانة اميركا ومصالحها في المنطقة.
فعن اي صراع للحضارات يتحدثون وعن اي دفاع عن النفس يدعون، أنها حضارة وثقافة الاستعمار والإمبريالية الامريكية والفاشية الصهيونية الجديدة، للإبادة الشاملة لكل ما هو غير يهودي او صهيوني لشعبنا ولشعوب المنطقة التي تريد نقل النموذج الفاشي والفاشل بالعدوان على شعب لبنان الشقيق ومقاومته والذي يسطرأروع ملاحم البطولة وقدم أكثر من 2700 شهيد وفي مقدمتهم قادتها الكبار، اضافة الى 12 ألف جريح ودمار كبير في المدن والقرى، ناهيك عن الاعتداءات المتكررة والمدانة على سوريا وبران واليمن والعراق وعلى كل حر في عالمنا، في محاولة فاشلة لبناء دولة اسرائيل الكبرى، بضم غزة والضفة والقدس والجولان، وجزء من الاردن ولبنان، ومن اجل بناء نظام شرق اوسط جديد واعادة رسم خارطة المنطقة وتجديد السيطرة والهيمنة الامريكية الاسرائيلية بما يلي مصالحهما، الأمر الذي يشكل خطرا على امن واستقرار المنطقة والعالم وهو امر بات تحقيقه من المحال نتيجة صمود ومقاومة شعبنا وشعوب المنطقة واحرار العالم، الامر الذي عمق عزلة دولة اسرائيل على الصعيد العالمي وزاد من حدة التناقضات الداخلية على مختلف المستويات السياسية والامنية والعسكرية نتيجة الفشل في تحقيق اي هدف من اهداف العدوان، والخسائر البشرية، العسكرية والاقتصادية والمعنوية والهجرة الداخلية والخارجية رغم الحقن الامريكية والاطلسية على مختلف المستويات.

أيها السيدات والسادة،

ان صمود غزة وثبات الشعب الفلسطيني في ارضه، اعاد الاعتبار للقضية الفلسطينية واستعادت مكانتها على جدول اعمال العالم وشعوبه كقضية تحرر وطني ضد اخر استعمار اسرائيلي استيطاني احلالي، وبدعم وشراكة اميريكية - اطلسية، واكدت اختراق الرواية الفلسطينية عقول الشباب العالمي خاصة في اميركا واوروبا وأستراليا، واكتسبت صدقيتها منذ 76 عاما من عمر النكبة، ومن اصرار شعبنا ومقاومته وانتفاضاته، التي قدم فيها الشعب الفلسطيني عشرات الالاف من الشهداء، وكوكبة من القادة الكبار رئيسا وأمناء عامون وأعضاء مكاتب سياسية اضافة الى مئات الالاف من الجرحى والمعتقلين، الذين أكدوا بالدم ان فلسطين هي للفلسطينيين، وان لا سلام في المنطقة ما لم تحل القضية الفلسطينية بانهاء الاحتلال

الاسرائيلي وتفكيك المستوطنات، وتمكين الشعب الفلسطيني من تقرير مصيره، ببناء دولته الفلسطينية المستقلة، بعاصمتها القدس على كامل الاراضي الفلسطينية المحتلة بعدوان 1967، وعودة اللاجئين بموجب القرار الاممي 194.

في غزة سقط زيف الادعاءات الاميركية والاطلسية والاوربية بالديمقراطية والعدالة الاجتماعية وحقوق الانسان، وبرزت من جديد طبيعة الامبريالية الاميركية والغرب الاوربي ودولة الاحتلال الاسرائيلي، انها قوة استعمار جديد وفاشية متجددة لا تقيم شأننا الا لمصالحها الاستعمارية على حساب شعوب العالم التي اغرقتها بالحروب والدمار، والجوع والحصار، وطوقتها بالاحلاف العسكرية وعسكرة العلاقات الدولية، بأمل تجديد هيمنتها الاحادية على العالم من جديد، لكن صمود غزة وشعب فلسطين وشعوب المنطقة والعالم، والتوازنات الدولية الجديدة الذي تلعب فيها روسيا والصين ودول البريكس وبلدان اسيا ودول عدم الانحياز ومعظم دول اميركا اللاتينية سيؤسس لنظام عالمي جديد متعدد الاقطاب، تسوده العدالة والديمقراطية وحقوق الانسان.

ان مصير غزة هو شأن فلسطيني خالص وفقا لقرار واطار فلسطيني موحد ومستقل ومن دون وصاية وبمرجعية منظمة التحرير الفلسطينية الممثل الشرعي والوحيد للشعب الفلسطيني، الامر الذي يحسن الحالة الفلسطينية وفقا لقرارات المجلسين الوطني والمركزي، ومخرجات الحوارات الوطنية جمعاء التي تعزز مكانة الوحدة الوطنية والمقاومة، وتسقط كل الاوهام الاميركية والاسرائيلية لليوم التالي للعدوان على غزة الذي لن يكون الا فلسطينيا.

أيتها السيدات والسادة،

ومن منصتكم، منصة احرارالعالم، وباسم المجلس الوطني وراثته، نتقدم منكم بمجموعة من الاقتراحات التي من شأنها ان تشكل اسهاما في تطوير دعمكم لشعب فلسطين وتعزيز دور التحرر والتقدم وجبهة العدالة الدولية لوقف هذه الحرب الاستئنافية والابادة الجماعية لشعبنا، ومحاكمة دولة الاحتلال الاسرائيلية على جرائمها بحق شعبنا وبحق شعوب العالم ومن ابرزها:

- 1- وقف العدوان على غزة وانسحاب قوات الاحتلال الاسرائيلي وتنفيذ قرار مجلس الامن 2735 القاضي بوقف اطلاق النار واجراء عملية تبادل جادة للاسرى وفك الحصار بالسماح لادخال المساعدات الانسانية الى قطاع غزة، واعادة اعمار ما دمرته آلة الحرب الاسرائيلية.
- 2- دعم مقاومة الشعب الفلسطيني المشروعة لانهاء الاحتلال الاسرائيلي، دعم دولة فلسطين في مطلبها لنيل العضوية الكاملة في الأمم المتحدة، وحق عودة اللاجئين استنادا الى القرار 194.
- 3- ادانة سياسة الولايات المتحدة الاميركية المعادية للشعوب وفي مقدمتها شعبنا الفلسطيني ورفض تدخلها في شؤون الدول، والتصدي للإجراءات التي تتخذها بحق كل من يعادي الولايات المتحدة الاميركية.
- 4- مقاطعة دولة الاحتلال الاسرائيلي وعزلها وسحب الاعتراف بها، واسقاط عضوية الكنيست الاسرائيلي من البرلمان الدولي ومن لجنة مكافحة الإرهاب ووقف التطبيع مع دولة إسرائيل الفاشية ولنا من قرار مجلس النواب العراقي نموذجا يقدر.
- 5- دعم قرارات محكمة العدل الدولية بإنهاء الاحتلال الاسرائيلي، والدعوى التي تقدمت بها جنوب افريقيا فيما يتعلق باتفاقية منع الابادة الجماعية والمعاقبة عليها، ورفض الضغوط والابتزاز الاميركي الذي يمارس على دولة جنوب افريقيا، ومطالبة المحكمة الجنائية الدولية بالاسراع في

- تنفيذ مذكرة التوقيف بحق نتنياهو وغالانت، واعادة الاعتبار للقرار 3779 الذي يعتبر الحركة الصهيونية حركة عنصرية.
- 6- تشكيل هيئة برلمانية دولية لدعم الشعب الفلسطيني ومناهضة الاحتلال الاسرائيلي وانهائه، وهيئة برلمانية دولية لمناهضة الفاشية والاستعمار والعنصرية، والتصدي للسياسات الكولونيالية ومواجهة الاستعمار الامبريالي الجديد بزعامة الولايات المتحدة الاميركية.
 - 7- وقف المخططات الاستيطانية وتفكيك المستوطنات وجدار الفصل العنصري، والتصدي لمخطط الضم الاسرائيلي، بما في ذلك التهجير والترحيل من الضفة المحتلة وغزة والقدس.
 - 8- الحفاظ على الاونروا واسقاط قانون الكنيست بحظر نشاطها في فلسطين وتقديم الدعم المالي والاقتصادي والاجتماعي للشعب الفلسطيني ومؤسساته الوطنية لمحو آثار العدوان.
 - 9- تقديم الدعم المادي للشعب الفلسطيني ودعم القطاع الصحي والقطاع التعليمي وإعادة بناء المستشفيات والجامعات والمدارس والبنية التحتية والمنازل السكنية ودور العبادة والمؤسسات الفلسطينية والدولية وتأمين الأمن لها ولموظفيها خاصة وكالة الغوث لممارسة مهماتها الإغاثية والصحية وحماية الأطقم الطبية والصحافية والدفاع المدني .
 - 10- السعي الجاد لعقد مؤتمر دولي بحضور الدول الخمسة الكبرى برعاية الأمم المتحدة وعلى أساس قراراتها لتمكين الشعب الفلسطيني من تقرير مصيره على أرضه وإقامة دولته المستقلة وعاصمتها القدس وحق عودة اللاجئين وفقا للقرار 194..
 - 11- الحفاظ على مكانة منظمة التحرير الفلسطينية باعتبارها الممثل الشرعي والوحيد للشعب الفلسطيني والضغط لاعادة افتتاح مكتبها في واشنطن ورفعها عن لائحة العقوبات والارهاب الاميركية، والدعم الكامل للمجلس الوطني الفلسطيني باعتباره الهيئة التشريعية العليا والوحيدة لها ولشعبنا الفلسطيني.

عاشت فلسطين حرة أبية مستقلة بعاصمتها القدس
عاشت الاخوة الفلسطينية والعراقية
الشكر والتقدير للمجموعة البرلمانية الاسيوية
ولكل حر وقف الى جانب شعبنا في مواجهة حرب الابداء
المجد والخلود للشهداء، الحرية للاسرى، والشفاء العاجل للجرحى

Speech of the Head of the Russian Delegation
at the APA Standing Committee Meeting on Political Affairs

(Baghdad, Iraq, 11-12 January 2025)

Your Excellency Mr. Chairman,

Mr. Secretary-General,

Excellencies, esteemed colleagues,

On behalf of the Russian delegation, I would like to express our gratitude to the Iraqi Council of Representatives for the warm welcome and hospitality we enjoy here as well as for the opportunity to speak today.

We are thankful to the Secretariat for facilitating the Assembly's activities and preparing the important and necessary documents that we have been working with.

I want to emphasise that the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, as a unique platform for parliamentary cooperation uniting representatives from legislative bodies across nearly all Asian states, is not only a vital dialogue mechanism for exchanging views and experiences, but also an effective tool for achieving a common vision and harmonised positions in line with global and regional agendas.

Having emerged as complementary to the efforts of executive authorities, parliamentary diplomacy has now become an inherent part of international relations, a distinct and responsible area of work for legislators across the globe. Importantly, parliamentary diplomacy has not devolved into a rigid mechanism; it retains a dynamic and live character. For this reason, parliamentarians are often among the first to respond understandingly to new trends in international affairs that today are undergoing a challenging period of transformation, marked by the establishment of a new world order. Our task is to not merely witness this process but actively participate in it.

First and foremost, it is crucial for us as legislators to focus on upholding the principle of the supremacy of international law. Successful cooperation can only occur on the basis of commonly accepted legal rules. It is worth noting that most of these principles, enshrined in the UN Charter, were born out of the serious ordeal humanity faced in the world wars and are a result of balanced decisions and compromise.

It is no secret that today's attack on national sovereignty and economic competitiveness often begins with attempts to undermine spiritual and cultural foundations. My country is one of the largest multinational states in the world. The Russian nation and society have historically been built on the friendship and agreement of a wide range of ethnic groups inhabiting the territory of the country, fostering intercultural and interethnic interaction. This is our pride and strength. Today, as global discussions focus on countering polarization across various divides, including cultural and ethnic lines, Russian society exemplifies the unity of its peoples, solidarity around traditional moral values: strong families, productive work, historical memory, compassion, intergenerational continuity, and many others.

We strive to uphold the principles of solidarity in our international activities as well. Russia has always advocated for justice and mutual coexistence of cultures, ethnicities, and religions. Together, these elements lay the foundation for a global humanitarian dialogue that we engage in with all stakeholders.

We are convinced that a comprehensive approach is necessary to overcome the Middle Eastern crisis. The key to restoring stability in the region lies in normalising the situation in the context of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Unfortunately, the situation continues to deteriorate. As a result of the Israeli army barbaric actions in the Gaza Strip, innocent civilians continue to suffer. The scope of the humanitarian catastrophe is growing.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the families and loved ones of those whose lives have been claimed by the armed confrontation and stand in solidarity with all the victims. We hope the humanitarian situation in the crisis zone will be improved. Any violence against civilians, as well as strikes on civilian infrastructure, including medical facilities and areas populated by the elderly, women, and children, is absolutely unacceptable.

Russia's position on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and the quest for durable peace in the region is well-known and consistent. First of all, we must achieve an immediate, permanent, and comprehensive ceasefire, along with a humanitarian truce to provide assistance to all those in need. We endorse the key mandate of UNRWA as a unique agency dedicated to assisting the Palestinian people and underscore the importance of de-escalating hostilities and rejecting violence.

We stand for a full revival of the political and diplomatic process aimed at reaching a long-term and just resolution to the inveterate Middle Eastern conflict, a resolution underpinned by internationally recognised laws, including relevant UN Security Council resolutions. The outcome must be the establishment of an independent Palestinian state within the 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital, coexisting peacefully and securely alongside Israel. It is the only approach to deliver a sustainable solution and break the cycle of violence.

We welcome the resolution adopted in May 2024 by an overwhelming majority at the UN General Assembly endorsing the admission of Palestine as a full member of the United Nations.

Therefore, the Russian delegation, while largely supporting the spirit of the Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People, would like to underscore the need to use the terminology and wording enshrined in the resolutions of the UN Security Council and General Assembly, which align with the high level of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly's activities.

We believe it is crucial to further enhance inter-parliamentary cooperation within the APA, aimed at ending the suffering of the people in Gaza and promoting the use of peaceful political and diplomatic means to achieve a comprehensive resolution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and, more broadly, the Middle Eastern conflict, whose escalation has destabilised the entire region.

We have drafted and will send the text of Dissenting Opinion of the Russian Delegation to the Secretariat and we request to attach it to the Resolution on Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People.

On 27 November, a Lebanese ceasefire agreement entered into force. This raises hopes that the peak of the armed escalation in the region may have passed with the possibility to avoid a large-scale conflict this time. One can only hope that the agreements reached will be upheld to manifest

an important step towards a lasting and well-balanced stabilization of the volatile situation in the Middle East as a whole. However, regrettably, we cannot be fully confident in this outcome. Both sides have already accused each other of numerous violations of the ceasefire.

We are deeply concerned about the dramatic events unfolding in Syria. We express our solidarity with the Syrian people who have historically been friends with Russia. The Russian Federation keeps in touch with all factions of the Syrian opposition.

We reaffirm our strong standing in support of the sovereignty, unity, and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic. We urge all the parties involved to renounce violence, to resolve all governance issues through political means, and to respect the views of all ethnic and religious groups within the Syrian society.

We deem it extremely important that all the parties should contribute to expediting stabilization of the situation, ensuring the rule of law and maintaining order, preserving peace and harmony, and preventing violence and bloodshed.

Dear friends, cooperation among parliamentarians serves as the foundation for the prosperity of the modern world. Russia is firmly committed to further developing constructive, equal, and mutually beneficial partnerships with all interested parties.

I thank you for your attention.

Attachment VI

Draft Resolutions of Standing Committee on Political Affairs

9. Draft Resolution on Good Governance
10. Draft Resolution on the Rule of Law and Judicial Empowerment
11. Draft Resolution on Good Parliamentary Practices
12. Draft Resolution on Building Prosperity in Asia through Friendship and Cooperation
13. Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments and Governments Together for Prosperity in Asia
14. Draft Resolution on Harmonious Development through Democracy
15. Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People
16. Draft Resolution on Enhancing Cooperation among the Members of the Asian Draft Parliamentary Assembly to Protect and Promote Multilateralism (New)



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;

Having aware that parliament serves as the bedrock institution of good governance whereby through its functions in legislation, robust oversight mechanism, budgetary provision, and public grievance channel, the national policies can reflect best the interest of the public;

Deeply concerned about emergencies, including those arising from pandemics and natural disasters, and their impact on, inter alia, good governance, the rule of law at all levels and the achievement of the SDGs, in particular Goal 16 on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and its targets;

Emphasizing the need to foster inter-parliamentary cooperation including through collaboration with other relevant inter-parliamentary institutions such as the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), the Global Organization of Parliamentarians against Corruption (GOPAC), among others as a way to strengthen measures on good governance;

We therefore,

1. **Reiterate** that good governance is a key to achieving inclusive economic, social and institutional development;
2. **Recognize** that transparency in all its forms and manifestations, free, responsible media, popular participation in government, and a vibrant civil society are the essential of good governance;
3. **Stress** upon the Member Parliaments to identify gaps in governance which may lead to poverty, injustice and inequality;
4. **Urge** Member Parliaments to further the full and effective use of the UN Convention against Corruption to develop, put in place, and where appropriate, improve and

strengthen anti-corruption policies and strategies, in accordance with domestic law as part of the steps taken to enhance good governance and the rule of law;

5. **Recommend** Member Parliaments to adopt, should have not done so, or strengthen the emergency protocol with robust governance framework legislation as a way to ensure its preparedness and address corruption during times of emergencies, crisis response and recovery;
6. **Call 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 in accordance with the domestic laws of member countries;
7. **Task** APA Secretariat to pursue stronger partnership, cooperation and collaboration with relevant inter-parliamentary institutions working to promote good governance and rule of law, and combat corruption.
8. **According** to the APA Charter in Article 16 and Article 15 of its By-Law, we hereby suggesting to establish a sub-committee from APA Member States to evaluating the performance of APA Parliaments and governments in terms of their commitment to the resolutions of the Political Committee of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly.



Draft Resolution on the Rule of Law and Judicial Empowerment

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Reaffirming 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 equally essential for all states 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 an essential assurance for independence of judiciary and improves the protection of human rights;

Convincing 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 any states in the internal affairs of other states with the aim forging change of legitimate governments or affecting their external affairs,

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

We therefore,

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. **Promote** parliamentary measures to protect the independency of the judiciary in making impartial decisions free from any interventions and provide an adequate proper oversight control as a way to ensure the ethics supremacy among judiciary authorities;
4. **Stress** also the necessity for strengthening the international judicial cooperation among judicial authorities of all Member States.
5. **Urge** Member Parliaments to ensure compliance with internationally agreed human rights and humanitarian laws, in a manner that does not conflict with the social values and religious constants of Member States.
6. **Condemn in its strongest term** the consistent and continued blatant violations of international human rights and humanitarian laws, a manifestation of total disregard and ignorance of the international rule of law, by Zionist Entity authorities in Gaza and the Occupied Palestinian Territory;
7. **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;
8. **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;
9. **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;

Referring to the Open Government Partnership (OGP) Memorandum on Parliamentary Engagement whereby parliamentary engagement has been an integral part of the open government philosophy and a key element to achieve ambitious open government reforms;

Taking into account the Declaration on Parliamentary Openness launched at the World e-Parliament Conference 2012 in Rome Italy which provide a general guide and scope of openness and good parliamentary practices to the legislative institutions;

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 persons belongs to minorities, diversity of religions, faith and ethnics in all Asian societies;

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;

We therefore,

- 1. Urge** APA Member Parliaments to adopt transparent modes of the communications of the public of communication with the public, through ensuring access to their Parliamentary 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 ensuring 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 the transparency and public participation through 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 promoting transnational collaboration amongst Member Parliaments and to devise a strategy towards this end by the APA;
6. **Encourage** Member Parliaments to strengthen their involvement and engagement to OGP through the possible development of a stand alone of Open Parliament Action Plan, aiming for a better and good parliamentary practices;
7. **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;
8. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to adopt positive measures for ensuring a meaningful participation of women, minorities and vulnerable groups 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 APA Declaration on the Principles of Friendly Relations in Asia as a proper framework for promoting peace and prosperity in Asia;

Encouraging 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;

Also 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;

We therefore,

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. **Encourage** collective and concerted efforts by all 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. **Call** 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. **Promote** 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,



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 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;

We therefore,

1. **Call** 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. **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;
4. **Encourage** as appropriate APA Member States to actively participate in and promote the implementation of relevant international treaties and agreements aimed at

ensuring the equitable and sustainable sharing of transboundary water resources, particularly with neighboring countries.



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;

We therefore,

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. **Stress** the need to strengthen parliament as an institution of check and balances, holding the government to account for every political, socio-economic development policies it creates and implements;
3. **Affirm** democracy, transparency and accountability among the important means to sustainably end poverty, promote shared prosperity and the basic social and economic needs;
4. **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;
5. **Recognize** the need for active engagement with civil society organization and youth at all tiers of governance to ensure equitable development;

6. Recognize also the effectiveness of women's participation as one of the most important contributors to sustainable development, given their assumption of leadership position to promote democracy and gender equality,
7. **Urge** that APA Members Parliaments shall continue to encourage sustainable human development through social security programs for vulnerable groups of the society;
8. **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;
9. **Emphasize** to improve regional and inter-regional connectivity to promote socio-economic development of the people of Asia ;
10. **Urge** APA Members to generate an informed debate and share experiences at APA platform on the democratic process leading to development.



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 entity 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); the catastrophic humanitarian impact of the aggressive war on the Gaza Strip in July 2014. and Zionist entity indiscriminate bombardment on the Gaza Strip since 7 October 2023 which deliberately targeting the civilians including women and minors;

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.¹

Welcoming the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) of July 2024 on the legal consequences arising from Zionist Entity policies and practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT), including East Jerusalem, and from the illegality of Zionist Entity continued presence in the OPT;

Also welcoming the UN General Assembly (UNGA) resolution [A/ES-10/L.31/Rev.1](#) in follow-up to the advisory opinion of the ICJ adopted at the tenth emergency special session, 13 September 2024;

Further welcoming the International Criminal Court (ICC) issuance of warrants of arrest for two high Zionist Entity officials , for crimes against humanity and war crimes on 21 November 2024;

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;

¹ Iran has registered its reservation on the content of this paragraph.

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; International Court of Justice the APA pertinent to the situation in Palestine, particularly in Al-Quds and the advisory opinion of the ICJ and warrants of arrests from the ICC;

Supporting the struggle of Palestinian people against Zionist Entity occupation by its all means to liberate its land and establish an independent Palestinian State with Al-Quds city as its Capital and the right of return to the Palestinian refugees as mentioned in Security Council Resolution 104,

Reemphasizing the denunciation of 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 Zionist Entity's lack of commitment to abide by resolutions and recommendations of the UN Security Council, the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, International Court of Justice the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and the APA regarding the human rights situation in the occupied Palestinian territories, particularly in Al-Quds; and the Gaza Strip;

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 and the Gaza Strip;

Recognizing that Zionist Entity's genocide and 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 and beyond;

Noting with grave concern over the continuous and blatant violations of Zionist Entity to various UN resolutions towards a peaceful solution, reflecting the ineffectiveness, failure, and incapability of the international system in resolving and maintaining international peace and security;

Bearing in mind that the worsening situation in Palestine, especially in the Gaza Strip, is the result of the international community's continuous silence and selective use of a double standard policy on the relentless oppression, aggression, violence and intimidation against the Palestinian people and illegal annexation of Palestinian land;

Affirming that the road to peace, stability and prosperity in the Middle East comes first by ending the Zionist entity 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 Zionist entity occupation has no right to

intimidate and prevent them from carrying out their duties, while Zionist entity occupation allows settlers and extremists to break into the sanctity of Islamic sacred places, especially Al-Aqsa Mosque.

Alarmed by the persistent and continuous attack to health facility and personnel as well as humanitarian officers which have left the Gaza Strip's health system severely under-resourced and **regretting** the surge in violence in Gaza since 7 October, 2023 and loss of all civilian lives;

Condemning the genocide massacres committed by Zionist entity, airstrikes and bombardment targeting the already occupied and oppressed people of Gaza, inhuman blockade, and restrictions on humanitarian and relief assistance, which have resulted in loss of thousands of precious civilian lives including women and children, and inflicted unprecedented misery on the population of Gaza.

Expressing concern at the serious risks posed by the Zionist entity actions to the peace and security in the region.

We therefore,

1. **Urge** all Members of the APA to support and treat the State of Palestine as a full member of the United Nations.
2. **Also urge** the international community to put pressure on Zionist Entity to stop its military aggression against the people of Gaza Strip by way of a complete ceasefire;
3. **Demand** all countries to use their influence to urge Zionist Entity to stop and refrain from taking actions that violate human rights, as well as to lift the total blockade of Gaza;
4. **Call** upon the United Nations and its relevant bodies to act immediately to protect Palestinian civilians, including by lifting the humanitarian aid blockade of the Gaza Strip;
5. **Condemn**, in the strongest terms possible, the killing and targeting of innocent Palestinian civilians by the Zionist Entity military machine as well as all its acts contrary to international law and Humanitarian law, **stress** the need to force the Zionist occupying entity to fulfill all its obligations under international humanitarian law to ensure the protection of the Palestinian civilians and to stop its ongoing brutal military aggression in Palestine, especially in the Gaza Strip.
6. **Call for** the immediate cessation of the barbaric aggression of the Zionist Entity occupation forces against the Palestine people and the immediate lifting of the siege imposed to the Gaza Strip.
7. **Request** the Secretary General to consider the possibility of forming a political-technical body consisting of APA Member Parliaments and relevant high profile experts from their respective countries to assess the humanitarian damages caused to the Palestinian territories under the recent military attack of the Zionist Entity and to

report to the upcoming session of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs in cooperation with Palestinian State and United Nations

- 8. Request** also the Secretary General to discuss with the APA Member Parliaments, other international and regional organizations and specialized legal institutions the issue of documentation of the crimes of the Zionist Entity, especially its recent crimes committed in the Gaza Strip, for later use in the lawsuits brought before the international courts and to report to the next session of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs in this regard.
- 9. Expresses** grave concern at the latest escalation of violence since the 7th of October and the grave deterioration of the situation in Gaza and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and condemns attacks targeting civilians,
- 10. Reject** and strongly condemn the statements made by the Zionist Entity 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 Zionist Entity occupation and enable the Palestinian people to self-determination on their land.
- 11. 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 Zionist Entity 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.
- 12. Encourage** all members of the international community to take up with the pressure on Zionist Entity to immediately release all the Palestinian prisoners including the Members of the Palestinian Parliament and condemns the Zionist Entity Knesset's failure to respond to the fact-finding and investigation committees established by the Inter-Parliamentary Union on prisoners in Zionist Entity 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.
- 13. Declare** all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Zionist Entity, 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.
- 14. Condemn** Zionist Entity 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;

15. **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 Zionist Entity occupation including East Jerusalem, and in the Syrian Golan occupied by Zionist Entity;
16. **Call Upon** Countries, who are party to the Rome Statute, to impartially and fully abide by the decision of the ICC including in the context of taking an appropriate action to implement the warrants of arrest to Benjamin Netanyahu and Yoav Gallant;
17. **Welcome the** historic decision of the International Criminal Court to issue arrest warrants against the Zionist regime Prime Minister and Minister of Defense and call on the Parliaments of Member States of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly to support this decision and participate in strengthening international efforts to hold those responsible for crimes against humanity accountable. We also stress the importance of upholding the principle of the rule of law and promoting international justice in the face of impunity.
18. **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 Zionist Entity in Palestine which threaten the international peace and security;
19. **Condemn** the closure of the PLO diplomatic mission in Washington in retaliation for the membership of Palestine to the International Criminal Court;
20. **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 Zionist Entity occupation;
21. **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.
22. **Reject** the illegal decisions taken by the Zionist Entity 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.

23. **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.
24. **Call upon** the international community to fulfill its pledges to rebuild infrastructure and rehabilitate people in Gaza, which have been destroyed by Zionist Entity forces, and to support the Palestinian economy in the occupied Palestine.
25. **Express** its full support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to struggle for self-determination and to establish the independent state of Palestine with Al-Ghods as its capital and the right of return of the refugees who were displaced from Palestine in 1948 in accordance with the UN General Assembly Resolution 194.
26. **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 Zionist Entity capital as null and void, and calling on all APA member states to refrain from establishing diplomatic missions in occupied Jerusalem.
27. **Affirm** that development, investment and improvement of the standard of living are rights denied to the Palestinian people for 75 years now, due to the continuation of the Zionist Entity 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.
28. **Reaffirm** its rejection of US Secretary of State declaration on 18th of Nov 2019 that Zionist Entity 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.

29. **Invite** the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to expedite the publication of the “Black List” of Zionist Entity and foreign companies dealing and/or working in Zionist Entity settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territories as a necessary step to isolate settlements and protect human rights.
30. **Strongly Condemn** the recent Zionist Entity attacks on the Gaza Strip, the killing and displacement of Palestinians, and the targeting of women and children, and call for the necessity for the international community to act urgently to stop the occupation’s repeated attacks against civilians, and the flagrant violation of the rules of International Humanitarian Law.
31. **Affirm** the legitimacy of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, the legitimacy of the Palestinian struggle under occupation, and that the struggle of the Palestinian people is a legitimate struggle due to the existence of the occupation.
32. **Encourage** the member parliaments of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly to take political initiatives and adopt positions that support the legitimacy of the Palestinian cause and the legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people, including abstaining from treaty relations with, entering into economic relations or trade dealings with, and in the establishment and maintenance of diplomatic missions in Zionist Entity as mandated by the UNGA resolution A/ES-10/L.31/Rev.1 adopted in September 2024.
33. **Strongly Condemn** the calls for forced displacement of the Palestinian people from Gaza and the continued targeting of defenseless civilians to implement this plan that aims to liquidate the Palestinian cause and affirm the legitimate right of the Palestinian people to establish their independent, sovereign state on the Palestinian territories with the borders of June 4, 1967, in accordance with international legitimacy resolutions.²
34. **Encourage** the international community to be more objective and fairer in assessing the situation in Palestine, and refrain from resorting to double standards and hypocritical views
35. **Call** for a thorough reform of international systems, particularly the United Nations and its Security Council, in order to strengthen their role in preventing and resolving all conflicts, including in Palestine.
36. **Further condemn in strongest terms** the blatant targeting by Zionist Entity brutal occupation forces of Al-Ahli Baptist Hospital in Gaza Strip, which killed and injured hundreds of innocent sick, injured and displaced innocent civilians, in stark violation of the international humanitarian law.
37. **Call on** Zionist Entity to immediately halt its barbaric aggression and allow UN and other humanitarian agencies to immediately provide humanitarian and relief

² Delegation of Iran has registered its reservation on the content of this paragraph,

assistance to the people of Gaza.

38. **Calls upon** member parliaments to take a serious regional and international stance in the face of this dangerous escalation by Zionist Entity and the barbaric, unprecedented bombardment to which civilians in the Gaza Strip are facing.
39. **Affirm** its rejection of the double standard policy, which grants Zionist Entity an unconditional green light and an unrestricted license to kill whilst disregarding any opposing opinion.
40. **Call** for an immediate, durable and sustained humanitarian ceasefire leading to a cessation of hostilities, demands that all parties immediately and fully comply with their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law, particularly in regard to the protection of civilians and civilian objects, also demands the immediate, continuous, sufficient and unhindered provision of essential goods and services to civilians throughout the Gaza Strip,
41. **Reaffirm** that the only solution to the issue of Palestine is the recognition of the Palestinian People's rights to self-determination and the establishment of a Palatine state on the historical land of Palestine,
42. **Urge** APA Members to support media campaign that aimed to increase the awarenesses of Palestinian people rights with focusing on Zionist Entity desecrations against innocent people, in particular women and children
43. **Support** legal international resolutions, in particular the resolution of International Court of Justice related to illegal Zionist Entity presents in Palestinian Land,
44. **Appreciating** South Africa legal efforts of submitting the lawsuit to the International Court of Justice against Zionist Entity for its genocide massacre in Gaza,
45. **Strongly** Condemn the recent Zionist regime attacks on the Gaza Strip, the killing and displacement of Palestinians, and the targeting of women and children, and call for the necessity for the international community to act urgently to stop the occupation's repeated attacks against civilians, and the flagrant violation of the rules of International Humanitarian Law,
46. **Affirm** the legitimacy of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, the legitimacy of the Palestinian struggle under occupation, and that the struggle of the Palestinian people is a legitimate struggle due to the existence of the occupation,
47. **Encourage** the member parliaments of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly to take political initiatives and adopt positions that support the legitimacy of the Palestinian cause and the legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people,

48. **Strongly** Condemn the calls for forced displacement of the Palestinian people from Gaza and the continued targeting of defenseless civilians to implement this plan that aims to liquidate the Palestinian cause and affirm the legitimate right of the Palestinian people to establish their independent, sovereign state on the Palestinian territories with the borders of June 4, 1967, in accordance with international legitimacy resolutions,
49. **Isolate** the Zionist Entity Knesset and boycott its membership in both the international parliament and the anti- terrorism committee , regarding it as , illegitimate parliament , legislating laws on mass killing and acts of genocide let alone the hanging of the Palestinian prison inmates,
50. **Condemn** the support made by the United States to the Zionist Entity aggressions and the acts of mass genocide against the Palestinian people and it to stop the provision of weapons to Zionist Entity.
51. **Stop** normalization of relations with Zionist Entity, following the suit of the Iraqi parliament,
52. **Put** pressure on Zionist Entity to release the confiscated monies and possessions of the Palestinians Authority,
53. **Denounce** the discrimination policy exercised by the Zionist Entity against the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territories occupied in 1984,
54. **Refer** to the destruction of entire Gaza hospitals and not restrict that not the private hospitals,



Asian
Parliamentary
Assembly

SC-Political/Draft Res/2025/08

10 January 2025

Iraq

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;

We therefore,

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. **Call on** developing countries to actively participate in promoting the principle of multilateralism in order to accelerate the world peace process, which requires enhanced forms of cooperation and multilateral governance based on international law;
6. **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;
7. **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;
8. **Reject** unilateral coercive measures with all their extraterritorial effects as tools for political and economic pressure against any country in particular against developing countries;
9. **Underscore** the need for all states to avoid politicization of the UN Security Council sanctions regime;
10. **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;
11. **Request** States applying these measures or laws to revoke them fully and immediately;
12. **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;
13. **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;

14. ***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;
15. ***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;
16. ***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;

Attachment VII



Report of the APA Working Group on Statutory Documents (Alongside the APA Standing Committee Meeting) Baghdad- Republic of Iraq

January 11, 2025

The APA Working Group on Statutory Documents was held on 11 January 2025 on the sidelines of the Standing Committee Meeting on Political Affairs in Baghdad, Republic of Iraq, and chaired by Mr. Al-Kinani, Head of Delegation of the Council of Representatives of Iraq.

Participants of the Standing Committee Meeting on Political Affairs attended this Working Group Session.

After adoption of the attached agenda and a brief summary addressed by the APA Secretary General, the attached non-paper on updated version of Article 5 of the APA Charter and Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure were presented by the APA Secretary General.

Participants debated and exchanged views on the contents of this non-paper and agreed that:

- There should only be four Standing Committees. Any other issue to be addressed should be considered within the scope of sub-committees which will directly report to the relevant Standing Committees.
- Representative of the APA Secretariat clarified that the issue which was agreed by this Working Group will be reported to the Executive Council for its review and final approval.

Asian Parliamentary Assembly

APA Working Group on Statutory Documents



(On the sidelines of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs)



Baghdad, Iraq

11-12 January 2025

Draft Agenda

(12/30/2024 by APA Secretariat)

1. Adoption of Agenda,
2. Remarks by APA Secretary General,
3. Consideration of amendments to Article 5 of APA Charter and Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure,
 - It was decided to review Article 5 of the Charter as well as Rule 15 of Rules of Procedure and update the title of the four existing Standing Committees in the next meeting of the Working Group to be held on the sidelines of Standing Committee on Political Affairs in Baghdad.
4. Any other matters.



Non-Paper WG on Statutory Documents (January 2025)

The following text is proposed to replace Article 5 of the APA Charter and Rule 15 of the APA Rules of Procedure: (Proposed by APA Secretariat) amended by Russian Delegation.

Basic Organs and Structure

Article 5-A: Basic Orders of APA Organs,

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

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

Article 5 B: Organizational Structure of the APA,

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

IV. Standing Committees and Sub-committees :

Rule 15:

1. The Plenary may set up Standing Committees and Sub-Committees as deemed necessary to deal with any subject of interest and to examine the issues on its agenda. These bodies shall submit as appropriate their draft resolutions , reports and recommendations to the Plenary for its consideration and decision.
2. The APA shall have four Standing Committees on: Political Affairs, Economic and Sustainable Development, Social and Cultural Affairs, Budget and Planning.
3. Upon suggestion of the Bureau or at least ten Member Parliaments, establishment of Sub-Committees, shall be put on the agenda of the Executive Council.

The recommendation of the Executiv Council on this issue is approved by the majority vote of the delegates present and voting in the Plenary.

4. The inter-sessional meeting of sub-committees shall be convened by the Member Parliament hosting the previous Plenary, unless following mutual agreement of the President and the Permanent Secretariat, may be hosted by another Member Parliament.
5. Number of membership of each Sub-Committee, taking into account the equitable geographical distribution, and the duration and number of their inter-sessional meeting shall be approved by the Plenary

Attachment VIII



The 2nd APA Meeting on Palestine Committee (Baghdad Republic of Iraq) January 11, January 2025

**Remarks by H.E. Dr. Mohammad Reza Majidi
Secretary General of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly**

**Mr. Chairperson,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen**

At the outset, I deem it necessary to extend my heartfelt appreciation to all my Iraqi brothers who have shouldered the burden of organizing the SC Committee Meeting on Political Affairs and at the same for their commendable initiative deciding to hold the 2nd APA Meeting on Palestine Committee at this crucial moment.

Secondly, I would like to thank all those colleagues in the APA who initially raised the idea for the establishment of this Committee and those who shared this idea and made all necessary cooperation at the APA meetings for adoption of the decision to establish this Committee within the framework of APA.

As you may recall, the first meeting of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly Committee on Palestine was held on January 10, 2024 in Tehran, the capital of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Eighteen Parliamentary delegations from APA member countries participated in the meeting and the "Final Communique on the turbulent Situation in Palestine" was considered and adopted unanimously.

Dear Colleagues,

The year 2024, besides its usual ups and downs, was a very tragic year for the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip and across the world. Crime against humanity and act of genocide reached its climax in the aftermath of the ongoing atrocities perpetuated by the Apartheid regime of Israel in the blockaded enclave. Though other parts of the world were not immune from war and bloodshed, but magnitude of the horrendous brutalities, crimes and extreme devastation of the infrastructures in the Gaza Strip were glaring proofs to the fact that there smees no hope can be placed on the more serious cooperation on the part of international community to bring the humanitarian crisis unfolded in the region. The situation that prevails

in the occupied Palestine today is both a clear example of regional and international insecurity and a clear manifestation of crime and genocide.

While humanitarian crisis should be center of every regional and international forum it is extremely deplorable to witness that silence and inaction of the International Community against such an extensive dimension of Zionist regime's atrocities, has given this regime a free hand to aggravate its unhindered act of terror not only in Gaza, but also in other parts one after the other, including Lebanon and Syria. What is happening in this war-torn enclave is but embodiment of war crimes and genocide. It is incredible that the world continues to remain silence and does not take a practical measure to put an end to this human tragedy.

The long-lasting issue of Palestine which testifies to nearly 8 decades of occupation of an ancient land and the displacement of the majority of its native inhabitants followed by the suppression of the remaining population in Gaza, is not merely a Palestinian–Israeli issue. This decades-long disaster facing Palestine and its people is the issue of humanity and the entire international community

Under such circumstances, when the Apartheid regime of Israel has resorted to every possible means to continue its act of genocide incessantly targeting schools, hospitals and other sensitive areas, APA in the context of its mandate as representative of the people within the vast Continent of Asia has spared no effort to galvanize its full-fledged support to alleviate suffering of the Palestinians under siege in the Gaza Strip through channels of parliamentary diplomacy since its establishment in 2007. In fact, establishment of this Committee is a seminal decision intended to reaffirms APA's steadfast commitment and unwavering support for the Palestinian people in their endeavor to establish an independent state with Al-Quds as its capital and to see how it would be able to find a solution with the help of APA member parliaments in the context of multilateral parliamentary cooperation.

In conclusion, it is my fervent hope that parliaments and parliamentary forums across the world composed of lawmakers representing people can close their ranks and take a unified decision with due respect to the critical situation in Gaza, Lebanon and Syria and give impetus to parliamentary diplomacy in an attempt to ensure democratic voices as part of their mandate for giving an end to the humanitarian crisis in the region.

Thank you for your attention

**His Excellency honorable representative of Palestine,
Distinguished APA Secretary General Dr. Majidi
Honorable Members of the Parliaments
Dear Ladies and gentlemen,**

We express our profound concern over the reports on a possible expansion of the geographic scope of the hostilities and highlight the importance of restraint. All violations of international law, including fundamental norms and principles of international humanitarian law, and undermining the prospects of peace negotiations must be unequivocally condemned.

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

The severe tragedy in Gaza must be urgently brought to an end, the war halted, and all outstanding issues addressed through peaceful negotiations.

- The resolution of Palestinian-Israeli relations and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state have always been the focus of the attention of Azerbaijani Side. Azerbaijan believes that a two-state solution for the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, with East Jerusalem as the capital of the State of Palestine, is the only viable way to achieve long-awaited peace and stability.

- We have taken measures to alleviate the plight of the Palestinian People in light of the worsening livelihood and dire humanitarian situation. Over the last decade, Azerbaijan has made a financial contribution worth millions USD to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to help the people on the ground.

- 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.

Thank you very much!

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بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم
الحمد لله، والصلاة والسلام على أشرف خلق الله، سيدنا محمد، وعلى
آله وصحبه أجمعين.

معالي السيد الرئيس،

أصحاب السعادة الزملاء أعضاء الجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية،

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته،

يشرفني أن أقف بينكم اليوم في هذا الاجتماع الذي يُعد شاهدًا على تمسكنا
بمسؤوليتنا التاريخية تجاه القضية الفلسطينية، القضية التي تحمل في
طياتها معاناة شعب بأكمله يُسلب حقه في الحياة الكريمة يومًا بعد يوم.

إن اجتماعنا اليوم يعكس التزامنا المشترك كبرلمانيين يمثلون شعوب قارة
آسيا بتعزيز السلام والعدالة، ومواجهة التحديات الإنسانية الكبرى التي
تعصف بمنطقتنا، وعلى رأسها معاناة الشعب الفلسطيني المستمرة.

لقد مرت غزة، كما تعلمون، بأحداث مأساوية هزّت ضمير العالم، أو
بالأحرى، كان ينبغي لها أن تهزّه. آلاف الأرواح البريئة أزهقت تحت نيران

القصف العشوائي، أطفال في عمر الزهور فقدوا آباءهم وأمهاتهم، ومدن تحولت إلى ركام وكأنها لم تكن يومًا مسكنًا آمنًا لأهلها.

وفقًا للإحصائيات، فإن نسبة الشهداء من الأطفال وحدهم تمثل أكثر من ثلث الضحايا، وهو ما يعكس بشاعة الاستهداف الذي لا يميز بين مدني وعسكري، أو بين شيخ وطفل. كما أن البنية التحتية، التي تمثل شريان الحياة في غزة، تعرضت للتدمير الممنهج، حيث تعطلت المستشفيات، وانقطعت المياه والكهرباء عن مئات الآلاف، في كارثة إنسانية يجب أن تُقابل برد فعل عالمي عاجل.

زملائي الأعزاء،

إن القضية الفلسطينية ليست قضية تخص دولة أو إقليمًا بعينه، وليست قضية حدود أو موارد، بل هي قضية وجود وهوية. إنها صرخة شعب يطالب بحقه في الحياة الكريمة. هي قضية إنسانية عالمية تمس ضمير البشرية جمعاء، ودفاعنا عن هذه القضية هو دفاع عن إنسانيتنا وكرامتنا جميعًا.

إن مملكة البحرين، بقيادة حضرة صاحب الجلالة الملك حمد بن عيسى آل خليفة، ملك البلاد المعظم، حفظه الله ورعاه، وانطلاقًا من ثوابتها الراسخة ومبادئها الإنسانية، تؤكد إدانتها الشديدة لكل الجرائم التي ارتكبت بحق الشعب الفلسطيني، ونعلن تضامننا المطلق معه في نضاله المشروع من أجل الحرية والاستقلال. ونعيد التأكيد على موقف مملكة البحرين الثابت في دعم الشعب الفلسطيني وحقوقه المشروعة، وعلى رأسها حقه في إقامة

دولته المستقلة وعاصمتها القدس الشريف، استناداً إلى قرارات الشرعية الدولية. كما ندعو إلى ضرورة توفير الحماية الدولية للشعب الفلسطيني، وضمان وصول المساعدات الإنسانية العاجلة إلى المتضررين في غزة، ورفع الحصار الذي يعمق معاناتهم.

الجمع الكريم،

إنني أدعو من هذا المنبر إلى تشكيل جبهة آسيوية موحدة تقود حملة دبلوماسية واسعة النطاق لإجبار المجتمع الدولي على التحرك الجاد لحماية الفلسطينيين، وفرض العقوبات على منتهكي القانون الدولي، مع دعم المؤسسات الدولية للتحقيق في هذه الجرائم، وتقديم المسؤولين عنها للعدالة.. إن الصمت الدولي أمام معاناة الفلسطينيين يُعد شراكة ضمنية في هذا العدوان، وهذا ما لن نقبل به كأمة تدافع عن الحق والعدالة.

زملائي الأعزاء،

إن قارتنا الآسيوية، التي عانت شعوبها في الماضي من الاستعمار والظلم، تُدرك جيداً قيمة الحرية وأهمية النضال من أجل الكرامة الإنسانية. ولذلك، علينا أن نستفيد من هذا الإرث التاريخي المشترك لنكون قوة داعمة للشعوب التي لا تزال تعاني من الاحتلال والاضطهاد.

وختاماً، فإنني أؤكد مرة أخرى على أن الدفاع عن القضية الفلسطينية هو دفاع عن القيم الإنسانية التي تجمعنا كبشر، وعن العدالة التي نسعى لتحقيقها في عالمنا. إن قارتنا العظيمة، التي تزخر بتنوعها الثقافي والحضاري،

يجب أن تكون منارة للحق ونصيرًا للمظلومين. ومن هذا المنطلق، علينا أن نعمل معًا، بكل إخلاص وتفان، لإعلاء صوت الفلسطينيين، ودعم صمودهم، والضغط على المجتمع الدولي ليضطلع بمسؤولياته الأخلاقية والقانونية تجاه هذا الشعب المناضل.

نحن على يقين أن حرية فلسطين ليست مجرد أمل، بل هي حق ثابت لا بد من تحقيقه، وإننا سنرى يومًا فلسطين حرة ومستقلة، وعاصمتها القدس الشريف، وعلينا جميعًا انطلاقًا من مسؤوليتنا الوطنية والإنسانية، العمل الجاد والمستمر لتحقيق هذا الهدف.

أشكركم على حسن الاستماع، والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته.



GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF TÜRKIYE
Foreign Relations and Protocol Department

**ADDRESS OF MR. ÖMER ÖZMEN, MEMBER OF THE TURKISH
GROUP TO THE ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (APA),
AT THE MEETING OF THE APA PALESTINE COMMITTEE**

(11 January 2024 / Baghdad /IRAQ)

Dear Mr. President,

Distinguished parliamentarians of Asian Countries,

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

First of all, I would like to thank the Iraqi Parliament for hosting the meeting of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly and express my gratitude for this valuable organization and hosting. We are all gathered here to defend the rights of the Palestinian people and to take the necessary steps to restore their most fundamental rights. I believe that the strong potential of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly will make the Palestine Committee even more effective.

The Palestine Committee was established under the chairmanship and hosting of Türkiye in order to defend the rights of the Palestinian people with the strongest voice in the international arena. In 2023, we pioneered the establishment of the Palestine Committee with the Executive Council Meeting in Antalya and we support the Palestine Committee to gain an institutional status in the APA and we find this step very valuable.

It is a humanitarian necessity to support the Palestine Committee at the APA, to keep it alive and to defend the most fundamental rights of the Palestinian people at a time when Israel is massacring thousands of people, including women and children, in front of the eyes of the whole world.



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Türkiye, through all diplomatic channels and in all international platforms it participates in, expresses at every opportunity that the Palestinian people's most legitimate and fundamental right to life and self-determination should be recognized, the genocide should end and Israel should be punished for its crimes.

Türkiye has also become a party to the case against Israel at the International Criminal Court. Türkiye calls for all countries to become a party to the case against Israel at the United Nations General Assembly meetings and on every ground.

In this context, I would like to express our support for the transformation of the Palestine Committee into either a permanent committee or a sub-committee within the framework of the will and decision to be taken here today.

Thank you.

**Separate Opinion of the Russian Delegation on the APA Draft Resolution on
Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People
(Baghdad, January 11-12, 2025)**

The Russian delegation to the Asian Parliamentary Assembly wishes to express its respect for the delegations of all member countries of the Assembly and would like to voice the following regarding the Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of those who have lost their lives as a result of armed confrontations and empathise with all those who have suffered. We hope that humanitarian situation in the crisis zone will recover. Any violence against civilians is unacceptable, including strikes against civilian infrastructure, medical facilities, and places where the elderly, women, and children gather.

Russia's position on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and the pathways towards establishing lasting peace in the region is well-known and consistent. It is essential, above all, to achieve an immediate and comprehensive ceasefire, as well as a humanitarian truce to provide assistance to all those in need. We endorse the core mandate of UNRWA as a unique agency for aiding Palestinians. We acknowledge the importance of de-escalating hostilities and renouncing violence.

We advocate for the full resumption of the political and diplomatic process aimed at achieving a long-term and fair settlement to the inveterate Middle Eastern conflict following internationally recognised legal principles, including, in particular, the UN Security Council resolutions. The ultimate outcome of this process should be the establishment of an independent Palestinian state within the 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital, coexisting in peace and security with Israel. It is the only approach that will help achieve a sustainable solution and break the vicious circle of bloodshed.

We welcome the UN General Assembly Resolution on the admission of Palestine as a full member to the United Nations adopted in May 2024 by the overwhelming majority.

Hence, the Russian delegation, while generally supporting the spirit of the APA Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People, deems it necessary to use the terminology and wordings enshrined in the resolutions of the UN Security Council and General Assembly that correspond to the high level of activity of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly.

We are convinced of the need to further enhance inter-parliamentary cooperation at the Asian Parliamentary Assembly to put an end to the suffering of the people of Gaza and to promote the use of peaceful political and diplomatic means that lead toward a comprehensive resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and, more broadly, the Middle Eastern conflict, whose escalation has brought destabilisation to the entire region.