



Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs

30 October 2025
Moscow, Russia

Final Report

The Meeting of Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs was hosted on 28-30 October 2025 in Moscow by the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation.

Parliamentary delegations from following member countries participated in the meeting:

Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Cambodia, China, Iran, India, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Russia, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, UAE, Vietnam.

Observer Country: Belorussia

Special guest: IPA CIS

([Attachment I](#))

Laying of flowers at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the Kremlin Wall:

APA Delegations accompanied by Deputy Chairman of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, APA Vice-President Mr. B. CHERNYSHOV paid respect and laid flowers at the Tomb.

Opening Ceremony:

At the opening session on 29 October 2025, the following dignitaries presented their remarks:

- H.E. Boris CHERNYSHOV, Deputy Chairman of the State Duma

- H.E. M.R. MAJIDI, APA Secretary General
- H.E. Mr. Mikhail SHVYDKOY, Special Envoy of the President of the Russian Federation for International Cultural Cooperation
- H.E. Mrs. Anna KUZNETSOVA, Deputy Chairman of the State Duma
- H.E. Ahmad AL SALOOM, MP, Council of Representative of the Kingdom of Bahrain, APA Vice President
- H.E. Amina AGHAZADA, Head of Azerbaijan Delegation in her capacity as Representative of the APA President

[\(Attachment II\)](#)

Standing Committee Session:

1. Adoption of the Agenda:

The Member Parliaments unanimously adopted the Draft Agenda.

[\(Attachment III\)](#)

2. Election of Bureau:

The committee approved the following parliamentarians as members of its Bureau:

Chairman: H.E. Mr. Boris CHERNYSHOV, Head of the delegation of Russian Federation,

Vice-Chair: H.E. Mr. Qiyomiddin DAVLATZODA, Head of delegation of Tajikistan

Rapporteur: H.E. Mr. Ali FAYSAL, Head of delegation of Palestine

3. Opening remarks by the Chairperson:

H.E. Mr. B. CHERNYSHOV, Chairperson of the meeting, presented his opening remarks and welcomed all participants on behalf of the Chairman of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation H.E. Mr. Vyacheslav VOLODIN.

[\(Attachment IV\)](#)

4. Report by APA Secretary General:

Dr. MAJIDI, APA Secretary General reported on the latest development of the Standing Committee and the most pressing issues of the time.

([Attachment V](#))

5. General Debate:

Participants were called upon to express their general views on the content of draft resolutions under consideration of this meeting. Under this agenda item, the following delegations presented their remarks: Jordan, Palestine, UAE, Qatar, Bahrain, Iran, India, Tajikistan, Pakistan, Malaysia, Turkiye and Cambodia.

([Attachment VI](#))

6. Consideration of Draft Resolutions:

At the beginning of the consideration of this item, Deputy Secretary General presented the rule of conduct for addressing draft resolutions and related amendments. He stressed on the following:

- There are 15 draft resolutions under the consideration
- On each draft resolution we only address the amended Paragraphs
- The Chair will rule on the final outcome of debates
- New draft resolution on “Preservation of Cultural Diversity and Strengthening Multilateral Cooperation in Eurasia” will be presented first.

The following draft resolutions were updated and adopted by consensus:

1. Draft Resolution on Measures to Promote Cultural Diversity and Protect Cultural Heritage in Asia
2. Draft Resolution on Asian Integration through Information and Communication Technology
3. Draft Resolution on Collaboration on Health Equity in Asia
4. Draft Resolution on Asian Parliamentarians against Corruption
5. Draft Resolution of APA Women Parliamentarians
6. Draft Resolution on Promoting Dialogue and Harmony among Followers of World Religions

7. Draft Resolution on Legal and Legislative Cooperation in Combating the Smuggling of Cultural Items in Asia
8. Draft Resolution on Effective Cooperation in Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking in Asia
9. Draft Resolution on the Promotion of Quality Child and Youth Development for Sustainable Society in Asia
10. Draft Resolution on Ageing Society in Asia
11. Draft Resolution on Human Development in Asia
12. Draft Resolution on Tourism Cooperation in Asia
13. Draft Resolution on the Commission on Women (Deferred)

Note: After some debates, the Committee requested the delegation of Azerbaijan as sponsor, to introduce a new version of this draft resolution with a view to reaching consensus on the content of it.

14. Draft Resolution on Asian Parliamentarians in support of a more just multipolar world order reflecting its cultural and civilizational diversity.
15. The preservation of cultural diversity and strengthening multilateral cooperation in Eurasia

This new draft resolution was introduced by the Representative of the Russian Federation and amended and adopted by Committee.

[\(Attachment VII\)](#)

7. Situation of Women Parliamentarians in Asia:

No issue was raised under this agenda item.

8. Any other Matters:

No issue was raised.

Attachment I

List of Participants

№	COUNTRY	PARTICIPANTS
1.	AZERBAIJAN	Amina AGHAZADA Nafila RAHIMOVA
2.	BAHRAIN	Ahmed ALSALLOOM Hani ALSAATI Bader ALTAMIMI Mohamed BIN DAINA Hossam Eddin SALUM
3.	CAMBODIA	Chamroeun NGAN Sokhun TY Marabona YI
4.	CHINA	WEI Zhang
5.	INDIA	Velluva SIVADASAN C N MANJUNATH Rajkumar CHAHAR Preetam PRABHAKAR Ranajit CHAKRABORTY Srishti RAJORA
6.	IRAN	Mohsen ZANGANEH Ali Reza SALIMI Fateme JARAREH Mohammad Ali NOUDEH Leila TAATI Amir Bahador FOULADVAND Mohsen KHAZAEI Mohammad Mahdi MANSOURIAN
7.	JORDAN	Zuhair Abdel Qader Hussein ABU FARIS Adham Bilal Mohammad ALSHISHANI Ali Saleh ALI ALRWABDAH Hamza MAAITAH Mahd MAJAWLEH
8.	KYRGYZSTAN	Iskender SULAIMANOV Gulzhigit SULTANOV
9.	MALAYSIA	Ramli MOHD NOR Rozana KAMAL Klaus RANGGA
10.	PAKISTAN	Syed Abrar Ali SHAH Aimal Wali KHAN Umar FAROOQ Muhammad AZAM Syed Abid SHAH Bibi Sanam SHAH Suhana SHAH Syed Zamin Ali SHAH
11.	QATAR	Ahmad bin Hitmi AL-HITMI Yousef bin Ahmed AL-SADA Ali ALHAJRI Ahmad AL-NOUBI Muneera AL-SOWAIDI
12.	Russia	

13.	SAUDI ARABIA	Ali AL ALI Saad ALANGARI
14.	TAJIKISTAN	Qiyomiddin DAVLATZODA Asadullo NAJMIDDINIYON Dilbaroi Ubaidulloevna SHERMATOVA
15.	THAILAND	Worawit BARU Lae DILOKVIDHYARAT Panya KOTTHEN Thassarany NOIVONG
16.	TÜRKİYE	Abdulkadir Emin ÖNEN Ömer ÖZMEN Vecdi GÜNDOĞDU Osman Cengiz ÇANDAR Murat HASTÜRK Harun İPEK Halide Tuba ÇANDAR Kemal Batuhan YAZICI
17.	UAE	Mohamed AL ALI Abdulrahman ALSHEHHI
18.	BELORUSSIA	Oleg DJACHENKO Hleb LAPITSKI
19.	IPA CIS	Maksimillian SELUTIN
20.	APA SECRETARIAT	Mohammad Reza MAJIDI Kia TABATABAEE Mehdi GHASHGHAVI Mehdi MOLLAHOSSEINI

Attachment II

Opening Address of Mr. Boris Chernyshov APA Vice-President, Chairman of the Committee

October 29, 2025, Moscow

Dear colleagues,
Dear parliamentarians,
Dear Mr. Secretary General,
Ladies and gentlemen,

We are happy to welcome you in Moscow once again.

I would like to thank all the delegations here for supporting Russia's application to chair the Asian Parliamentary Assembly Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs in 2025 and for taking part in today's meeting. We are grateful to the APA Secretariat for helping us organize it.

I would now like to read out the **address from the Chairman of the State Duma, Mr. Vyacheslav Volodin.**

Dear colleagues,

I am happy to welcome you to this meeting of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs, attended by delegations of the APA member states, other countries and international organizations.

You are here to discuss issues related to the preservation of traditional values, cultural diversity and historical memory. Those related to strengthening multilateral cooperation across Eurasia. These issues are becoming essential amid modern challenges.

Importantly, sharing legislative experience and interacting in the context of the Assembly in constructive ways rooted in trust and equality serve to expand interparliamentary relations, ensure global security and create a just multipolar world.

I wish you all productive and successful work.

Representatives of 19 national parliaments have gathered today in this hall. The dialogue with Russia is important as never before.

Colleagues, we see how processes are evolving towards the multipolar world. Culture and social structures act together as security foundations and the grounds for sustainable development, while inter-cultural dialogue and social policy issues are inextricably linked to national and individual progress and prosperity.

Admitting that the world is civilizationally diverse, that its peoples have the natural right to authenticity, respect for their traditional spiritual and moral

values, customs and religions is a sign that culture is a unifying and constructive force. This shows how valuable the diversity is, which shapes our civilization with its harmony.

The richer and more striking this diversity, the greater our common cultural legacy, the more sustainable and successful our joint planetary future becomes. But at the same time, we should not put minority interests above everything else. When a society or a part of it retreats into oneself and starts blindly believing in its own exceptional nature and superiority over others, it enters a period of spiritual and intellectual crisis followed by the cultural decline and stagnation in every area of life. History proves that again and again.

One of the hardest challenges we have to face together, as parliaments, among other things, is the dilution of our regional cultural and civilizational code, including its spiritual and social heritage, the devaluation of our ethical and moral norms. And that is something global harmony is impossible without. In order to achieve it, we have to stand up for fairness and equality in international relations, strengthen our immunity against neo-colonial practices and neutralize the policy of culture-canceling.

I would like to highlight the importance of parliamentary diplomacy's role and procedures for overcoming global crises and developing regional cooperation along with shaping up cross-border dialogue in the Asian space and the broader Eurasian dimension. This cooperation should remain outside the confrontational political and ideological approaches, be based on mutual respect, equality and care for national interests, as well as unconditional adherence to the international law.

The role of culture in fostering cross-border cooperation, combating neo-Nazism, Russophobia, Islamophobia, Christianophobia, anti-Semitism and any forms of racism, ethnic or religious prejudice should only grow.

We should strive for openness and mutual respect, be ready to learn new things, contribute to the strengthening and development of our global cultural space and, therefore, to the dignified, peaceful and prosperous future for our peoples.

I would like to emphasize once again that the cultural and humanitarian dimension is one of the priorities for our cross-border relations. This was one of the main points at the recent Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit, including in the context of combating extremist ideologies. The topic is also being voiced by the CIS, BRICS and ASEAN structures.

We know the dangers of extremism and the tragedies it brings. That is why we believe that preserving our common historical memory that truly unites our peoples and nurtures their spiritual bonds with mutual understanding and trust is one of our key priorities when it comes to culture.

Colleagues, this year is the year when we celebrate the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II, the Great Patriotic War. The victory of 1945 was only possible because our peoples united in their fight against Nazism and militarism. It shaped the course of history and set up conditions for further peaceful development. We remember and honor that. We also value our heroes fighting today in the battles of the special military operation.

Our gratitude to frontline soldiers and everyone who have fought the global evil back in those days, our pride for the victorious generation have become intrinsic and key part of our culture serving to foster the responsibility for the future of our country and the security of the entire global community in our youth. That is why today, our agenda started with laying flowers to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by the Kremlin Wall.

I also chair Victory 9/45, a patriotic movement supported by the Eurasia non-profit organization. Our goal is to preserve the historical memory of the Great Patriotic War and to combat the falsification of history. Our movement have already organized events in 19 countries. We invite other nations to join us.

We want to support the drive of APA member states for expanding the information channels for inter-civilizational and inter-confessional dialogue, for developing civic, culture and education institutions for the modern society, for organizing multilateral humanitarian events, including culture, sports, cinema, youth and students' festivals.

Friends, we are grateful to our counterparts for supporting the idea to revive the Intervision International Music Contest. It took place in Russia in September 2025 and featured talented performers from 23 countries of Asia, North and South America, Europe and the Middle East, including 12 APA states.

The inter-cultural dialogue is especially important today, when technologies, including artificial intelligence, are developing at an unprecedented rate. They make the modern world ever more interconnected, open up incredible opportunities for creativity, daring experiments and innovation.

We put a new draft resolution of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly On the Preservation of Cultural Diversity and Strengthening Multilateral Cooperation in Eurasia, on the agenda of our meeting. It presents all the key points I have outlined here today.

We are interested in further expansion and development of the practical cooperation within the APA platform.

I wish all the participants here productive work, success and all the best.

Asian Parliamentary Assembly
Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs



Moscow, Russia
28-30 October 2025

Opening Remarks by
H.E. Dr. Mohammad Reza Majidi
APA Secretary General

Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great honor and profound privilege for me to address this distinguished meeting of the APA Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs convened here in the historic House of Unions in the glorious city of Moscow.

On behalf of all the delegations present, the staff of the APA Secretariat, and on my own behalf, I wish to express my profound gratitude to H.E. Mr. Boris Chernyshov, Deputy Chairman of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation and APA Vice-President, for his invaluable leadership and steadfast commitment.

Let me also extend my heartfelt thanks to the other high-ranking officials of the Government and the State Duma for the excellent organization of this meeting and their generous hospitality, demonstrating once again their dedication to the APA's principles and mission for the enhancement of parliamentary cooperation

I would also like to express particular appreciation to the distinguished delegation of the Russian Federation for presenting a timely and highly relevant draft resolution entitled "*The Preservation of Cultural Diversity and Strengthening Multilateral Cooperation in Eurasia.*" This important initiative, provides an excellent groundwork for constructive deliberation and collective action throughout our discussions.

Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen

The wide range of social and cultural issues covered by this Committee, underscores both the magnitude and urgency of the challenges facing our societies today. In recent years, our deliberations have centered on diverse interrelated themes, including cultural diversity and cultural heritage, access to information, interfaith dialogue, the empowerment of women and youth, the protection of family values, health equity, aging populations, human development, sustainable tourism, and the fight against corruption and illicit drug trafficking.

However, the unsettled state of the international order, characterized by turbulence, fragmentation, and competing geopolitical interests, compels us as parliamentarians to engage even more deeply in the cultural and social life of our societies. The new realities we face, ranging from disruptive technologies to persistent global inequality, from far-reaching impacts of climate change to rapidly shifting demographic trends, require uninterrupted reassessment of and approaches.

Accordingly, it is imperative that this Committee sharpen its focus on the following items as the most pressing issues of our time. It is evident that only through a broadened and more integrated agenda, strengthened by closer partnership with other regional and international organizations, we can respond effectively to these demands:

1. Human Rights and Cultural Diversity

The promotion and protection of human rights remain at the very core of our collective mission and must be recognized as inseparable from cultural development and preservation of social stability. The right to development and the preservation of cultural diversity are not mere abstract principles; they are lived realities that shape communities and identities across our region and beyond.

In this regard, fostering diversity of cultural expressions, raising awareness of their fundamental values, and creating the conditions for a culture of peace and dialogue, are not optional but necessary measures in today's interconnected world. Cultural exchange has always been a vehicle for mutual respect, trust, and understanding. Our responsibility is to ensure that such exchanges flourish and are not undermined by intolerance or exclusivity. Sharing experiences, new ideas, and best practices in the promotion of human rights and cultural understanding should therefore remain central to the priorities of APA member countries.

2. Information and Communication Technology

Equally indispensable in today's world is the role of information and communication technology, which now touches virtually every sphere of human development at the local, national, regional, and global levels. Access to reliable information is indeed a fundamental right, and it holds immense potential for empowerment, education, and inclusion. Yet, alongside this promise, the digital space exposes societies to grave risks.

Misinformation and disinformation, hate speech, cyberbullying, sexual exploitation, child abuse, and the weaponization of digital platforms for criminal or terrorist purposes represent serious threats not only to individuals but also to the cultural identity and cohesion of societies. This dual reality requires a balanced response. While it is essential to preserve the openness of

digital spaces, it is equally important for states to safeguard their sovereign right to adopt policies that protect cultural, national, and religious values within their territories. Strengthening and diversifying the means of cultural expression in the digital era must be a priority if we are to prevent the erosion of identity and values.

3. Advancement of Education

Education stands as a cornerstone of any dynamic society. Beyond its role in economy and politics, education is vital for fostering cultural awareness, nurturing tolerance, and cultivating a culture of peace, coexistence, and dialogue. It not only shapes individual character but also builds collective resilience.

From a cultural perspective, education enables societies to campaign against prejudice, to build bridges between communities, and to empower future generations with knowledge and empathy. It also contributes directly to capacity building, technical assistance, and scientific innovation. Supporting educational initiatives that integrate cultural understanding with modern skills is therefore a critical investment in the sustainability of our societies.

4. Multilateralism and Cultural Diversity

In our contemporary era, the interdependence between political multilateralism and cultural diversity is more pronounced than ever. Multilateralism, by its very nature, seeks cooperation, dialogue, and inclusivity, while cultural diversity reflects the richness of human expression that multilateralism must safeguard.

However, unilateral coercive measures, whether political or economic, undermine these principles by eroding sovereign rights, violating international law, and exacerbating divisions. Such measures fuel cultural domination and contribute to the spread of racism, discrimination, xenophobia, intolerance, and extremism. In contrast, a multilateral approach that embraces diversity, fosters solidarity, enhances democratic values, and promotes a more equitable international order. It is through this synergy that societies can overcome the divides of mistrust and work towards collective progress.

5. The Challenge of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Allow me, in conclusion, to turn to a subject of growing urgency: artificial intelligence. As AI becomes increasingly rooted in daily life, its potential benefits are vast, from improving healthcare to advancing education and economic efficiency. Yet, these advances come with profound risks and ethical dilemmas.

Most citizens, both young and old, lack a fundamental understanding of what AI truly is, how it operates, and what its broader implications might be. Misinformation, algorithmic manipulation, and non-transparent decision-making processes, raise serious concerns about privacy, freedom, and the stability of our societies. Left unchecked, AI-driven misinformation campaigns could deepen distrust, fuel division, and undermine the democratic fabric of our nations.

It is, therefore my strong belief that this Committee must elevate the issue of AI on its agenda. We must foster greater awareness, encourage critical thinking, and strengthen international cooperation in order to ensure that AI evolves as a tool for human development and cultural enrichment, rather than as a source of exploitation or destabilization.

**Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,**

Let me conclude my address by acknowledging that the challenges before us are indeed formidable, yet they are not unsolvable. By reaffirming our commitment to human rights, embracing the transformative power of education, safeguarding the integrity of information, strengthening the foundation of multilateralism, and addressing thoroughly the implications of artificial intelligence, we can altogether build a future that not only honors our diversity, but also secures the dignity and well-being of generations to come.

As final word, I must once again draw your attention to the ongoing humanitarian catastrophe in the Gaza Strip.

More than two years of Israel's war crimes and the destruction of Gaza's infrastructure have reduced the enclave to rubble.

During this period, the APA, as a supporter of the legitimate resistance of the Palestinian people in their pursuit of the right to self-determination, has adopted policies in support of the Palestinian nation, making the issue of Palestine a central focus of its agenda.

APA has consistently supported every measure and initiative aimed at halting the genocidal war, ensuring the withdrawal of occupying forces, facilitating the entry of humanitarian assistance, securing the release of Palestinian prisoners, and realizing the fundamental rights of the Palestinian people.

In the current situation, the APA welcomes the cessation of hostilities and destruction in Gaza and emphasizes that this does not in any way relieve States and competent international institutions of their shared legal, humanitarian, and moral duty to pursue justice by prosecuting

those who ordered and perpetrated war crimes, genocide, and crimes against humanity in the Gaza Strip.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.

Attachment III

Asian Parliamentary Assembly

Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs



ГОСУДАРСТВЕННАЯ ДУМА



Moscow, Russian Federation
28-31 October 2025

Agenda

(10/06/2025 by APA Secretariat)

- 1. Adoption of the Agenda**
- 2. Election of the Bureau**
- 3. Opening Remarks by the Chairperson**
- 4. Report by APA Secretary General**
- 5. General Debate**
- 6. Consideration of Draft Resolutions on:**
 - 1- Measures to Promote Cultural Diversity and Protect Cultural Heritage in Asia
 - 2- Asian Integration through Information and Communication Technology
 - 3- Collaboration on Health Equity in Asia
 - 4- Asian Parliamentarians Against Corruption
 - 5- APA Women Parliamentarians
 - 6- Promoting Dialogue and Harmony among Followers of World Religions
 - 7- Legal and Legislative Cooperation in Combating the Smuggling of Cultural Items in Asia
 - 8- Effective Cooperation in Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking in Asia
 - 9- The Promotion of Quality Child and Youth Development for Sustainable Society in Asia
 - 10- Ageing Society in Asia
 - 11- Human Development in Asia
 - 12- Tourism Cooperation in Asia
 - 13- The Commission on Women (deferred)
 - 14- Asian Parliamentarians in support of a more just multipolar world order reflecting its cultural and civilizational diversity
 - 15- The preservation of cultural diversity and strengthening multilateral cooperation in Eurasia (New)
- 7. Situation of Women Parliamentarians in Asia**
- 8. Any other Matters**

Attachment IV

Attachment V

Asian Parliamentary Assembly Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs



Moscow, Russia
28-30 October 2025

Report by H.E. Dr. Mohammad Reza Majidi APA Secretary General

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

It is a profound honor and a true pleasure to address the meeting of the APA Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs, convened here in the magnificent city of Moscow.

On behalf of all the delegations present, the staff of the APA Secretariat, and on my own behalf, I extend my deepest and most heartfelt gratitude to H.E. Mr. Boris Chernyshov, Deputy Chairman of the State Duma, and APA Vice-President, as well as to the other esteemed officials of the Government and the State Duma, for their exemplary organization of this meeting and their warm and generous hospitality.

It is a source of pride for the APA that the State Duma of the Russian Federation, one of our most committed and dynamic members, has once again undertaken the responsibility of hosting and chairing this highly important session.

I am confident that, under your wise and capable leadership, the Standing Committee will continue to fulfill its mandate effectively and will further strengthen our collective efforts in advancing the vision and objectives of the APA. We stand fully committed to lend our unreserved support for the success of this meeting, as has been our steadfast commitment in all our past endeavors.

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

Allow me now to present a brief report on the recent developments in the work of the Committee and share with you my insight by outlining key considerations for its future direction.

As you may recall, at our previous Committee meeting, held here in Moscow in September 2024 under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Boris Chernyshov, we successfully adopted 13 draft resolutions. However, the draft resolution on the “Commission on Women,” sponsored by the APA President, Azerbaijan, was deferred for the second time due to the absence of consensus.

Today, there are 15 drafts before the Committee for consideration.–Notably, the Russian delegation, as the host and chair, has submitted a new draft resolution entitled “*The Preservation of Cultural Diversity and Strengthening Multilateral Cooperation in Eurasia.*” I warmly commend and sincerely thank the State Duma for this valuable and forward-looking initiative, which reflects both vision and leadership in promoting the shared values of our Assembly.

It is important to note that 13 of the draft resolutions currently on the Committee’s agenda have been under consideration for several years. While some revisions and updates have been introduced in the previous meetings, the overall contents have largely remained unchanged.

In this context, and with a view to reinvigorating and updating the Committee’s working agenda, the Secretariat proposes the removal of the following long-standing draft resolutions that have not received substantive amendments this year:

1. Draft Resolution on Measures to Promote Cultural Diversity and Protect Cultural Heritage in Asia
2. Draft Resolution on Asian Parliamentarians Against Corruption
3. Draft Resolution on Asian Parliamentarians in support of a more just multipolar world order reflecting its cultural and civilizational diversity

These draft resolutions will be replaced with new draft resolutions at future meetings, thereby ensuring that our agenda remains dynamic and relevant, and responsive to emerging regional and global developments.

Looking ahead, the Secretariat will undertake, prior to the next Standing Committee meeting, a comprehensive review to identify the most pertinent and timely themes arising from today’s discussions and from the upcoming Committee meeting which will be held alongside the 16th APA Plenary. These selected themes will then be circulated to APA member parliaments, who will be invited to submit new draft resolutions for consideration at the 2026 Standing Committee meeting.

In conclusion, I thank you sincerely for your attention, and I look forward to our continued collaboration in advancing the noble objectives of peace, cooperation, and mutual understanding among the APA member parliaments.

Attachment VI



GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF TÜRKİYE
Foreign Relations and Protocol Department

**THE ADDRESS OF H.E. MR. ABDULKADIR EMİN ÖNEN,
HEAD OF TURKISH DELEGATION TO ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
(APA)
ON THE OCCASION OF THE MEETING OF APA STANDING COMMITTEE ON
SOCIAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS
(October 29, 2025, Moscow/Russian Federation)**

Honorable Chairperson,

Distinguished Members of Parliament,

Dear Secretary General,

Dear Guests,

It is a great pleasure for me to meet and address you at the meeting of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA).

First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the host country, the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation and H.E. Mr. Boris Chernyshov, Deputy Chairman of State Duma and Chairman of the APA Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs for the generous hospitality and the excellent organization.

Russia and Türkiye are both bridges between Asia and Europe. Relations between Türkiye and Russian Federation have a long history of cooperation and multi-dimensional interaction based on mutual respect. Our economic and trade relations are based on win-win policy, and have become the driving force of our relations. Turkish and Russian economic interests are complementary to each other in many sectors and that makes our cooperation more efficient and valuable. Our good relations contribute to a wider regional security and stability.

As the world is going through a profound political, economic, technological and socio-cultural transformation, Asia has emerged as the center of gravity of global growth, future-oriented innovation and geopolitical competition.

The global challenges and the ever-increasing uncertainties directly pose great risks to our common future by threatening the peace and prosperity of our region, as well as the social and cultural fabric of our continent.

That's why effective exchange of views on common challenges in the multilateral fora is important. APA is one of the largest international parliamentary organizations and we have a great potential for a remarkable position as a diplomatic platform for global peace and stability.

In line with her multi-dimensional and multi-faceted foreign policy approach, Türkiye aims to contribute to regional dialogue by strengthening the cordial partnerships with our friends based on mutual respect and benefit. In this regard, we attach special importance to the role of the APA in institutionalizing the cross regional dialogue.

Honorable Members of Parliament,

A permanent and comprehensive ceasefire has long been overdue in Gaza. We welcome the agreement to secure a ceasefire, release of hostages/detainees and humanitarian access in Gaza, announced earlier on 9 October 2025. His Excellency Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of Republic of Türkiye, exerted all efforts to facilitate progress. We hope that the agreement will end the suffering and lead to a lasting solution based on the two-state solution. As you know, Türkiye stands as one of the guarantor countries of this ceasefire. Palestinian side is adhering to the ceasefire and has clearly expressed its commitment. Israel, however, continues to violate it. The international community must make greater efforts to ensure Israel fully complies. Adequate diplomatic pressure on Israel is essential.

Unhindered entry of humanitarian aid into Gaza strip must immediately start without any delay. The momentum created with the ceasefire deal and international solidarity movements should also be translated into the establishment of the Palestinian state based on the 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital, and which is independent, sovereign, and geographically contiguous. The recent decision to recognize the State of Palestine by Western countries are a long overdue, but significant steps in the right direction.

Peaceful resolution of the conflicts in our immediate neighborhood and beyond is a necessity for the well-being and welfare of our nations. Therefore, Türkiye will continue to facilitate all efforts and initiatives for peace in Ukraine through diplomacy and dialogue.

Dear Colleagues,

APA represents a valuable opportunity for Asian parliaments, and it is our shared responsibility to further strengthen this platform and invest sincere efforts toward its advancement. I would like to note that, to ensure that the Asian Parliamentary Assembly gains the international respect, which it deserves, it is crucial to establish its international secretariat without delay and to implement last year's approved budget as soon as possible. We need to move forward for a stronger institutional basis based on the approved budget and a fully-fledged international secretariat.

Honorable Participants,

I hope that our discussions and consultations today on the draft proposals will raise awareness and contribute the efforts to revise and better the legislations in our respective parliaments. Lastly, I would also like to extend my sincere thanks once again to the State Duma of Russian Federation for the very warm hospitality and excellent arrangements. Thank you.

English Translation
Speech of the Delegation of the Senate of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

At the Meeting of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs
Asian Parliamentary Assembly
Moscow, Russian Federation — October 28–30, 2025
:Delivered by
Senator Dr. Zohair Abu Faris, Assistant President of the Jordanian Senate

.In the name of God, the Most Merciful, the Compassionate
All praise be to Allah, Lord of the Worlds, and peace and blessings be upon our Prophet
.Muhammad, the honest Arab Hashemite, and upon all prophets and messengers

,Your Excellencies, Distinguished Guests
,Ladies and Gentlemen
.Peace, mercy, and blessings of God be upon you

At the outset, allow me to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Secretariat of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly and to the State Duma of the Russian Federation for their kind invitation to participate in the meetings of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs, and for the warm welcome, generous hospitality, and excellent organization. Jordan highly values the efforts of the Russian Federation in supporting Asian dialogue and promoting cultural and civilizational cooperation among our peoples.

,Your Excellencies
Our meeting today comes at a critical time when our region and the world face intertwined humanitarian, cultural, and economic challenges. Strengthening Asian parliamentary cooperation is no longer a political luxury, but a strategic necessity to confront global challenges and to shape practical visions that fulfill the aspirations of our peoples for peace, justice, and prosperity.
The agenda of this meeting is rich with important topics — the protection of cultural diversity and human heritage, the promotion of health equity, women's empowerment, interfaith dialogue, the fight against corruption, the care for the elderly, youth empowerment, and the enhancement of cultural and tourism cooperation — which all serve as bridges of connection between our nations.

,Ladies and Gentlemen
The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, under the leadership of His Majesty King Abdullah II, firmly believes that culture and tourism are twin pillars in building bridges of human understanding among nations.
Jordan, though small in size, is immensely rich in its human and civilizational diversity — a land walked by prophets and shaped by civilizations whose marks remain alive in the conscience of humanity.

From the rose-red city of Petra, capital of the Nabataeans, to Wadi Rum, Jerash, Umm Qais, Madaba, and Karak, our country is home to sites that embody the shared human story.

The capital Amman stands as a model of coexistence and openness, where mosques and churches stand side by side — a living testament to genuine brotherhood and mutual respect

In this context, Jordan is a leading destination for both Islamic and Christian religious tourism

On the banks of the Jordan River lies the Baptism Site – Al-Maghtas, where Jesus Christ (peace be upon him) was baptized — a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the holiest places on earth

To the south rises Mount Nebo, while in Karak, Mu'tah, and Al-Mazar, rest the shrines of the noble companions Ja'far ibn Abi Talib, Zaid ibn Harithah, and Abdullah ibn Rawahah (may God be pleased with them)

These blessed sites make Jordan a crossroads of faiths and a sanctuary of tolerance and coexistence — a message we proudly uphold before the world

The Amman Message, launched by His Majesty King Abdullah II, stands as a historic and moral declaration of Islam's true values of mercy, moderation, and humanity — values the Hashemite leaders have long championed in every international forum

, Ladies and Gentlemen

Jordan also ranks among the world's leading destinations for medical and wellness tourism

Thanks to its advanced hospitals, skilled medical staff, and high-quality services, tens of thousands of patients from around the world seek treatment in Jordan every year

Moreover, God has blessed our land with unique natural resources — the Dead Sea, with its rare salts and climate, and the Ma'in and Afra hot springs, rich in minerals — forming a natural haven for therapy and renewal

Culture and tourism in Jordan are not merely economic sectors, but human missions

A visitor to Jordan does not only see an archaeological site — they experience a journey that connects the spirit, history, and nature

Through a comprehensive national vision, the Jordanian government continues to develop sustainable tourism that respects the environment and empowers local communities to benefit from development directly

, Your Excellencies

From this distinguished platform, we express our deepest respect and solidarity with the steadfast Palestinian people, enduring relentless Israeli aggression — paying a heavy price through countless victims, most of them women and children, during two years of continuous bombardment on Gaza, and through decades of occupation and double standards that shield aggressors from accountability

Peace and stability in our region cannot be achieved without the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on its national soil along the June 4, 1967 lines, with East Jerusalem as its capital, in accordance with the two-state solution, which received the recognition of 157 countries at the International Conference for the Two-State Solution at the United Nations on September 22, 2025, in New York

As for Jerusalem, it remains the red line reaffirmed by His Majesty King Abdullah II, whose Hashemite Custodianship over its Islamic and Christian holy sites is a steadfast pillar in defending its identity, Arab character, and sacred heritage against settler assaults and attempts to alter its historic status

, Ladies and Gentlemen

Our meeting today in Moscow offers a valuable opportunity to renew our collective resolve to
broaden Asian parliamentary cooperation in cultural, health, and tourism fields
Let this gathering be a platform to launch a shared Asian parliamentary vision that deepens
human and civilizational dialogue, strengthens social cohesion, and builds a future of mutual
respect and prosperity
Today, parliamentary diplomacy carries a historic responsibility — to shape effective
frameworks of cooperation, build realistic and actionable policies, promote human
development, improve health and education systems, and protect our shared cultural identity
from the distortions of extremism and alienation

In conclusion
On behalf of the Delegation of the Jordanian Senate, I look forward to seeing this meeting
produce practical results and concrete initiatives that enhance Asia's position as a continent
of peace, diversity, and human excellence
Cooperation among our nations is not optional — it is a strategic necessity for a fairer and
more prosperous future
Let us work together, with unity of purpose and clarity of vision, to shape the change we
seek and to build a flourishing Asia of peace, understanding, dignity, and prosperity for all its
peoples

Thank you for your kind attention
Peace, mercy, and blessings of God be upon you



BAHAGIAN PENYELIDIKAN DAN PERPUSTAKAAN
RESEARCH AND LIBRARY DIVISION
PARLIMEN MALAYSIA
PARLIAMENT OF MALAYSIA

ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (APA)

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON
SOCIAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

MOSCOW, RUSSIA FEDERATION

28-31 October 2025

GENERAL REMARKS

Mr Chair, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

Good morning.

1. The Malaysian delegation is pleased to be at the forefront of this important Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs. Primarily, I would like to thank the State Duma of the Russian Federation for their warm welcome, as well as the APA Secretariat for their exceptional efforts in organising this session.
2. The agenda highlights that collaboration together with legislators continue to be an effective way of addressing with both cultural and social issues within Asia. The Committee's vision for the promotion of human development and the strengthening of social unity in our region is comprised of a diverse array of

proposed draft resolutions that address various topics, including health equity, education, youth development, digital inclusion, women's empowerment, and the fight against corruption.

Mr Chair,

3. Malaysia sees these resolutions as complementing measures to enhance Asia's equity, power, and openness. All the proposed resolutions recognise that social reform will not succeed unless people work together, care about others, and believe that everyone is responsible for the change. It shows how crucial parliaments are as institution where people speak, be responsible, and gain understanding regarding how nations can collaborate.
4. From Malaysia's point of view, the social and cultural goals of this Committee are in line with the goals we established through our efforts in Parliament. We are working on inclusive governance, making sure that everyone has equal access to technology and education, and giving young people and women the power to help build the nation.
5. Allow me to share insights from Malaysia's parliamentary experience. First, the Parlimen Belia Malaysia (Youth Parliament) is still a place for young Malaysians aged 16 to 30 to have structured policy discussions and practise how the legislative process works. It shows the fact that we believe getting young people involved is important for raising a generation that is politically aware and socially responsible ¹.
6. Second, on gender equality, the *Women's Parliamentary Caucus* within the *Dewan Rakyat* offers a cross-party platform for collaboration on issues such as gender-responsive budgeting, family welfare, and women's representation in

¹ Youth Parliament revamp to introduce electoral system, online voting by 2026.
<https://www.malaymail.com/news/malaysia/2025/07/17/youth-parliament-revamp-to-introduce-electoral-system-online-voting-by-2026-says-speaker/184219>

decision-making. This initiative demonstrates our continuing effort to align national policy with the broader goals of equality and inclusion².

7. Third, Malaysia's digital inclusion policies notably through the *MADANI Economy Framework* and the *Malaysia Digital Economy Blueprint (MyDIGITAL)* emphasise equitable access to digital infrastructure and capacity-building for all segments of society. These measures resonate with this Committee's recognition of the need to close the digital divide and to ensure that innovation serves humanity^{3 4}.

Mr Chair,

8. Malaysia had the privilege of being the **President of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA)** for 2024- 2025. During our tenure, we are focusing for strong cooperation across parliaments on climate action, social protection, the digital economy, and getting young people involved. These experiences have made us even more sure that parliaments need to work together and united to address challenges.
9. We believe that the knowledge and partnerships that the AIPA Presidency established may contribute to APA work to improve social and cultural cooperation on a broader level across Asia. Our goal is still clear, to support policies that include everyone, build up institutions, and stimulate constructive conversation among Member Parliaments.
10. As we consider the proposed resolutions today, let us guarantee that each of them will lead to considerable progress for the individuals we represent. Parliaments need to keep bridging the gap between hopes and actions to

² **Strategies for inclusive politics and boosting women's representation in Malaysia.**
<https://www.wfd.org/commentary/strategies-inclusive-politics-and-boosting-womens-representation-malaysia>

³ **Madani Economy To Boost Malaysian Economy, Improve Quality of Life**
<https://www.mof.gov.my/portal/en/news/press-citations/madani-economy-to-boost-malaysian-economy-improve-quality-of-life-pm-anwar>
Malaysia Digital Economy Blueprint

⁴ <https://ekonomi.gov.my/sites/default/files/2021-02/malaysia-digital-economy-blueprint.pdf>

ensure that they not only witness policy happen yet also contribute to transforming society.

Mr Chair,

11. Malaysia is prepared to cooperate with other Member Parliaments to promote these goals. By cooperating, we can honour the values of fairness, equity, and mutual regard that characterise our collective Asian identity.

Thank you.

Attachment VII

Draft Resolutions of the Standing Committees on Social and Cultural Affairs

1. Draft Resolution on Measures to Promote Cultural Diversity and Protect Cultural Heritage in Asia
2. Draft Resolution on Asian Integration through Information and Communication Technology
3. Draft Resolution on Collaboration on Health Equity in Asia
4. Draft Resolution on Asian Parliamentarians Against Corruption
5. Draft Resolution on APA Women Parliamentarians
6. Draft Resolution on Promoting Dialogue and Harmony among Followers of World Religions
7. Draft Resolution on Legal and Legislative Cooperation in Combating the Smuggling of Cultural Items in Asia
8. Draft Resolution on Effective Cooperation in Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking in Asia
9. Draft Resolution on the Promotion of Quality Child and Youth Development for Sustainable Society in Asia
10. Draft Resolution on Ageing Society in Asia
11. Draft Resolution on Human Development in Asia
12. Draft Resolution on Tourism Cooperation in Asia
13. Draft Resolution on the Commission on Women (Deferred)
14. Draft Resolution on Asian Parliamentarians in support of a more just multipolar world order reflecting its cultural and civilizational diversity
15. Draft Resolution on the Preservation of Cultural Diversity and Strengthening Multilateral Cooperation in Eurasia (New)



Draft Resolution on Measures to Promote Cultural Diversity and Protect Cultural Heritage in Asia

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling the 1970 UNESCO Convention on Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property to protect the cultural heritage in Asia;

Also recalling the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity and the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, 1954, and its protocols, where applicable and UNESCO 2005 Convention on Protection and Promotion of Diversity of Cultural Expression;

Recognizing the significant role of parliaments both in safeguarding their respective national cultural heritage and in harmonizing Asian approach in respect of cultural diversity;

Emphasizing that protection, conservation and management of the diverse Cultural and Natural heritage of Outstanding Universal Value in Asia declared under the Convention concerning *the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage*, 1972 is the responsibility of its member states and joint collaborative efforts, wherever necessary, may be made towards their safeguarding for posterity;

Recalling the UNESCO 1972 Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage; and UNESCO 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage;

Reaffirming that cultural heritage is a fundamental component of the cultural identity of a people and their social cohesion, and its disrespect, damage or destruction may have adverse consequences for human dignity and human rights;

Recognizing that tolerance is one of the fundamental values of humanity, which entails promotion of cultural diversity, culture of peace, and dialogue among civilizations;

Also recognizing the increasing importance of culture, as an integral part of development plans of all nations in Asia and beyond;

Promoting greater understanding and respect among civilizations, cultures and religions by means of concrete projects in the priority areas of youth, education, and media, in collaboration with governments, international and regional organizations;

Noting the active role of the Republic of Azerbaijan in promoting intercultural and interreligious dialogue by hosting the Seventh Global Forum of the Alliance of Civilizations in 2016 and the summits of the World Religious Leaders in 2010, 2019, and 2024 as well as through biennial World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue;

Reiterating that multicultural dynamism in Asia provides an indispensable asset for making a strong Asian community based on mutual respect and recognition of all Asian cultures and civilizations;

Recognizing that disaster risk is increasingly complex and systemic and that hazards can trigger each other with cascading impacts across cultural sectors and geographies, and that the interrelation of risks across multiple dimensions and scales and potential unintended negative consequences should inform development policies and investments, emphasizing that these policies should be oriented towards building resilience to future shock, including those that may jeopardize cultural heritage sites;

Also noting that globalization creates some opportunities for greater interaction among cultures and civilizations while bringing about challenges in preserving and celebrating the rich intellectual and cultural diversity in Asia;

Considering that the smuggling of cultural objects from Asia poses a threat to the richness of Asian cultural heritage and underlines the important role of parliaments to both raise public awareness about this challenge and to strengthen it, where necessary;

Deploing the unrepairable damage brought to cultural and religious heritage by terrorism and organized crimes, especially damages to all religious and historical sites and holy shrines by indiscriminate bombing and shelling;

Condemning the loss, destruction, removal, theft, pillage, illicit movement, or misappropriation of and any acts of vandalism or damage, directed against cultural property in areas of armed conflict and territories that are occupied;

Expressing grave concerns regarding theft, damage, or destruction to any place of worship of any religion, cultural, religious, or historical heritage in Asia;

We therefore,

1. **Determine** to encourage and promote further intercultural dialogue and inter-religious exchanges throughout Asia;
2. **Resolve** to appreciate and promote the benefits of diversity and good governance among Asian nations, and encourage values such as justice, human rights, non-discrimination, democracy and respect within and among communities and nations;

3. **Reject** all manifestations of discrimination that are based on racism, xenophobia and all other related forms of intolerance;
4. **Remain committed** to the protection of the rights of all communities, where applicable, so as to ensure the fulfillment of community rights;
5. **Urge** relevant governmental agencies to further facilitate consular services as appropriate for citizens of Asian countries to allow for greater people-to-people interaction;
6. **Acknowledge** that illegal import, export and transfer of ownership of cultural property and artifacts are responsible for the impoverishment of the cultural identity of the countries of origin of such property;
7. **Decide** to remain cognizant of damages to religious holy places and historical sites by other terrorist organizations in our home continent;
8. **Resolve** to cooperate to prevent illegal import, export or transfer of cultural property and artifacts among Asian countries and beyond;
9. **Urge** Member Parliaments to consider ratifying the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage and the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage;
10. **Underline** the importance of strengthening international cooperation and reducing vulnerability in the face of natural and human-made hazards, including weather-related as well as water-related hazards that may damage cultural heritage sites.
11. **Call Upon** all Member Parliaments to promote tolerance and empathy among Asian nations with a view to diminish distrust, misunderstanding, and conflict among religious communities;
12. **Strongly recommend** APA Member Parliaments to promote tourism in association with conservation and protection of cultural heritage;
13. **Reiterate** that during armed conflict, states should adopt measures to safeguard the cultural and natural heritage of a nation in conformity with international law and the principles and objectives of international agreements and UNESCO recommendations concerning the protection of such heritage during hostilities;
14. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to support establishing an award to be presented annually to outstanding Asian artists; authors, poets, film makers, painters, etc. who best convey the APA's commitment to cultural diversity in Asia;
15. **Encourage** the parliamentarians to support their governments outreaching to civil society about the importance of cultural diversity in societies and developing strategic plans and projects to develop the cultural sector to promote dialogue among civilizations and cultures;
16. **Stress** the important role the private sector can play in promoting cultural diversity, encouraging the development of plans and mechanisms to create a space for dialogue between the private and public sectors to develop plans to manage,

protect, and promote cultural diversity in Asia;

17. **Also stress** the important role the parliamentarians can play in developing policies and legislation to promote the principles enshrined in the UNESCO World Day for Cultural Diversity in their countries and to develop appropriate mechanisms for developing plans and regulatory frameworks to manage the cultural heritage sites, by identifying the cultural importance of these sites, maintaining their authenticity and preserving their value while respecting international laws for cultural diversity;
18. **Call upon** APA Member's Parliaments to support the cultural diversity including respect to regional and national particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems.



Draft Resolution on Asian Integration through Information and Communication Technology

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Reaffirming that right of access to accurate information is an integral part of the fundamental right of freedom of expression, as recognized by Resolution 59 of the UN General Assembly adopted in 1946, as well as by Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966)¹ and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2008).

Recalling WSIS² Outcomes of 2003, 2005 held under UN aegis to build a people centered, democratic, inclusive and development oriented information society and relevant UN resolutions;

Underlining that Asian integration can be achieved through further dialogue, interaction, and communication among Asian people for the promotion of peace, liberty, equality, human rights, and welfare in Asia;

Acknowledging the fundamental role of information and communication technology as an indispensable factor in all areas of national regional, and global development;

Acknowledging also new opportunities and challenges arising from the development of Artificial Intelligence (AI), internet of things (IoT), and emerging technologies;

Being aware that digital space is vulnerable to any acts of criminal or terrorist purposes that could cause disruption due to data and information leakage, as well as cyber-attacks on sovereign digital space.

Acknowledging that to protect information and communication technology (ICT) infrastructure across the Asian countries, it is important to formulate, guidelines and policies for securing ICT infrastructures of member states;

Recognizing the fact that today Asia encompasses the biggest market in the world, the highest number of populations the largest amount of foreign currency reserves and dynamic economic growth;

¹ Delegation of Saudi Arabia has registered her reservation on this Covenant.

² World Summit on Information Society held under the aegis of UN and ITU in 2003 and 2005.

Emphasizing the principle of flow of information, privacy protection within the domestically applicable moral and legal frameworks and also equitable access to communication and access to new technologies at the national, regional and global levels;

Deeply concerned by the proliferation of misinformation and disinformation, hate speech, cyberattacks, bullying with the use of ICTs, child sexual exploitation and abuse, and highlighting the role of States and other interested parties to counter violence which occurs through or is amplified by the implementation of information and communication technology;

Stressing the view that global networking provides opportunities for APA Member Parliaments to share experiences and engage in fruitful dialogue on significant issues in Asia and facilitates further cooperation and coordination, on the way of Asian integration process;

Emphasizing that, the role of parties, civil society, non- governmental organizations (NGOs) and other democratic structures in public sphere, provide opportunities in Asian countries for exchange of views, interactions and synergy to promote regional and global cooperation in order to reinforce the long term process for Asian Integration;

Encouraging Member Parliaments to assess and improve, together with other relevant stakeholders,, how ICT innovation can be more proactively and systematically identified and integrated into humanitarian action in a sustainable manner and to promote the sharing of best practices and lessons learned on innovative tools, as well as continue to support the efforts of Member States, in particular developing countries, to strengthen their capacities, including through facilitating access to information and communications technologies;

Reiterating our unwavering commitment to uphold sovereignty, democratic values, rule of law, human rights, safeguarding dignity, and well-being, ensuring personal data protection of applicable intellectual property rights, privacy, and security, fostering innovation, and promoting, promoting open, secure, stable, accessible, and peaceful ICT environment;

We therefore,

1. **Recognize** that information and communications technologies present new opportunities and challenges and that there is a pressing need to address the major impediments such as an appropriate enabling environment, sufficient resources, infrastructure, education, capacity, investment and connectivity;
2. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to support vocational and technical education and capacity building in Asia in order to enhance people's digital literacy, skills and competitiveness in coping with the challenges of globalization based on digital technologies;
3. **Also call upon** the UN, its specialized agencies, affiliated organizations, particularly ITU, the UN Specialized agency in ICTs, to support the Members of this Assembly through collaboration in improving access to ICTs and ICT-enabled services and technologies;

4. **Request** APA Member Parliamentarians to collaborate and take necessary measures inter alia to promote the development of ICT infrastructure through enabling policies, capacity building, building confidence and security in the use of ICTs;
5. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to support legislation requiring digital technology companies and developers to, in consultation with governments, develop industry accountability frameworks, that increase transparency and define responsibilities within the digital space;
6. **Call upon** member parliaments to formulate strategies aimed at safeguarding children and youth and reducing the sexual exploitation of women through modern communication channels, including the exchange of knowledge and experiences, policy coordination, and collaboration with the private sector;
7. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to prioritize initiatives aimed at bridging the digital divide within their countries by investing in and promoting regional collaboration for the deployment of telecommunication infrastructure in underserved and rural areas;
8. **Encourage** the Member States to contribute to Asian shared prosperity through physical infrastructure development that facilitates intra-regional and interregional digital connectivity;
9. **Call upon** APA member parliaments to formulate guidelines and policies for securing the ICT infrastructure in their respective countries and share best cyber security practices with each other state;
10. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to collaborate on standardizing and upgrading ICT infrastructure across the region, focusing on the adoption of next-generation technologies such as 5G and fiber-optic networks to enhance regional connectivity;
11. **Urge** Member Parliaments to develop, update and strengthen early warning systems, disaster preparedness and risk reduction measures at all levels, in accordance with the Sendai Framework, and to improve their response to early warning information in order to ensure that early warning leads to early action, implemented effectively in a timely manner.
12. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to establish and promote regional training programs, scholarships, and partnerships with international institutions for capacity building in key areas such as security in the use of ICTs, network management, and ICT policy formulation;
13. **Encourage** the establishment of joint research centers, innovation hubs, and technology parks focused on emerging ICTs such as artificial intelligence, blockchain, Internet of Things, etc.



Draft Resolution on Collaboration on Health Equity in Asia

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA Resolutions, APA/Res/2013/07; APA/Res/2010/02; and APA/Res/2009/06;

Also recalling the report of the Secretary-General on Achieving Health Equity in Asia, SG/Rep/2011/02 Dated 22 August 2011, submitted to the meeting of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran on 13-14 September, 2011;

Welcoming the Report of the Secretary-General contained in SG/Rep/2014/02 dated 10 August, 2014;

Underlining the report of WHO Commission on Social Determinants of Health for addressing the impact of socio-economic inequalities on health at global, regional and national levels;

Noting Astana Declaration adopted on 25-26 October 2018 reaffirming the commitments expressed in Alma Ata Declaration adopted on 6-12 September 1978;

Welcoming the Sustainable Development Goals adopted on 25 September 2015 and reaffirming their pivotal role in enhancement of the health equity;

Also welcoming the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the UN General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases, adopted on 19 September 2011;

Recognizing that equitable access to medicines is one of the fundamental elements in achieving progressively the full realization of the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health;

Recalling the importance of placing equity and people-centered approach at the center of global health agenda and noting central role of achieving Universal Health Coverage to provide equitable access to quality health-care services without financial hardship and access to quality affordable medicine and medical technologies including innovative digital health solutions and responsible use of AI;

Emphasizing the need to have an effective response to social and health related problems emanating from illegal drugs, psychotropic, alcohol and tobacco products, and promote

policies to prevent and control their use, abuse and addiction with an holistic and multisectoral approach;

Expressing concern about the existing socio-economic inequalities and their impact on the poor and vulnerable population, as well as the remote geographical areas and underserved urban areas;

Also expressing concern on deteriorating health effects of wars and armed conflicts as well as Unilateral and Secondary Sanctions by hindering provision and quality of health service and causing depravation from fundamental human rights prospective to health, due to the inequalities in access and utilization of qualified health-care services including interactions with Special UN mandates;

Stressing the view that global net-working provides opportunities for Member Parliaments to engage in fruitful dialogue and exchange of best practices on health equity;

Reaffirming the significant role of parliaments both in advocating and promoting national policies and legislative measures for achieving health equity;

Having in mind that access to basic health-care services and medicine is a universally accepted norm arising from fundamental elements of human rights;

We therefore,

1. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to incorporate social determinants of health (SDH) more intensively in other APA themes and activities;
2. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to strengthen collaboration with a view to formulating a coherent approach with regard to social determinants of health in Asia, especially education, housing, and employment;
3. **Invite** APA Member Parliaments to promote healthcare in Asia through sharing experiences and best practices on identifying vulnerability and inequity and actively advocate the inclusion of social determinants of health in national policies and programs in accordance with national contexts and priorities;
4. **Invite** APA member Parliaments to develop a cross-sectoral collaboration for the advancement of health equity in Asia through comprehensive training and study exchanges on social determinants of health among policy makers and related stakeholders;
5. Call upon APA Member Parliaments to support and launch digital platforms and mechanisms for knowledge exchange to accelerate the sharing of expertise and experiences related to health equity among Member States. These platforms may include online forums, virtual workshops, and dedicated applications for the exchange of data and best practices in the field of health equity;
6. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to adopt policies and measures to improve service

provision, primary health care, human resources for health and health financing system including social protection system as well as health insurance plans for a more equitable resource distribution;

7. **Provide** adequate, predictable, evidence-based and sustainable finances, while improving their effectiveness, to support national efforts in achieving universal health coverage, in accordance with national contexts and priorities, through domestic, bilateral, regional and multilateral channels, including international cooperation, financial and technical assistance, considering the use of traditional and innovative financing mechanisms;
8. **Call on** APA Member Parliaments to encourage their respective governments in order to establish networking among major governmental and non-governmental institutions dealing with health issues in Asia, and expand cooperation with academic institutions, non-governmental organizations, civil society groups, academia and the media with adequate safeguard in order to identify the main social determinants of health;
9. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to take action in their countries to increase health literacy and awareness as well as to enhance health promotion and disease prevention;
10. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to persuade their respective governments to create and implement targeted policies, activities, and programs in line with national contexts and priorities to ensure a success in the achievement of SDGs including universal health coverage with regard to health policies; and promoting access to quality, efficacious, safe and affordable diagnosis, therapeutics, medicines, and vaccines, and essential technologies, and their components, as well as equipment as appropriate;
11. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to undertake measures to coordinate responses to epidemics and to support international efforts to prevent, mitigate and address the impacts of infectious diseases and epidemics in accordance with the goal of advancing the 2030 Agenda;
12. **Invite** APA Member Parliaments to encourage their respective governments for enhancing the role of digital technologies, connectivity and access in public health, medical care and healthcare services;
13. **Call on** APA Member Parliaments to take necessary actions and to encourage their respective governments to ensure child nutrition needs and to tackle malnutrition with a focus on equity for a healthier generation;
14. **Determine** to accelerate the achievement of SDG 2030 health targets and to take active part on the discussion of 2030 development agenda by delivering Asian views in the international arena to drive the global agenda forward, as appropriate in the national context and priorities;
15. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to adopt relevant legislations to support universal access of all population in Asia to basic healthcare services and pharmaceutical products inter alia, via persuading their respective governments to collaborate with

other Asian Governments to devise an integrated Asian Mechanism of Health Insurance Coverage, in order to facilitate multilateral access of Asian People to medicine and healthcare services in the continent;

16. **Call on** APA Member Parliament to reconsider the health legislation in force to ensure achieving the goal of universal health coverage for all, in addition to increase public allocations for health spending in the countries of the continent to internationally recognized rates, in a manner that enhances equal access to adequate and sustainable healthcare services for all citizens of the continent, especially women, children, persons with disabilities, older persons and the poorest population;
17. **Emphasize** that health problems are not only caused by local factors, but are also related to the work of other communities and the health of other people near and far, therefor, ensuring that everyone in every country has access to health care can indeed better protect everyone's health;
18. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to develop and implement targeted strategies to mitigate these emerging health threats, ensuring that they are integrated into national health policies and programs.
19. Emphasizing the importance of addressing the digital divides in health between developed and developing countries, particularly those affecting women and girls, to ensure unhindered access, availability and affordability to digital health technologies and prevent the exacerbation of health inequities and this regard acknowledge the pressing need to address the major impediments that developing countries face in accessing and developing digital technologies, and highlight the importance of financing and capacity building;
20. Urges timely, equitable and unhindered access to safe, affordable, effective and quality medicines, vaccines, diagnostics and therapeutics and other health products and technologies as one of the fundamental elements for the full realization of the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and the correspondent objectives of universal health coverage and health for all, without discrimination, with special attention to reaching those furthest behind first;



Draft Resolution on Asian Parliamentarians Against Corruption

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA Resolutions on Combating Corruption contained in APA/Res/2013/09, December 2013; APA/Res/2010/01; APA/Res/2009/03; APA/Res/2008/18; as well as the APA Plan of Action on Combating Corruption contained in APA/Res/2007/05/Annex;

Welcoming the adoption of resolution 8/14 – Promoting good practices in relation to the role of National Parliaments and other Legislative Bodies in preventing and combating corruption in all its forms – by the 8th Conference of States Parties to the UN Convention against Corruption held from 16 – 20 December 2019 in Abu Dhabi, UAE;

Recognizing that fighting corruption at all levels and in all its forms is a priority and that corruption is a serious barrier to effective resource mobilization and allocation and diverts resources away from activities that are vital for poverty eradication and sustainable development;

Bearing in mind that corruption is a transnational phenomenon and that prevention and eradication of corruption is the responsibility of all States and that they must cooperate with one another;

Emphasizing that corruption hinders the development process as well as building a state of law and institutions, and stands in the way of stability and security of societies, prosperity, as well as undermining the value of democracy, whereas the prevention thereof has become an urgent necessity and a comprehensive public interest;

Recognizing article 4 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption according to which parties shall carry out their obligations under the Convention in a manner consistent with the principles of sovereign equality and territorial integrity of States and that of non-intervention in the domestic affairs of other States, and recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015;

Reaffirming the importance of respect for human rights, the rule of law, good governance, and democracy in the fight against corruption;

Recognizing the important role of parliaments to promote transparency, participation, accountability and integrity as some of the principles of anti-corruption strategy;

Acknowledging that the fight against all forms of corruption requires comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach including anti-corruption frameworks and strong institutions at all levels;

Expressing concern about the laundering and transfer of stolen or illegally acquired assets and proceeds of corruption, and stressing the need to address this concern in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

We therefore,

1. **Condemn** corruption at all levels and in all its forms, including bribery; money laundering; and abuse of power;
2. **Express** determination to prevent and combat corrupt practices in all forms and collaborate on facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to their legitimate owners, to the countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption;
3. **Welcome** the significant number of Member States that have already ratified or acceded to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and in this regard urges all APA Member Parliaments that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Corruption as a matter of priority, and urges all States Parties to the Convention to take appropriate measures ensuring its full and effective implementation;
4. **Resolve** to promote exchange of good practices and experiences regarding the role of Parliaments in preventing and countering corruption, including by raising awareness among public, reviewing and strengthening anti-corruption legislation, exercising parliamentary oversight, fostering a culture of transparency and accountability, promoting rule of law and strengthening institutions at national level;
5. **Recognize** the importance of strengthening Parliaments, role in preventing and combating corruption and promoting the exchange of good practices and national experience among Parliamentary Institutions as called for by the Resolution 8/14 adopted by the 8th Conference of States Parties to the UN Convention Against Corruption held from 16 – 20 December 2019 in Abu Dhabi, UAE;
6. **Urge APA members** to improve and expand working relations with important Asian organizations such as GOPAC (Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption) Chapter in order to enhance synergy and areas for cooperation and joint initiatives;
7. **Call on** Member Parliaments to empower civil society as an effective partner of parliaments and promote the role of the media in preventing and combating corruption in Asia;
8. **Invite** Member Parliaments to encourage their governments to engage the private sector in developing criteria and procedures to protect against corruption;

9. **Urge** Member Parliaments to encourage their governments to provide and harness the full potential of employing education and technology in preventing and combating corruption to reduce the likelihood of the spread of corruption;
10. **Also invite** Member Parliaments to encourage their governments to implement strategies and policies aimed at preventing and combating corruption and to develop measures to combat impunity;



Draft Resolution on APA Women Parliamentarians

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling the APA Plenary Resolution (APA/Res/2010/06, 30 November, 2010) on the establishment of the Coordinating Meeting of APA Women Parliamentarians and the APA Resolution on Special Committee of APA Women Parliamentarians (APA/Res/2014/16) superseding the Coordinating Meeting of APA Women Parliamentarians, as well as other relevant resolutions;

Recalling United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security, as the first resolution recognizing women's leadership role in international peace and security and their contributions to conflict prevention and peacekeeping;

Being mindful of the fact that despite all efforts made for the promotion of women's empowerment, gender inequality and injustice contrary to human dignity still persists between women and men both in the extent of power at decision-making and in mechanisms to promote the advancement of women;

Reaffirming that inclusion of women in positions of power and elected bodies, and also their involvement in the decision-making process, strengthens the development of democratic principles in public life and supports achieving the sustainable development;

Noting that women face obstacles in entering Parliaments includes political, socio-economic and cultural environment;

Acknowledging the necessity to place on the agenda of APA meetings matters of importance in this regard such as eliminating violence and discrimination against women, empowerment of women and their participation in political and economic life, and prevention of sexual exploitation and violence against women and girls, trafficking, including in situation of armed conflict particularly amid the humanitarian situations and emergencies;

Considering women's rights including gender stereotype women's empowerment, eliminating violence and discrimination which prevent them from enjoying access to healthcare services, education, equal opportunity, and fair pay; and seek to engage women in political, economic and social aspects of life;

Stressing our resolve to participate and contribute actively in the deliberation of issues relating to women's empowerment and participation in APA meetings;

Noting that the outcome documents of the Fourth World Conference on Women Beijing 1995, and its subsequent periodic follow-up conferences, being held every five years have all developed a comprehensive framework for the protection and empowerment of women and girls, eliminating all forms of discrimination against them and ensuring that they obtain their legitimate rights for it states parties;

We therefore,

1. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to ensure the full and effective inclusion of women in scientific, social, cultural, economic, political, and sustainable development affairs in Asia, at national, regional, and international levels as appropriate;
2. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to adopt legislations to facilitate women's equal representations in Asian Parliaments;
3. **Encourage** APA Women Parliamentarians to lead by example and place the interest of women at the heart of policy and decision making as an endeavor to encourage and engage more women into politics;
4. **Recommend** the importance of information and awareness campaigns to promote the integration of women into political participation and decision making with a view to facilitate reaching national and international parliamentary institutions;
5. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to recognize the concerns of and discrimination and inequalities experienced by women, and to effectively implement the programs for Sustainable Development which promote gender equality and empowerment of women with respect for national and cultural particularities of the Member States, in line with international law, as applicable;
6. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to recognize that gender equality and empowerment of women as a stand-alone goal with clear targets and indicators that must be achieved through implementation of goal 5 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with respect to national and cultural particularities of the Member States, in line with international law, as applicable;
7. **Emphasize** the concept of the family values as a basic unit to build a healthy and viable society;
8. **Determine** to enhance the activities of the Coordinating Meeting of APA Women Parliamentarian through more effective exchange of views and close interaction;
9. **Express** grave concern at the dire situation of millions of women in all war-torn and conflict-ridden areas who are inevitably in danger of and impacted by mortality and morbidity of themselves and their family members particularly their children;
10. **Also express** support of APA Member Parliaments in advancing women, peace and security agenda, particularly by enhancing women's role peacebuilding activities;

11. **Recommends** APA Member Parliamentarians to adopt special legislations to support and promote the special role of women to deal with the challenges induced by climate change;
12. **Recommends** APA Member Parliamentarians to recognize the concerns of digital divide between man and woman and to adopt special legislative measures for its reduction;
13. **Encourage** APA Member Parliamentarians to ensure inclusion of women in the policy making bodies;
14. **Encourage** APA Member Parliamentarians to bringing measures to ensure safety of women and girls from cyber-crimes;
15. **Encourage** APA Member Parliamentarians to take measures to provide education about prevention of drug / substance abuse to avoid its potential harmful consequence;
16. **Calling** APA Member Parliaments to ensure that all efforts they undertake regarding women will take into account those with multiple disadvantages, especially women with disabilities.



Draft Resolution on Promoting Dialogue and Harmony among Followers of World Religions

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Noting the role of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations in fostering the values of compassion, inclusion, and respect in working towards a more just peaceful, inclusive world, by promoting greater understanding, tolerance and respect among civilizations, cultures, religions and beliefs;

Recalling with appreciation various global, regional and sub-regional initiatives on mutual understanding and interfaith harmony including the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 65/5 (2010), the International Conference on Environment, Peace and the Dialogue among Civilizations and Cultures (2005);

Being mindful of the fact that, Inter-Faith harmony among followers of different religions of the world in general and Asia, in particular, is of utmost importance for the survival and harmony of mankind and the promotion of the culture of peace, understanding, respect, security and tolerance;

Recognizing the essential role of dialogue among followers of different faiths and religions in enhancing mutual collaboration, harmony and cooperation among their followers;

Expressing the need to explore ways and means to intensify inter-faith Harmony and resultant cooperation to strengthen the international peace and security to make the world a better place to live in;

Acknowledging that the moral imperatives of all religions, convictions and beliefs call for peace, tolerance and mutual understanding;

Commending the initiatives taken by the United Nations in support of dialogue among civilizations and citizens and followers of religions, foremost among which is the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations UNAOC and Doha International Center for Interfaith Dialogue (DICID) in Qatar and the King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID).

We therefore,

1. **Maintain** that a regular dialogue between the APA Member Parliaments become

an effective supplement for addressing the challenges of ongoing international conflicts based on religious differences and discrepancies;

2. **Denounce** the hatred stereotyping of persons based on their ethnicity and religion condemning any activity that leads towards the division between the followers of different faiths;
3. **Underline** the importance of moderation as a value within societies for countering violent extremism conducive to terrorism and for further contributing to the promotion of inter-faith and inter-cultural dialogue, tolerance, understanding and cooperation and encourage efforts, as appropriate, to enable voice of moderation to work together in order to build a more secure, inclusive and peaceful world;
4. **Declare** that extremism and terrorism cannot be attributed or accredited to any religion or nationality as these are common enemies of all humanity;
5. **Consider** that any form of discrimination based on religion, belief, faith or ethnic adherence is contrary to the merits of inter-faith dialogue and has no place in the community of civilized nations;
6. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to consider providing a respective national legal instrument, with the aim of creating a conducive atmosphere for inter-faith dialogue and cooperation as well as harmony among all religions;
7. **Deplore** in the strongest terms, all atrocities and acts of violence, committed by extremist and terrorist groups under the guise of religion and call upon all states to refrain from providing any support to such terrorist groups;
8. **Condemn** the misuse and distortion of religious beliefs, by extremist groups and their followers, which inflame intra-faith as well as inter-faith hatred and hold them accountable for instigation of ill-judgment, violence, and brutality against people of other religions and faiths;
9. **Condemn** the shameful acts and the exploitation of freedom of opinion and expression to offend religious beliefs and divine books, which constitutes a serious offense to the feelings of hundreds of millions of Muslims around the world;
10. **Strongly condemn** any advocacy of hatred based on religion or belief which constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, whether it involves the use of print, audiovisual or electronic media or any other means;
11. **Recommend** to jointly fight against all kinds of discrimination based on beliefs, and in particular stand against rising Islamophobia and Christian-phobia which is an artificial and unreal expression of the efforts aiming to defame Islam and Christianity.
12. **Emphasize** on the importance of addressing Islamophobia and Christian phobia as a form of racism against followers of the Islamic and Christian faith and stressing the need for promoting dialogue and meetings that fosters a deeper understanding of the true traditions of Islam and Christianity, thereby encouraging mutual respect among religions.

13. Welcome the appointment of United Nations Alliance of Civilizations High Representative Miguel Ángel Moratinos Cuyaubé as the United Nations Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia.
14. **Urge** all APA Member Parliaments to intensify their efforts for the development of international and regional frameworks to promote best practices which leads towards the inter-faith harmony and collaboration;
15. **Invite** Member Parliaments to further promote reconciliation to help to ensure durable peace and sustained development, including by working with faith leaders and communities and through reconciliatory measures and acts of service and by encouraging forgiveness and compassion among individuals;
16. **Encourage** all Member Parliaments to pass laws and legislation to criminalize acts associated with defamation of religions and their sanctities, combat all forms of discrimination, and firmly renounce hate speech, including Islamophobia and Christian phobia.
17. **Emphasize** the importance of the concerted efforts of the international community in establishing specialized centers to combat extremist ideology and terrorism, in order to promote a culture of peace, security, and tolerance;
18. **Encourage** Asian countries to adhere to the principles and values set out in the Human Fraternity Document for World Peace and Living Together, reflecting the values of tolerance, moderation, and the rejection of racism;
19. **Encourage** Asian countries to develop a tolerance award to support the efforts in the fields of peace and tolerance.



Draft Resolution on Legal and Legislative Cooperation in Combating the Smuggling of Cultural Items in Asia

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA/Resolution/2013/05 of 9 December 2013 on Protecting and Respecting Cultural Diversity in Asia;

Recalling the relevant provisions where applicable on the protection of cultural heritage including the four Geneva Conventions (1949), the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (1954) and its related protocols, the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (1970), the *Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage* (1972), UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage (2001);

Taking into account the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2347 (2017) which aims at mainstreaming the protection of cultural heritage at the global level;

Recalling the United Nations General Assembly resolution 66/180 of 19 December 2011 on “Strengthening Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses to Protect Cultural Property, especially with regard to its Trafficking” and recalling also General Assembly resolutions 68/186 of 18 December 2013 on strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to protect cultural property;

Taking into account the important and active role that the UN and its relevant agencies play in countering smuggle of cultural artifacts, in particular, in Asia;

Expressing deep concern about the growing problem of smuggling of cultural properties in Asia;

Affirming the important role of parliaments prevailing upon the governments to develop a national strategy including a legal framework to combat trafficking in, smuggling of cultural properties;

Considering the smuggling of cultural property from Asia a threat to the richness of Asian cultural heritage;

Recognizing the role of parliaments to enhance public awareness about the threat to national identity and heritage of states from which cultural properties are smuggled abroad;

Also recognizing the need to enhance national capacities, including parliamentary capacity to reinforce national strategy to combat smuggling of cultural properties;

We therefore,

1. **Urge** all APA Member Parliaments to utilize their legislative role to prevent and punish the trafficking in, and smuggling of cultural objects in Asia and facilitate concerted efforts to return the stolen items back to their original locations without any cost to the original owner country;
2. Invite all APA member parliaments that have not yet done so to consider ratifying the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (1954), UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (1970), UNESCO Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972), UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage (2001) and the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003);
3. **Request** all APA Member Parliaments to strengthen their national legislation on protecting cultural properties and combatting all forms of smuggling in cultural property and related offences;
4. **Express** support for the further strengthening of the system of management to protect movable cultural heritage from theft and smuggling of cultural properties;
5. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments and national government to work more closely in the development of legislations and implementation of laws aiming at the combat of cross-border illicit trade and smuggling of cultural artifacts and other cultural assets, and the enhanced cooperation to ensure the return, restitution or repatriation of trafficked, illicitly exported or imported, stolen, looted, illicitly excavated or illicitly traded cultural property to countries of origin while also ensuring mutual support and assistance by law-enforcement bodies in the combat operations;
6. **Also urge** all Member Parliaments to exercise efforts to jointly register their shared tangible and intangible cultural heritages at UNESCO's relevant list.



Draft Resolution on Effective Cooperation in Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking in Asia

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling the report of the Standing Committee meeting on Social and Cultural Affairs held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, on 13-14 September 2011;

Stating our firm intention to preserve and strengthen the existing international drug control system based on the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;

Mindful of the fact that illicit drug trafficking and its negative impact on health, safety, public order, governance, economic development and social health constitutes a prime concern in Asia and deserves a comprehensive consideration by the APA;

Stressing the need to continue to take concentrated measures within the framework of the Paris Pact in order to strengthen cross-border cooperation and information exchanged with a view to countering illicit cultivation of narcotic crops, production and trafficking of narcotic drugs, especially synthetic drugs as well as new psychoactive substances (NPS) psychotropic substances and their precursor chemical substances in Asia taking stock of the emerging threat of increased production of synthetic drugs in Afghanistan .

Emphasizing that the danger of illicit drug trafficking is pervasive so there is an urgent need to mobilize efforts of all countries to curb the production of opium, heroin, synthetic drugs and NPS in the Asian continent and to dismantle networks of illicit drug trafficking from all over Asia and beyond;

Acknowledging that the States most affected by the transit of drugs, especially the developing countries among them, have made important contributions to and sacrifices in countering illicit drug trafficking and preventing illicitly trafficked substances from region and markets;

Emphasizing afresh the continuing need to provide concrete, sufficient and sustainable technical and capacity-building support to the States most affected by the transit of drugs, especially the developing countries among them, in their efforts to curb illicit drug trafficking and deal with associated challenges;

Recognizing that production and illicit trafficking of narcotics drugs, synthetic drugs and NPS can be utilized for financing terrorism;

Expressing the need to explore ways and means to intensify regional coordination among legislators to combat drug trafficking and make anti-drug policies a priority in programs of co-operation with, and of assistance to, the Asian countries which are affected by illicit drug trafficking;

Recognizing the interconnected challenges facing Asian countries, including continued illegal cultivation, production and trafficking of narcotic drugs, synthetic drugs and NPS, psychotropic substances and their precursor chemicals that pose a serious threat to the region;

Expressing the need to increase international and regional support for the capacity building of law-enforcement agencies in the areas most affected by the illicit cultivation of narcotic crops, production and trafficking of narcotic drugs, synthetic drugs and NPS, psychotropic substances and their precursor chemicals in Asia, and to intensify training programs for their law-enforcement staff;

Further recognizing the importance of “Alternative Development” program as an approach to reducing the cultivation of plants containing drug substances through rural development measures that has been strongly endorsed by UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs synthetic drugs and NPS;

Stressing the need to enhance joint co-operation with the relevant law-enforcement agencies of APA Member Parliaments focusing on clandestine heroin-producing laboratories and organized criminal groups involved in the illicit drugs trade, emphasizing the urgent need to increase efforts by the relevant UN Stakeholders aimed at integrated rural development, building infrastructure, and supporting farmers engaged in alternative production;

Recognizing the need for more cooperation and intelligence sharing with a result-oriented approach between the law enforcement agencies of the Member States in and including customs and border authorities in order to better tackle smuggling of narcotics and psychotropic substances and their precursor chemicals within the region and beyond;

Supporting regional and international efforts to improve law enforcement in combating the production and trafficking of narcotic drugs, synthetic drugs and NPS, psychotropic substances and their precursor chemicals and curtailing drug related financial activities;

Emphasizing the need to assist countries most affected by or at risk of the illicit cultivation of narcotic crops in developing its economy and diversifying agriculture so as to reduce people’s dependence on revenues from the illicit cultivation of narcotic crops and trafficking, of narcotic drugs, synthetic drugs and NPS, taking into account the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development and in line with national legislation;

Reaffirming that Alternative Development is crucial, lawful, viable and sustainable alternative to the illicit cultivation of narcotic crops, that it is an effective measure and one of the key components of policies and programs to counter illicit drug production and other drug-related crime challenges, and stressing that the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development will contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

Stressing the need to share best practices and take adequate measures to reduce the demand for drugs, as well as to ensure the effective treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts in preventing, treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts;

Expressing the need for more active and efficient international cooperation in combating illicit drug trafficking in Asia;

Attaching great importance to the efforts made by international and regional organizations including the United Nations (UN), Office of Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) and the Asian Parliamentary Assembly to combat the threats of terrorism, illicit drug trafficking, drug related organized crime and legalization of income derived from illicit drugs.

Underscoring that the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, the United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, and other relevant international instruments constitute the cornerstone of the international drug control system;

Reaffirming our unwavering commitment, including in the context addressing Narcotics Drugs, to ensure that all aspects of demand reduction and related measures, supply reduction and related measures, and international cooperation should be addressed in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, International Law, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of nonintervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among states;

We therefore,

1. **Stress** the need to exchange information and best practices within APA Member Parliaments on combating illicit drug trafficking;
2. **Remain vigilant** to the new modus operandi through the digital world and also rapid increase of availability of the new psychoactive substances on the market which are not yet scheduled under national and international control and call for strong cooperation among APA Member Countries on these issues;
3. **Reiterate** the need to coordinate and improve law enforcement activities to combat the production and trafficking of narcotic drugs, synthetic drugs and NPS,

psychotropic substances and their precursor chemicals and curtailing the flow of illicit drug more effectively;

4. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to consider adopting relevant legislation regulations to strengthen international cooperation to support comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs, as an essential elements of successful crop control strategies, especially in areas affected by or at risk of the illicit cultivation of crops, taking into account the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development and Member Parliaments with extensive relevant expertise to continue to share best practices, upon request;
5. **Underline** the importance of effectively using international financial assistance for the creation of alternative economic opportunities in order to ensure a sustainable anti-drug policy;
6. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to enable civil society as an effective partner of parliaments and to enhance the role of mass media in combating drug trafficking in Asia;
7. **Encourage** all APA Member Parliaments to support their respective governments in order to coordinate with international and regional organizations including the United Nations (UN) to combat the threats of terrorism, illicit drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and legalization of income derived from criminal activities;
8. **Urge** that a regular dialogue on supporting joint actions of Asian governments against abovementioned threats within APA could become an effective supplement for addressing the transnational challenges of international illicit drug trafficking and transnational organized crime in the region;
9. **Express** our commitment to encourage and enhance cooperation with all relevant states and international and regional organizations, on matters of common interest in the spirit of this resolution on rendering assistance to combat illicit drug trafficking.



Draft Resolution on the Promotion of Quality Child and Youth Development for Sustainable Society in Asia

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling UN General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, during which the General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and recognized children and youth as critical agents of change;

Recognizing the role of parliaments in promoting the human rights and empowerment of children and youth in Asia;

Stressing on the commitment of the implementation, as appropriate, of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goals 4, 5, 8, 16, based on national rules and cultural backgrounds, in line with international law as applicable, as the basis for building sustainable, peaceful and inclusive societies in Asia;

Recognizing that the cooperation among APA Member Parliaments can be instrumental in promoting quality child and youth development in the region;

Reaffirming that the general principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, including the best interests of the child, non-discrimination, participation and survival and development, as well as family environment for the full and harmonious development of his or her personality, provide the international legal framework for actions concerning children to ensure that their rights are protected, based on national rules and cultural background;

Reaffirming the World Program of Action on Youth including the best interests of the youth, non-discrimination, participation, survival and development and provide framework of actions concerning youth; to ensure youth are protected in their rights;

Acknowledging the critical role of governments, civil society, the private sector, international organizations, and parliamentary bodies in shaping inclusive, safe, and enabling environments for all children and youth;

Recognizing the urgent need for a comprehensive approach to child and youth development that addresses the multifaceted challenges faced by young people in today's world;

We therefore,

1. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to recognize the importance of the quality

child and youth development and to consider, with participation of children and youth, the provision of comprehensive social welfare, including access to health care, nutrition, quality education, training for skill development and other essential services to empower children and youth as healthy, responsible and productive members of society;

2. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to take appropriate measures to enhance cooperation among Member Parliaments to promote quality child and youth development, care and assistance, as well as to protect all children including those with disabilities, and youth from all forms of violence , negligence, abuse, radicalization, exploitation and discrimination;
3. **Also encourage** APA Member Parliaments to strengthen and, where necessary, enact or reform legislations to ensure that all children and youth are protected against all forms of violence, as well as to improve child and youth development schemes;
4. **Emphasize** the urgent need for APA Member Parliaments to adopt strategies and legislation that enhances the support for guidance and counseling programs focused on building awareness and personal capabilities among children and youth, including the integration of career guidance and personal development strategies into educational curricula and youth development programs, thereby enabling them to set goals, cultivate leadership skills, and prepare for active and responsible citizenship;
5. **Urge** all APA Member Parliaments to cooperate and exchange experiences regarding policies and best practices for protecting children and youth from the harmful effects of technology, and to benefit from international expertise in this field;
6. **Encourage** member states to create and promote policies that foster economic opportunities for youth, including job creation, entrepreneurship programs, and access to financial resources, ensuring that young people can contribute meaningfully to their communities and economies.
7. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to strengthen and, where necessary, constitute parliamentary caucus on Child Rights enhancing the role of parliaments in protection of child rights and promotion of Social Welfare.
8. **Call upon** governments, civil society organizations, the private sector, international bodies, and parliamentary institutions to strengthen cooperation and coordination in the design and implementation of policies and programs aimed at the holistic development of children and youth.
9. **Support** the creation and institutionalization of mechanisms that ensure the meaningful participation of children and youth in decision-making processes at local, national, and international levels, thereby promoting leadership development, civic engagement, and accountability.
10. **Encourage** the integration of digital literacy and cyber safety education into national curricula and public awareness campaigns, and urge the regulation and monitoring of harmful online content to protect children and youth from digital risks and exploitation.



Draft Resolution on Ageing Society in Asia

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2017/12 on The Role of APA Parliaments in Supporting the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and resolution 2017/17 on Collaboration on Health Equity in Asia;

Recalling UN General Assembly Resolution 57/167 of 18 December 2002, in which it endorsed the Political Declaration and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, and subsequent resolutions No. 59/150 of 01 February 2005 on the Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing;

Welcoming UN General Assembly Resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, in which the General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and stressing the need to ensure that issues of relevance to older persons are taken into account in its implementation in order to ensure that no one is left behind, including older persons;

Recognizing that the ageing population in many countries in Asia is rapidly growing whereas the fertility rates in those respective countries are significantly declining;

Acknowledging that the older persons in Asia are expected to account for over 17 percent by 2030, due to higher life expectancy;

Being concerned that misconception and prejudice remains a challenge to opportunity for and engagement of older persons in productive employment in some countries, taking into account the unique culture of respect towards older persons in Asia;

Being mindful that public adaptation and preparedness through a life-course, multifaceted approach are keys to help society effectively respond to the burdens as commonly regarded in aged society;

Acknowledging that older persons have made significant contribution to national social and economic gains and, therefore, enactment of effective legislation should be encouraged to remove barriers in realizing full potential of older persons;

Recalling the rapid demographic shifts across Asia characterized by a significant increase in ageing populations, and recognizing the profound social, economic, and healthcare implications this presents for the region;

Stressing the importance of balancing intergenerational equity, ensuring technological inclusion for older adults, and supporting families and caregivers;

Emphasizing the opportunities presented by an ageing population, including the potential to unlock the “silver economy,” enhance quality of life through technology, and strengthen multigenerational social cohesion;

We therefore,

1. **Calls upon** APA Member Parliaments to consider developing and adopting legislations on social protection, health-care services, and employment opportunities for older persons, as well as exploring innovative legislations such as phased-retirement, job sharing and part-time work;
2. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to monitor the implementation of their respective governments’ ageing policies and to accord priority to the availability of evidence-based, accurate, reliable and up-to-date data and information in order to ensure effective, efficient and sustainable implementation;
3. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to exercise their constituent authority to maximize opportunities for older persons, including through promoting flexible work and alternative employability arrangements, as appropriate;
4. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to work with their relevant constituencies and community-based mechanisms to promote an enabling volunteer environment for older persons, taking into account different social contexts and norms;
5. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to develop legislation and policies to promote an enabling environment to the lives of older persons and to proactively provide services to them and improve the quality of such services, particularly health services;
6. **Stress** the importance of promoting and supporting international efforts, particularly the efforts exerted by the United Nations, as the UN launched a set of goals that include raising awareness of the health needs of the older persons and their contributions to the communities in which they live;
7. **Call on** Member Parliaments to encourage their governments to continuously launch programs, initiatives, and events in social development centers in Asian countries in cooperation with the government and national institutions to raise awareness among all segments of society about the needs of the older persons, on the one hand, motivate the older persons and consolidate their role on the other hand. This, in turn, shall actuate all aspects of the active lives of older persons, and ensure their active and continuous participation in their communities;
8. **Encourages** the international community and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to support national efforts to provide funding for research and data-collection initiatives on ageing, as appropriate, as well as to include indicators that provide an evidence base for the

equitable delivery and effective monitoring of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;

9. **Call upon** States to promote policies further in respect of “protection and strengthening the family and maintain the young/dynamic population structure” at the national level, and to improve international cooperation and establish mechanisms to share knowledge and experience among countries.
10. **Encourages** Member States to develop and implement inclusive policies that address the challenges of population ageing while leveraging its opportunities.
11. **Call for** investment in lifelong learning, digital literacy, and technology access for older adults to ensure full participation in the digital economy.
12. **Recognize** the role of older persons as valuable contributors to society and the economy, and supports initiatives that empower their continued engagement.
13. **Call upon** APA member parliaments to urgently prioritize and enact comprehensive, inclusive, and sustainable policies that respond to the challenges and opportunities of ageing societies, thereby building resilient and prosperous multi-generational communities across Asia.



Draft Resolution on Human Development in Asia

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling our commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals for the years 2015-2030, which includes poverty eradication and focuses on providing good health, welfare, gender equality, appropriate education and work, and economic growth;

Reaffirming APA Goals to harness cooperation to use enormous human and natural resources, and to ensure the interests of all member states;

Reminding APA Member Parliaments to take collective procedures for supporting governments and other active parties in the region, and to promote the exchange of opinions and expertise with parliaments from other regions, in the context of poverty eradication and promoting equality;

Recognizing that human development is an extensive and accumulative process that, bears not only financial and economic aspects, but also covers social, cultural, health, natural environment and political domains, with an ultimate goal of human prosperity;

Taking into consideration acts related to the UN Development Program (UNDP) particularly the Human Development Report 2025: A matter of choice: People and possibilities in the age of AI;

Emphasizing that the human element is the basis of renaissance and material development in different societies;

Emphasizing the fundamental role of parliaments through the enactment of legislation, budget adoption, and their role in ensuring human development;

Recognizing that unilateral coercive measures disproportionately affect people in vulnerable situations which create obstacles to trade relations among States, impede the full realization of social and economic development and hinder the well-being of the population in the affected countries.

Affirming the need to train Asian human resources to realize one of the most important feature of economic globalization by enhancing their competitive capabilities in the world market while utilizing the dynamics of globalization in which the balance of economic power keeps changing;

We therefore,

1. **Encourage** setting a unified criterion for national capacity building;
2. **Urge** developed countries and also regional United Nation office in Asia to support the proposed training center project and encourage their parliaments to take steps towards the realization of this goal in compliance with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals;
3. **Call on** APA Member Parliaments to increase the budgetary allocations for education, health, and housing for their direct impact on developing human capital, offer adequate opportunities for the human element for creativity, innovation, and active participation in looking ahead;
4. **Also call on** APA Member Parliaments to create strategic partnerships and work closely with governments and public institutions on issues related to promoting human development.



Draft Resolution on Tourism Cooperation in Asia

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling our commitment to the resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 25 September 2015, titled “Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” (A/RES/70/1), which exhorts to develop and implement policies to promote more resilient, inclusive and sustainable tourism sector, and acknowledges the role of tourism in creating jobs and promoting local culture and products as well as preserving them for the future generations and UN General Assembly resolution A/RES/75/229 on Promotion of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection;

Recalling its Resolution 2017/12 on The Role of APA Parliaments in Supporting the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;

Recognizing that sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, health, cultural, rural, Agro and Sports tourism is a cross-cutting activity that effectively contribute to the three dimensions of sustainable development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, including by fostering economic growth, alleviating poverty, creating full and productive employment and decent work for all, accelerating the change to more sustainable consumption and production patterns and promoting the sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources, promoting local culture, improving the quality of life and the economic empowerment of young people and development of better living conditions for rural populations;

Recognizing that improved connectivity contributes to the integration of tourism markets, encourages cultural exchange, and supports balanced regional development;

Encouraging investment in tourism infrastructure that advances rural development, socioeconomic well-being of local population and aligns with national strategies for economic diversification and sustainable growth;

Being cognizant of the economic significance of the tourism and travel sectors as well as their roles in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular in the protection of cultural and natural heritage and contribution to enhanced mutual understanding and better relations among peoples as a platform for peace and stability and acknowledging the contribution of tourism industry to the economic development of the societies and as a tool for promoting understanding, peace and prosperity among nations;

Underlining the vast potential of our region in the field of tourism and its ability to increase the region's share in global tourism and emphasizing the need for protection and conservation of its natural and cultural heritage and safeguarding cultural richness, natural beauty, social values as well as local communities and traditions of the indigenous peoples;

Re-emphasizing cultural diversity and protection of cultural heritage in Asia and recognizing the potential of multilateral regional frameworks such as the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD), an Asia wide forum which declared "culture and tourism" as well as "education and human resource development" as two out of its six priority areas of cooperation;

Considering the deep-rooted, comprehensive and ever-growing relations between the Asian Parliamentary Assembly Member States, including in trade, tourism and travel as well as the need to make best use of this potential;

Recognizing the significant role of parliaments in promoting tourism industry, which employs and provides livelihoods to high number of people in the Member Countries;

Noting the initiatives launched and the events organized at the sub regional, regional and international levels in the field of sustainable tourism;

Highlighting promotion of dialogue and harmony among followers of World Religions and different faiths;

Emphasizing that simplified procedures that will encourage travels among the Member Countries for touristic purposes will not only help our people interact more, will also make our destinations of cultural and historical values better-known to our people;

We, therefore,

1. **Recognize** that tourism plays a significant role in strengthening people to people contact, cultural cooperation and social and economic development, which will contribute to the regional integration and connectivity in Asia;
2. **Encourage** enhanced dialogue and cooperation in the areas of culture and tourism among the Asian Parliamentary Assembly Member Countries, also within the framework of relevant multilateral fora;
3. **Promote** Inter- regional tourism cooperation through regional integration organizations particularly ASEAN, ECO, OIC, OTS and other existing platforms and support regional tourism exchanges particularly for persons engaged in the tourism industry;
4. **Encourage** regional guidelines by competent institutions that will facilitate comfortable, safe and healthy travel among the Asian Parliamentary Assembly Member countries;
5. **Promote** Silk Road tourism through arranging events and festivals and in cooperation with the international community and relevant organizations will be revived;

6. **Call for** the mobilization of our resources in all tourism-related areas and sectors such as transportation, accommodation, gastronomy, public health by relevant institutions, and ensuring broader participation of all stakeholders to generate a sustainable structure in tourism and travel sectors;
7. **Establish** our region as a peaceful and green tourism destination with diverse products and high-quality services while ensuring responsible and sustainable tourism development and upgrading quality of life of the people through effective involvement of all stakeholders throughout the process;
8. **Encourage** our citizens to travel to the Member Countries and to work with our respective tour operators, airlines, hotels and all relevant stakeholders and ensure close cooperation between our respective tourism, transportation and health authorities;
9. **Invite** the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly to undertake concrete steps in line with the principles put forward by the UN Tourism to initiate multilateral mechanisms to further re-energize and promote tourism sector by coordinating and aligning efforts and measures taken by each nation in Asia;
10. **Support** to establish a cooperative regional mechanism such as Asian Tourism Forum under the aegis of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, with participation of stakeholders across different levels of public and private sectors, in order to promote the tourism sector;
11. **Facilitate** visa procedures for the citizens of the Region;
12. **Strengthen** and diversify tourism health/medical, culture, winter, sea, mountain desert, religious, gastronomy, sports and other niche areas/domains;
13. **Support** utilization of electronic media, and digital media human resource development and capacity building activities;
14. **Devise** and promote green tourism strategy in collaboration with international tourism bodies;
15. **Encourage** private sector and local community involvement in the tourism activities;
16. **Support** employment and hiring of tourism activists in the relevant regional and international organizations by encouraging relevant national authorities to follow a scheme in the said organizations such as UN Tourism;
17. **Encourage** establishing a Tourism Entrepreneurs Network among member states through APA;
18. **Encourage** exchange of students among APA nations relevant Tourism Institutions and Academia.



Draft Resolution on the Commission on Women

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling that the proposal to establish the Commission on Women was put forward and adopted at the 13th Plenary Session of APA held on 10 January, 2023 in Antalya, Republic of Türkiye;

Recognizing that despite the implementation of certain measures and decisive efforts towards the protection of women's rights **especially those with disabilities (Türkiye)** and the elimination of **gender (Iran) discrimination against women (Iran)** in the Asian region, serious problems still exist in this area;

Drawing attention to the fact, that during armed conflicts in the Asian region, women and children become the most vulnerable social group and they experience the consequences of violence and human rights abuses, suffer from displacement, loss, poverty, and disintegration of families;

Underlining that the regional conflicts exacerbate already existing forms of discrimination against women and girls and put them at risk of human rights abuses;

Taking into account the need to take effective measures to protect refugee and internally displaced women from violence;

Considering the negative impact and bitter consequences of the COVID- 19 pandemic on women;

Realizing that **gender-based (Iran) discrimination against women (Iran)**, women trafficking, violence against women, domestic violence, sexual exploitation of women and girls are widespread in the Asian region;

Stressing the existence of serious problems, related to the increase in the number of out-of-school girls and its negative consequences;

Noting that widespread early marriages, limit the life prospects of young girls, hinder their opportunities to study and work, increase pregnancy-related health risks and lead to maternal mortality;

Underlining the low level of participation of women in political life and low level of representation of women in parliaments and governments, the importance of recognizing women's participation in decision-making as a requirement for justice and democracy, as well as a necessary condition for taking into account their interests;

Realizing the impossibility of achieving the goals of equality justice (Iran), development and peace without the active participation of women at all (Iran) levels of decision-making;

Stressing the importance of measures to increase the number of women in decision-making leadership positions in civil service, business, civil society and all other areas of society;

Noting the non-participation or weak representation of women in economic decision-making, including the process of forming rules in the financial, monetary, commercial and tax sphere;

Noting the existence of gaps in the legislation of certain states regarding women's rights, and women empowerment the fact that certain states lack proper women's support programs and strategies, while in some other states such programs are not implemented in a sufficient and timely manner;

Underlining lack of awareness in the field of women's rights and gender equality (Iran) in society and in the mainstream media;

Being aware that the ~~violation of women's rights~~ Violence against women (Iran) and the existence of gender (Iran) discrimination against women (Iran) are among the biggest challenges in the field of human rights;

Guided by the purposes, principles and provisions of the Charter of the United Nations;

Considering some relevant international conventions as well as the decisions of the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995) and its subsequent periodic follow-up conferences have all developed a comprehensive framework for the protection and empowerment of women and girls, ~~eliminating all forms of discrimination against them~~ eliminating discrimination against women and girls (Iran);

Recalling the ~~adoption of the 2030 Agenda (Iran) for Sustainable Development (excluding any conflicting clauses to Sharia),~~ with respect for national and cultural particularities of the Member States, in line with international law, as applicable, (Türkiye) recognizing its universal, integrated and indivisible nature, and acknowledging that the 2030 Agenda, inter alia, addresses the ~~elimination of all forms of violence against all women and girls~~ Elimination violence against women and girls, as well as ~~ending all forms of discrimination against all women and girls (Iran),~~

Remembering the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and

Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, which provides a framework to effectively prevent and combat trafficking in persons,

Recognizing the need for the collection of information on the situation of women's rights;

Stressing that if urgent measures are not taken by states and international organizations to solve the mentioned problems, the risk of aggravation of the current situation will increase;

Taking into account that keeping the issue of protecting women's rights and elimination of ~~gender inequality~~ Gender injustice (Iran) at the forefront of the APA activities will be ~~expedient~~ crucial (Türkiye)

Taking into account the need to adopt special legislations to promote the special role of women to deal with the challenges induced by climate change. (Pakistan)

Drawing attention to recognize the impact of gender digital divide and to adopt special measures for its reduction. (Pakistan)

Underlining the need of inclusion of appropriate ratio women in the policy making bodies. (Pakistan)

Drawing attention to bringing special measures to ensure safety of women and girls from cyber-crimes. (Pakistan)

To take measures to provide education about prevention of drug / substance abuse to avoid its potential harmful consequence. (Pakistan)

We therefore,

1. **Decide** to establish the Commission on Women within the framework of the APA, which will make a significant contribution to the elimination of discrimination against women including the old-aged and those with disabilities (Türkiye) in Asian countries.
2. **Decide** that the Commission should mobilize the efforts and resources of APA Member Parliaments to draw attention to women's rights and ~~gender equality~~ gender Justice (Iran) problems and increase awareness on this issue on a systematic basis;
3. **Decide** that the Commission should support the creating conditions for women to ~~fully~~ (Iran) exercise their political, economic, social, cultural and civil rights;
4. **Decide** that the Commission should contribute to the raising awareness about the situation of women's rights (Türkiye) in the member states respecting the principle of national sovereignty (Iran);
5. **Decide** that the Commission should encourage APA Member Parliaments to strengthen the legal framework for the protection of women and girls in order to

- end violence and ~~inequality~~ **Injustice (Iran)**;
6. **Decide** that the Commission shall encourage APA Member Parliaments to contribute to the strengthening of relevant national institutions on women's rights issues to improve the situation of women;
 7. **Decide** that the Commission shall provide the consideration of women's rights and ~~gender equality~~ **gender justice (Iran)** issues within the framework of APA's activities;
 8. **Decide** that the Commission shall, inter alia:
 - (a) Play the role of a data collection mechanism on the situation with women's rights and gender ~~equality~~ **justice (Iran)** in member states;
 - (b) Discuss the problems related to women's rights and gender ~~equality~~ **justice (Iran)** within the framework of APA,
 - (c) Make recommendations to the Executive Council of APA and Plenary, contributing to the process of solving existing problems in the sphere of women's rights and gender ~~equality~~ **justice (Iran)**;
 - (d) Submit an annual report on the situation ~~with of (Türkiye)~~ **women's rights (Türkiye)** in member states to the APA Plenary Sessions;
 - (e) Implement the systematic cooperation with other bodies of APA in order to more effectively promote the protection of women's rights;
 - (f) ~~Support the implementation of gender quotas regarding the composition of delegations in APA;~~ **(Iran)**
 - (g) Act as a mechanism for supporting women MP;
 - (h) Establish the relations between APA and committees on women's rights issues existing in national parliaments;
 - (i) Organize the relevant seminars and consultations in the sphere of women's rights and gender ~~equality~~ **justice (Iran)**
 9. **Decide** that the Commission shall be composed of one APA delegate from each Member Parliament. The Commission shall have a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and ~~Rapporteur (Iran)~~, taking into consideration equitable geographical distributions. The Chairperson, Vice-Chairpersons, and Rapporteur will be elected from among the APA members for a two-year term of office by consensus. ~~The annual meeting of the Commission shall be convened by the Member Parliament hosting the previous Plenary, unless following mutual agreement of the President and the Permanent Secretariat, they may be hosted by another Member Parliament (Rule 15.3 of the Rules of Procedure of the Plenary of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly).~~ **The meeting of the Commission takes place once a year, before the General Assembly, as is customary for APA meetings, and is hosted by the country holding the chairmanship of the Commission. (TÜRKİYE)**
 10. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to take an active part in the activities of the

Commission on Women being created.

Qatar:

We do not support this resolution for the following reasons:

- It will lead to the proposal of resolutions related to children and youth, as well as the establishment of special committees for them.
- The issue of women is addressed in all permanent committees of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly.
- We propose the establishment of a special forum for women parliamentarians, similar to the one in the Inter-Parliamentary Union.
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Saudi Arabia: Made reservation on whole text (in Baku)

The standing Committee in Moscow (30 October 2025) called upon the spencer of this draft resolution to offer a new version conducive to consensus.



Draft Resolution on Asian Parliamentarians in support of a more just multipolar world order reflecting its cultural and civilizational diversity

We, the members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA),

Noting the contribution of APA Member Parliaments to the development of inter-parliamentary dialog and multilateral cooperation between our countries on the basis of solidarity, mutual respect, justice, equality, consideration of national interests;

Confirming the common understanding of the irreversibility of forming a more just and sustainable multipolar (polycentric) world order, which would ensure sustainable security, preservation of cultural and civilizational identity, and equal development opportunities for all states, regardless of their geographical location, size of territory, demographic, resource and military potentials, political, economic and social structure;

Operating on the premise that the polycentric world order is based on including recognition of the interests of all participants in international relations, the diversity of development models of states, the supremacy of international law in regulating international relations, strict observance of the principles of the UN Charter in their entirety and interrelation, and collective solution of common problems.

Being convinced of the interdependence of the destinies of all countries and peoples in moving towards well-being and prosperity;

Stressing on the priority of conflict resolution by political means, the use of peaceful means to resolve international disputes, their settlement on the basis of mutual respect and compromise.

Noting with deep concern the alarming increase in incidents of discrimination, intolerance, terrorism, and extremism motivated by racial, national or religious hatred and prejudice against persons of different ethnic origin, religion or faith.

Endeavoring to preserve and enhance the world cultural heritage, based on respect for and cherishing the cultural contribution of each people;

Drawing on the definition of culture as a concept that includes ways of life, fundamental human rights and value systems, traditions and beliefs;

Recognizing that social well-being, overcoming poverty and inequality, child and youth development, support for ageing populations, cooperation in culture and education, sports and tourism, and responding to infectious threats are an important part of a just world order;

We therefore,

1. **Call** for the expansion and deepening of all spheres of interstate and social interaction in the APA space in order to enhance its role in the processes of establishing a multipolar world order;
2. **Confirm** our intention to deepen interparliamentary cooperation, including in the fields of culture and social issues, based on the following principles of a multipolar architecture of interaction: diversity and freedom of choice of models of internal development and foreign policy of states and their associations; indivisibility of the security space and interconnectedness of the world; responsible collective leadership of world and regional development centers; rejection of hegemony in international relations; cooperation based on equality, balance of interests and mutual benefit, respect for religious and cultural traditions of various faiths and civil societies; the rule of international law; strengthening cultural and civilizational diversity and the role of universal morality in international relations;
3. **Believe it is important** to promote the formation of a sustainable architecture of equal and indivisible security in the Eurasian space in order to jointly counter common challenges and threats, resolve existing regional conflicts and prevent new ones in order to maintain sustainable peace and stability on the continent;
4. **Note** that building such an architecture meets the goals of the peaceful development of the continent and will contribute to the intensification of the processes of consolidation and cooperation in the long term;
5. **Support** the search for mutually acceptable solutions through multilateral diplomacy, including parliamentary diplomacy, as an instrument for protecting the interests of countries and peoples;
6. **Stand** for inviolability and strict observance of the rights of believers of different confessions, guarantee of peaceful coexistence of religions;
7. **Also support** the promotion of intercultural dialogue through various global platforms, initiatives, and events such as World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue and Peace4Culture;
8. **Note with concern** the continuation of the neocolonial policy of individual states and groups of states and declare our desire to increase joint efforts to counteract "cultural neocolonialism" aimed at leveling national identity, civilizational identity, culture, centuries-old traditions, and spiritual and moral values of the APA member states;
9. **Express** our concern about the growth of terrorism in the world and strongly condemn terrorist and extremist manifestations in any form, including under religious slogans;
10. **Condemn** the glorification in any form of the Nazi movement, Neo-Nazism and militarism and call for the fight against them;
11. Also strongly condemn the growth of military conflicts in the world as well as provocations leading to them and their negative destructive impact on the cultural and civilizational property;

12. **Recognize** the negative impact on the world economy, trade, energy, health, food security and the social situation of states, especially developing ones, of unilateral coercive measures that violate international law and are incompatible with the principles of the UN Charter;
13. **Call** for the expansion of information exchange channels between APA member countries on issues of inter-civilizational and inter-confessional dialogue, development of civil cultural and educational institutions of modern society, support of multilateral humanitarian events, including cultural, sports, cinematographic, youth and student festivals;
14. **Also** call for protection of cultural heritage and preservation of cultural identity through promotion of peace for culture, organization of cultural events, exchanges, and global campaigns;
15. **Support** the creation of conditions for strengthening traditional spiritual and moral values and education;
16. **Appreciate** the efforts of APA Member countries in development of multilateral cooperation and promotion of cultural and social agenda, in particular the UAE and Azerbaijan during their COP28 and COP 29 Presidency as well as Russian Federation within the framework of its BRICS Chairmanship in 2024;



Draft Resolution on the Preservation of Cultural Diversity and Strengthening Multilateral Cooperation in Eurasia

Sponsored by Russian Federation

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Noting the contribution of APA Member Parliaments to the promotion and legislative support of multilateral cooperation between our countries on a wide range of areas in order to strengthen security, stability and sustainable development for the sake of future generations;

Recognizing and honoring in this context the unifying and creative power of the diversity of cultures and peoples, the significance of languages, customs, cultural and historical heritage, traditional spiritual and moral values, which in their entirety form human civilization;

Being convinced that consistent strengthening potential and the influence of the states of the Global South and East leads to the formation of a just and balanced multipolar world order, expanding the space of opportunities for equal and mutually beneficial interstate cooperation based on international law and principles, enshrined in the UN Charter;

Recalling the 80th anniversary of the Victory in World War II and the founding of the United Nations;

Calling to preserve the memory of the heroism of peoples in the fight against Nazism, fascism and militarism, to remember the lessons of World War II and to jointly counter modern challenges and threats to security in order to ensure sustainable international peace;

Appreciating the annual UN General Assembly Resolution «Combating glorification of Nazism, neo-Nazism and other practices that contribute to fueling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance»;

Recognizing a principled approach in favor of the need for a peaceful resolution of disagreements and conflicts through dialogue based on mutual respect for each other's core interests and with an emphasis on eliminating the root causes of fundamental contradictions;

Commending the initiative of the Russian Federation to form an equal and indivisible security architecture in Eurasia and *underlining* its potential for strengthening stability and security in the region;

Affirming that interaction within the APA can also serve as a basis for the formation of an equal and indivisible security;

Welcoming the results of the First Russian-Arab Summit in Moscow (Russia) on 15 October 2025 in the year of the 80th anniversary of the Arab League and *highlighting* the focus of such interaction on the implementation of the initiative on global governance;

Reaffirming our determination to continue the joint fight against terrorism, including energy terrorism, separatism and extremism, as well as the illegal trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, arms smuggling and other types of transnational organized crime;

Supporting international efforts in the fight against corruption and *calling on* the international community to refrain from providing safe haven to persons who have committed corruption crimes;

Acknowledging the importance to increase scientific, technical and innovative cooperation, including the implementation of multilateral projects and *advocating* for deepening cooperation with the aim to implement scientific and technological achievements and innovations, to promote an open and fair international cooperation in the interests of building a global economy of an innovative type, including the use of information and communication technologies and artificial intelligence;

Recognizing the need for development of instruments for the legal regulation of the use of artificial intelligence;

Confirming our commitment to ensure the rights of women and children, including in the areas of education, healthcare, social and legal protection, preserving and strengthening the institution of the family, and the inadmissibility of discrimination in accordance with the laws and regulations of the member states;

Welcoming the International Music Competition "InterVision" held on 20 September 2025 in Moscow with the participation of performers from 23 countries and calling on APA States to take part in the next "InterVision" in 2026 in Saudi Arabia;

We therefore:

1. **Call for** the expansion and deepening of all areas of interstate and public cooperation within the APA framework, taking into account the diversity of cultures and peoples in the interests of creation of a multipolar world order.
2. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to strengthen cooperation with a view to promote contacts between the chambers of parliaments and their committees.
3. **Intend to** facilitate the formation of sustainable equal and indivisible security architecture in Eurasia in order to jointly counter common challenges and threats.
4. Strongly condemn the aggressive promotion of neoliberal ideology and the theory of transhumanism, used as a counterweight to traditional spiritual and moral values.
5. **Are determined** to counteract attempts to undermine the results of the Nuremberg Trials.
6. **Advocate for** the inviolability and strict observance of the rights of believers of various faiths, and the guarantee of peaceful coexistence of religions.
7. **Call for** the expansion of channels for the exchange of information between the APA States on issues of inter-civilizational and inter-faith dialogue, the development of civil cultural and educational institutions and the support of multilateral humanitarian events, including cultural, sports, cinematographic, and youth and student festivals.
8. **Intend to** strengthen our joint efforts to counter neocolonial practices and the limitation of the sovereign equality of States. We express solidarity with the goals and objectives of the international socio-political movement «For the Freedom of Nations, established in February 2024, which advocates for the fight against modern neocolonial practices.