



Asian Parliamentary Assembly

APA Coordinating Meeting on the Sidelines of 153rd IPU Assembly

Arusha-United Republic of Tanzania
Monday, 05 October 2026

Summary Report

At the invitation of the APA Secretariat, the Coordination Meeting of Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) was held on the sidelines of 153rd IPU Assembly on Monday, October 05, 2026 in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania with participation of delegations from the following member parliaments:

Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Indonesia, India, Iran, Iraq, Nepal, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkiye, United Arab Emirate

This event was chaired by H.E Mr. Ahmed Sabah Al Saloom, representative of the APA President, head of the APA Parliamentary Delegation of Bahrain in the capacity as the APA President.

1. Adoption of Draft Agenda:

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

Agenda of the Meeting

1. Adoption of Agenda,
2. Opening Remarks by the Chair of Meeting,
3. Report by Dr. Mohammad Reza Majidi, APA Secretary,
4. Consultations on the candidature of H.E Dr. Sahiba Gafarova, honorable Speaker of the Mili Majlis of Azerbaijan for the office of the IPU President,
5. Report by the Delegation of Nepal concerning recent natural disaster in that country,
6. Consideration of the proposed Emergency Items,
7. Any other matters,

[\(Attachment I\)](#)

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

The Chair welcomed the participants and thanked them for attending this important event.

He continued the Kingdom of Bahrain also supports Asian cooperation across all development tracks, for the benefit and in the common interest of the countries and peoples of the Asian continent.

Mr. Saloom also referred to the recent development in the region and stated that Recent developments have demonstrated that Asian interests are deeply interconnected, to the extent that any major disruption resulting from wars and conflicts, as well as threats to the security of navigation and territorial waters, can have far-reaching consequences.

Therefore, he underlined, “Protecting these interests therefore requires greater coordination among our parliaments and the exchange of views on the issues before the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the 153rd IPU Assembly, particularly in light of the regional developments and international challenges we face.

In this regard, he stated that “coordination among Asian parliaments can focus on a set of common principles, while avoiding anything that could further disrupt our shared relations and interests. What is needed is to strengthen a parliamentary framework that can serve as a basis for addressing crises in the future, enabling a more coordinated response and reducing the risk of cross-border repercussions”.

In conclusion he said “The current phase requires the parliaments of Asia to play a more active role in addressing issues affecting peace and security, as well as economic stability, and to make effective use of parliamentary diplomacy in support of dialogue, respect for international law, and the protection of our common interests”.

(Attachment II)

3. Report of the APA Secretary General

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

As an initial step in his report, Dr. Majidi referred to the mandate entrusted to the APA Secretariat to convene a meeting on the sidelines of the IPU Statutory Assemblies stating that the initiative behind this APA Coordination Meeting dates back to the APA decision in 2008 when member parliaments at their meeting in Tehran decided to establish active cooperation with IPU and other important international organizations in an attempt to garner further experience in a bid to strengthen parliamentary diplomacy.

He then referred to the election for the office of the IPU President that schedule to take place during the 153rd IPU Assembly and said candidacy of H.E. Dr. Sahiba Gafarova, the distinguished Speaker of the Parliament of Azerbaijan has been confirmed by the APA Members.

He continued Dr. Gafarova has had the honor of serving as President of APA for two successive year tenure. During this period, APA witnessed extensive and active engagement within the Organization, as well as her strong commitment to strengthening parliamentary cooperation and advancing objectives of the APA.

Finally, he sincerely wished her every success in the upcoming election and in her efforts to further strengthen the role of the IPU and advance its goals and objectives.

(Attachment III)

4. Consultations on the candidature of H.E Dr. Sahiba Gafarova, honorable Speaker of the Mili Majlis of Azerbaijan for the office of the IPU President,

Under this item of the agenda the Chair of the meeting invited Dr. Gafarova to introduce herself and describe her programs as a candidate for the Office of IPU President, Ms. Ghafarova began his remarks with some word of thanks for being invited to the gathering which she herself has been its president for two years. She continued this meeting has special meaning for her as she has served the APA in the capacity of President for the past two years. She also thanked the APA and the Secretary General for the support given to her during the period of her APA Presidency. She then described her purpose for assuming the presidency of the APA as platform for dialogue and mutual understanding in the whole Asia.

Underlining her valuable experience in the course of her activities in APA, she brought up the reason behind her candidacy for the office of IPU President. She then concluded her remarks by enumerating the objectives she is pursuing in order to give further momentum to the objectives and inspiration of the IPU as the global organization of Parliaments.

Mrs. Ghafarova concluded her remarks and said your support to me will encourage to me to wholeheartedly work for the advancement of the objectives of the IPU.

Then the chair thanked Mrs. Ghafarova for her inspiring speech and thank her sharing with the meeting her valuable programs and called APA member to support her nomination.

Following Mrs. Ghafarova's speech, an MP from delegation of Iran took the floor and expressed support of his delegation of her candidacy for her valuable experience and her strong relation with APA for future collaboration.

[\(Attachment IV\)](#)

5. Report by the Delegation of Nepal concerning recent natural disaster in that country,

This item of agenda could not be considered because the delegation of Nepal faced with some problem to attend the meeting on time. Therefore, the Chair shifted to the next Item of the Agenda related to consideration of emergency items.

6. Consideration of the proposed Emergency Items,

Three proposals for the emergency items were registered with the IPU Secretariat under the titles:

- ✓ **Bahrain with the support of Arab Group** *"Ensuring freedom of navigation, maritime security and the flow of international trade through maritime corridors and straits, in accordance with international law,"*
- ✓ **Iran:** The proposal submitted by the Islamic Republic of Iran concerns *"Condemnation of the military aggression by the United States and Israel against Iran in flagrant violation of international law"*
- ✓ **Nepal:** *"Protecting civilians and critical civilian infrastructure in armed conflicts: urgent parliamentary action to uphold international law"*

Accordingly, the Chair of the Meeting asked those who want to take the floor and delivery their intervention about each item may do so by raising their hands.

➤ **Kingdom of Bahrain:**

The MP from the Bahraini delegation took the floor and stated that the item proposed by Bahrain calls for urgent intervention to ensure freedom of navigation and the free movement of international trade through the Strait, in accordance with international law.

He emphasized that this is an issue of importance to every country, and not only to the countries of the Gulf region. Ensuring freedom of navigation is essential for facilitating international trade, including the movement of oil and gas around the world, as well as the safe and free movement of people and goods.

He noted that, over the past years, maritime navigation and the movement of trade through the Strait of Hormuz and Bab al-Mandab had remained open to all. However, due to military ambitions and emerging threats, these vital waterways have now been closed.

He therefore explained that the objective of Bahrain in submitting this item is to call upon all parties to comply with and respect international law, and to protect the freedom and security of navigation through these strategic straits. He further called upon all parliaments to support this approach at the national level and to engage with international organizations in order to facilitate the free and safe movement of maritime traffic.

He expressed the hope that the proposed item would receive the support of the members, stressing his confidence that the APA attaches due importance to the principle of freedom of navigation.

➤ **United Arab Emirates**

We are meeting today in a world that has become increasingly complex, with growing difficulties, challenges, and cross-border problems. In such an environment, there is a renewed need for complementary diplomacy to open doors for dialogue where official channels may sometimes face difficulties, and where positions may have become rigid or entrenched.

In this context, parliamentary diplomacy should not be viewed as an alternative to conventional diplomacy, but rather as a natural and necessary complement to it. As representatives of our peoples, parliamentarians have a unique mandate and, in many circumstances, greater flexibility to speak frankly, exchange views openly, and explore avenues for understanding.

This is why we have an important role to play. Dialogue must continue not only between governments, but also among our peoples and their representatives. Through constant and effective platforms such as the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, we have an opportunity to reduce tensions, open additional channels of communication, and contribute to mutual understanding.

The exchange of parliamentary visits is another important instrument in this regard. Such exchanges help correct misconceptions and stereotypes, bring different perspectives closer

together, and translate greater understanding into legislation and parliamentary initiatives that can enhance international cooperation.

The experience of the United Arab Emirates is a good example of how conventional diplomacy and parliamentary diplomacy can work together. The UAE has consistently sought to employ peaceful and non-military means to support international peace and stability. The Federal National Council works closely with various parliamentary networks and organizations, including the APA and friendship groups, demonstrating how parliamentary institutions can contribute to strengthening mutual understanding and complementing the efforts of official diplomacy.

Our objective should therefore be to make external relations more effective by using all available channels of dialogue. As we meet here in Arusha on the occasion of the 153rd IPU Assembly, we should make full use of our parliamentary mandate and competencies to promote dialogue, cooperation, good governance, and the empowerment of our peoples.

Our efforts should not remain confined to a particular region. We should also support the work of the APA in advancing peace and strengthening cooperation with other parliamentary and international organizations. By sharing experiences, learning from one another, and building broader networks of parliamentary cooperation, we can make a meaningful contribution to the common objective of peace and stability.

Parliamentary diplomacy is particularly necessary in today's global circumstances. As a complement to conventional diplomacy, it provides greater flexibility, creates additional opportunities for dialogue, and helps build bridges where other channels may encounter difficulties.

Ultimately, our common objective is to use parliamentary diplomacy to bring people and nations closer together, promote mutual understanding and cooperation, and contribute to greater prosperity, peace, and stability for all.

➤ **Republic of Iraq:**

The Republic of Iraq believes that, in light of the developments and challenges we have witnessed recently in our region, the challenges we face should be addressed with a view to reaching lasting and sustainable solutions. The current crises have had significant political, economic and maritime repercussions, affecting the stability and interests of all countries in the region. This is certainly not the situation we wish to see, nor one that serves the interests of our peoples.

We do not want to see disagreements or tensions among Islamic countries deepen. What has happened recently has had an impact on all of us, and it reminds us of the importance of strengthening dialogue, understanding and cooperation among our countries.

In this regard, we have all referred to the important role of parliamentary diplomacy. But the question before us is how we can translate this recognized role into practical action. This is precisely what we need to work towards: activating parliamentary diplomacy and making full use of its potential to contribute to dialogue, confidence-building and peaceful solutions.

Today, the entire region from the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf to Iran and the wider surrounding area is facing a sensitive and challenging situation. We may not be able to find sustainable solutions unless we actively and effectively fulfil our parliamentary responsibilities and use the channels available to us to promote dialogue and understanding.

We therefore appreciate the constructive role played by the Kingdom of Bahrain in facilitating dialogue and addressing these issues within the parliamentary framework. We also recognize the importance of the Emergency Item proposed by Bahrain and the concerns that underpin it.

Ultimately, what we need is not simply to respond to crises as they arise, but to work together towards genuine and lasting solutions that can contribute to peace, stability and security throughout our region.

➤ **Islamic Republic of Iran**

The Strait of Hormuz and the Persian Gulf were open to navigation and normal movement before the eruption of the current crisis. The imposed war waged by the United States and the Israeli regime against Iran has had a serious impact on the situation in the region and on the people living in the countries concerned, disrupting the normal movement of trade, work and daily life.

This critical situation is a direct consequence of the war imposed on Iran. Therefore, the root causes and the trajectory of the crisis in the region must be carefully examined. Without addressing the causes and origins of the crisis, it will be difficult to reach any lasting and meaningful conclusion.

We should also remember that all of us are, in a sense, in the same boat. The peoples of the region have the right to enjoy their fundamental human rights, security, peace and stability.

Intervention by the United States, from thousands of miles away, should not be allowed to disrupt the security and normal life of the region. This is fundamentally a man-made crisis, and its consequences extend far beyond merely political aspects. It has affected the economic, social, humanitarian and security dimensions of life throughout the region.

Therefore, any genuine effort to address the current crisis must look beyond its immediate manifestations and address its underlying causes. Only through such an approach can we hope to find a comprehensive, lasting and peaceful solution.

➤ **Cambodia:**

The Cambodian delegation welcomed and supported the proposal submitted by Bahrain on freedom of maritime navigation and security, emphasizing its importance not only for the region but also for the international community as a whole. It noted that the impact of the current situation in the Persian Gulf extends far beyond the region, with disruptions to maritime navigation potentially affecting the normal flow of energy and food supplies, disrupting global supply chains, and consequently adversely affecting the livelihoods of people around the world.

The Cambodian delegation underscored the important role of parliamentary diplomacy in taking timely and constructive steps to prevent the outbreak of conflicts and in making every

effort to facilitate dialogue and find peaceful solutions to emerging crises before they escalate into more serious and potentially disastrous situations. It emphasized that the early engagement of parliaments and their mediatory efforts could play an important role in preventing the escalation of tensions and mitigating their consequences.

The Cambodian delegation also reiterated its readiness, as previously expressed, to host the meeting of the APA Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs in Cambodia in 2027, as a feature to help to peace and security through cultural approaches.

Following conclusion of Cambodia's intervention, the Chair thanked the participants for their valuable contributions and expressed the hope that, through continued cooperation and dialogue, the meeting would contribute to identifying the best possible solution to the issues under consideration.

APA Secretary General also thanked Cambodia for its nomination to host and chair the Meeting of the Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs in 2027 and 2028 as Vice-Chair and hope to meet our colleagues there.

Following conclusion of Cambodia's intervention, the Chair thanked the participants for their valuable contributions and expressed the hope that, through continued cooperation and dialogue, the meeting would contribute to identifying the best possible solution to the issues under consideration and reach a consensus for solution of the Asian Problems and we can now conclude our meeting.

Delegation of Iran:

Before the meeting came to a close, the MP from the Iranian delegation took the floor and stated that his colleague had already provided an explanation of the current situation in the Persian Gulf and of the emergency item proposed by Iran concerning the situation facing the region.

He explained that, against this background, Iran had proposed an emergency item condemning the joint aggression by the United States and Israel against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

He further noted that two other emergency items had also been proposed for consideration by the IPU. In this regard, he stated that there were two possible approaches: either to engage with the sponsors of the other proposed items with a view to reaching a compromise, or, failing agreement, to submit the two emergency items separately.

In this connection, the Iranian delegation expressed its interest in hearing the views and guidance of the APA President and Secretary General, emphasizing Iran's readiness to work towards a compromise.

Referring to the remarks already made by his colleague, he stressed the importance of addressing the root causes of the ongoing tensions in the region. In his view, the principal cause of the current tensions was the aggression and war imposed on Iran.

He emphasized that Iran supports freedom of maritime navigation as it existed previously, but argued that the outbreak of war had resulted in the closure of the Strait of Hormuz and had consequently created an obstacle to the free movement of maritime traffic.

He further stated that, from Iran's perspective, the issue of freedom of navigation could not be considered separately from the prevailing security situation and the conflict that had led to the closure of the Strait.

The Iranian MP further stated that, according to the information available to Iran, the United States was considering renewed military action against Iran, which, in his view, was the principal reason for the continued closure of the Strait of Hormuz.

He concluded by emphasizing that a proper understanding of the root causes of the closure of the Strait of Hormuz would contribute to identifying a more effective and lasting solution to the situation.

7. Any other matters,

Having covered all the items of the Agenda, the Chair closed the meeting and thanked all the participants for their interactive contribution.

Attachment I



Asian Parliamentary Assembly

**Coordination Meeting alongside 153rd IPU Assembly
Arusha- United Republic of Tanzania
Monday, 05 October, 2026**

AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Opening remarks by the APA President or his Representative,
3. Report by the APA Secretary-General,
4. Consultations on the candidacy of Dr. Sahiba Gafarova, Honorable Speaker of the Milli Majles of Azerbaijan for the Office of IPU President,
5. Report by the Delegation of Nepal concerning recent natural disaster in that country,
6. Consideration of the proposed emergency items,
7. Any other matter,

Attachment II

كلمة سعادة النائب /أحمد صباح السلوم.. ممثل الجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية
في الاجتماع التنسيقي للجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية
على هامش أعمال الجمعية العامة الـ 153 للاتحاد البرلماني الدولي
أروشا – جمهورية تنزانيا المتحدة، أكتوبر 2026

معالي السيدة صاحبة غافاروفا رئيس الجمعية الوطنية بجمهورية أذربيجان، رئيسة الجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية السابقة..
معالي الشيخ خالد بن هلال المعولي، رئيس مجلس الشورى بسلطنة عمان..
أصحاب المعالي والسادة، أعضاء الوفود البرلمانية الآسيوية،
السيدات والسادة، ورحمة الله وبركاته،
يسعدني أن ألتقي بكم مجدداً في هذا الاجتماع التنسيقي للجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية، ويسرني أن أنقل لكم تحيات معالي السيد
أحمد بن سلمان المسلم رئيس مجلس النواب، رئيس الجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية، وتمنياته لكم بالتوفيق والنجاح.

السيدات والسادة..

إن مملكة البحرين بقيادة حضرة صاحب الجلالة الملك حمد بن عيسى آل خليفة ملك البلاد المعظم حفظه الله ورعاه،
ودعم ومتابعة صاحب السمو الملكي الأمير سلمان بن حمد آل خليفة ولي العهد رئيس مجلس الوزراء حفظه الله، تؤمن إيماناً
راسخاً بأن السلام والتعايش، والحوار والانفتاح، هو الخيار الاستراتيجي والسبيل الأفضل للمستقبل الآمن والمزدهر للجميع.

كما وأن مملكة البحرين تدعم التعاون الآسيوي في كافة المسارات التنموية، لما فيه الخير والمصلحة لدول وشعوب القارة
الآسيوية، وكنموذج حي ومباشر لهذا التعاون الآسيوي، فقد قامت مملكة البحرين مؤخراً بتنظيم سباق جائزة البحرين الكبرى
لطيران الخليج للفورمولا وان في ماليزيا. وما شاهده من تأثير متميز وفاعل في المجال الاقتصادي والاستثماري والرياضي
والسياحي، والتعاون المشترك بين البلدين الشقيقين.

السيدات والسادة..

لقد أثبتت التطورات الأخيرة أن المصالح الآسيوية مترابطة بدرجة تجعل أي اضطراب كبير بسبب الحروب والنزاعات،
وتهديد أمن الملاحة والمياه الإقليمية، وأن حماية هذه المصالح تتطلب قدراً أكبر من التنسيق بين برلماننا، وتبادل الرؤى
بشأن القضايا المطروحة على جدول أعمال الاتحاد البرلماني الدولي، والجمعية العامة الثالثة والخمسون بعد المائة، في ظل
تطورات إقليمية وتحديات دولية.

الحضور الكريم،

ومن هنا، فإن التنسيق بين البرلمانات الآسيوية يمكن أن يركز على مجموعة من المبادئ الجامعة، وتجنب كل ما من شأنه
تعريض العلاقات والمصالح المشتركة لمزيد من الاضطراب. فالمطلوب هو تعزيز إطار برلماني يمكن الاستناد إليه مستقبلاً
في التعامل مع الأزمات، وبما يجعل الاستجابة أكثر تنسيقاً وأقل عرضة للتداعيات العابرة للحدود.

ومن موقع مملكة البحرين في رئاسة الجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية، فإننا نؤكد على أهمية أن تكون القضايا التي تمس المصالح
المشتركة لقارتنا محل نقاش وتنسيق بين برلماناتها، وأن تسهم مواقفنا البرلمانية في دعم احترام القانون الدولي وتعزيز
الاستقرار والتعاون.

ختاماً،

إن المرحلة الراهنة تفرض على برلمانات آسيا أن تكون أكثر حضوراً في القضايا التي تمس السلم والأمن والاستقرار
الاقتصادي، وأن تستخدم أدوات الدبلوماسية البرلمانية في دعم الحوار، واحترام القانون الدولي، وحماية المصالح المشتركة.
شكراً لكم،
والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته.

Attachment III



Asian Parliamentary Assembly

**APA Coordination Meeting alongside 153rd IPU Assembly
Arusha- United Republic of Tanzania
October 5, 2026**

Remarks of APA Secretary General

Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates
Ladies and Gentlemen

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to this Coordination Meeting, convened in accordance with the institutional mandate of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly pursuant to the resolution on “*Cooperation and Coordination on Major International Issues of Importance to APA*.”

As you may know, the Coordination meeting has become an established practical program of the APA after over 20 years since its birth in 2006, providing an excellent opportunity for us to exchange views on how to strengthen coordination among our member parliaments in an attempt to widen scope of our activities and programs even beyond that of our organization, while discussing our priorities in advancing parliamentary diplomacy in a wider spectrum.

Let me confine myself to this brief remarks so as to allow sufficient time to cover all the items on our today’s agenda and to proceed with a summary of the activities of the APA

Dear Colleagues,

As you may recall, the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) successfully held the 16th Plenary Meeting in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain, from 24–28 January 2026.

Following this important gathering, the APA Secretariat continued its activities and efforts to advance the programs and priorities of the Organization. As a result, we successfully convened the meeting of Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs in Dushanbe, Republic of Tajikistan, from 24-27 Sept. 2026. This meeting marked the first of our Standing Committee meetings scheduled for the current year.

We are also continuing our efforts to hold the meetings of other Standing Committees, either in person or virtually, by the end of the year.

Distinguished Delegates
Dear Colleagues,

As you are aware, the election for the office of the IPU President will take place in the coming days. The candidate endorsed by the Asian Parliamentary Assembly is H.E. Dr. Sahiba Gafarova, the distinguished Speaker of the Parliament of Azerbaijan.

Dr. Gafarova has had the honor of serving as President of APA for two successive year tenure. During this period, we witnessed extensive and active engagement within the Organization, as well as her strong commitment to strengthening parliamentary cooperation and advancing objectives of the APA.

Her parliamentary experience, together with her knowledge and vision and wisdom in leading various parliamentary bodies, at both regional and international levels would enable her to make valuable and effective contribution to the work of IPU and to further advancement of its objectives and programs.

Over the past several months, we have engaged in extensive consultations with our Asian members, as well as with other parliaments and parliamentary organizations from different regions, with a view to presenting her qualifications, experience and vision for further parliamentary cooperation.

We sincerely wish her every success in the upcoming election and in her efforts to further strengthen the role of the IPU and advance its goals and objectives.

Allow me to conclude by expressing my sincere appreciation to all our member parliaments for their continued confidence in the APA Secretariat and more importantly, for their steadfast commitment to the principles, ideals and objectives of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly.

I wish the 153rd IPU Assembly every success and look forward to our fruitful and constructive discussions today.

Thank you for your attention

Attachment IV

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

**APA Coordination Meeting on the Margins of the 153rd IPU Assembly
Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania**

**Excellency Chair,
Excellency Secretary-General of the APA,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

On behalf of the Cambodian Parliament, I have the honour to express Cambodia's readiness to host the Meeting of the APA Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs in 2027.

Building upon the valuable work undertaken by the Standing Committee and the contributions of APA Member Parliaments, Cambodia proposes for consideration the following theme:

"Cultural Diversity and Asian Solidarity: Strengthening Parliamentary Cooperation for Peace, Inclusive Development and Shared Prosperity."

Asia is home to some of the world's oldest civilizations, rich cultural traditions, diverse religions, languages and societies. This diversity is one of our region's greatest strengths. Yet, in a period of growing geopolitical uncertainty, social fragmentation and challenges to peace, we believe that our cultural diversity must increasingly become a source of dialogue, mutual respect, solidarity and cooperation.

Parliaments have an important role to play in this endeavour.

Through legislation, representation and parliamentary diplomacy, we can help safeguard our cultural and civilizational heritage, strengthen social cohesion, promote intercultural and interfaith dialogue, empower women and young people, and ensure that development remains inclusive and leaves no one behind.

Cambodia therefore intends the 2027 meeting to provide an opportunity for APA Member Parliaments to consider how our shared cultural richness can contribute more directly to peace, inclusive development and shared prosperity across Asia.

To facilitate our collective consideration, Cambodia has prepared a Zero Draft Concept Note outlining the proposed theme, objectives and possible areas of discussion. We respectfully submit it as an initial working document, open to the views, suggestions and contributions of all APA Member Parliaments and the APA Secretariat.

Cambodia does not view the 2027 meeting simply as another meeting in our institutional calendar. We hope it can provide a meaningful platform to strengthen Asian solidarity through parliamentary cooperation, while respecting the diversity, identity and cultural heritage of all our nations.

Subject to the consideration and agreement of APA Member Parliaments, the Cambodian Parliament would be honoured to welcome you to the Kingdom of Cambodia in 2027.

We look forward to working closely with the APA Presidency, the APA Secretariat and all Member Parliaments in preparing a substantive, inclusive and forward-looking meeting.

Cambodia stands ready to welcome the APA family—to strengthen dialogue, celebrate our diversity, deepen our solidarity, and work together for peace and shared prosperity across Asia.

Thank you.