



The 16th Plenary Session

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain
24-28 January 2026

Final Report

The Role of Asian Parliaments in Strengthening Intercultural and Inter-civilizational Dialogue in Asia: Opportunities, Challenges, and Future Pathways

Inaugural Session

The Inaugural Session of the 16th APA Plenary was held and hosted by the Council of Representatives of Bahrain, in Manama on 26 January 2026. Parliamentary delegations from following member countries participated in the meeting:

Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, UAE.

The following observer organizations participated at the Meeting:

Arab Parliament, Arab IPU, IPC, IPACIS, IPU, PABSEC, PUIC, TURKPA.

[\(Attachment I\)](#)

The following dignitaries presented their statements at the inaugural ceremony:

- H.E. Mr. Mohammad Reza MAJIDI, APA Secretary-General
- H.E. Ms. Sahiba GAFAROVA, Speaker of the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan, (the outgoing APA President)
- H.E. Mr. Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam ,Speaker of Bahrain Council of Representatives, (the incoming APA President)

Statements by the Speakers of Parliaments:

- H.E. Lungten Dorji, Speaker of the National Assembly of Bhutan,
- H.E. Mr. Mr. Sheikh Khalid bin Hilal Al Maawali, Speaker of the Shura Council of Sultanate of Oman,
- H.E. Rawhi Fatooh, Speaker of Palestine National Council,
- H.E. Mr. Hamid Reza Haji Babaei, Deputy Speaker of the Islamic Parliament of Iran,
- H.E. Ibrahim Al-Sarayeh, Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives of Jordan,
- H.E. Mr. Petr Tolstoy, Deputy Speaker of State Duma, Russian Federation,
- H.E. Mr. Shermuhammad Shohiyon, Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives of Tajikistan,
- H.E. Mr. Kriangkrai Srirak, First Vice-President of the Senate of Thailand,
- H.E. Mr. Tariq Al Tayr, Deputy Speaker of the Federal National Council of UAE,
- H.E. Mr. Martin Chungong, Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (Special Guest),

(Attachment II)

At the end of the Inaugural Session the Speaker of Bahrain Council of Representatives announced that *H.E. Mr. Ahmed AL SALLOOM*, Head of the delegation of the Kingdom of Bahrain to APA, will be his representative at the 16th APA Plenary.

The 16th APA Plenary Session

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda of the 16th Plenary Session of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly was adopted unanimously. (Attachment III)

2. Election of the Bureau

The 16th APA Plenary elected members of its Bureau as follows:

Chairperson: Bahrain

Vice- Chair: Bhutan

Rapporteur: Cambodia

3. Remarks by APA President, H.E. Speaker of Bahrain Council of Representatives

On behalf of the APA President , H.E. Mr. Ahmed AL SALLOOM as the Head of delegation of Bahrain in his capacity as representative of the APA President welcomed the participants and stated that Bahrain as the new President will do its utmost to promoting and upholding the lofty objectives of APA in all its aspects.

4. Report of the Chairperson of the Executive Council

H.E. Mr. Rizvan NABIYEV, the Representative of the APA term President and Head of the delegation of Azerbaijan and the chair of the Executive Council, presented the report of the Executive Council for adoption. ([Attachment IV](#))

5. Report of the Secretary General on the work of the Organization

The APA Secretary General in his report to the Plenary covered the activities and the achievements of four Standing Committees as well as other important programs of the APA during the 15th Plenary period. ([Attachment V](#))

6. General Debate:

Statements by Heads of Delegations on “*The Role of Asian Parliaments in Strengthening Intercultural and Inter-civilizational Dialogue in Asia: Opportunities, Challenges, and Future Pathways*”

Heads of Delegations addressed the theme of the 16th APA Plenary as well as other topics of their interests under this Agenda item.

The Heads of Delegations of the following member Parliaments and observer organizations addressed the 16th APA Plenary:

Qatar, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Indonesia, Jordan, Pakistan, Turkiye, Azerbaijan, Russia,(Separate Opinion of Russian delegation is attached) ,

Observer Organizations: PABSEC, TURKPA, IPACIS

([Attachment VI](#))

7. Meeting of the Standing Committees

The meetings of the four Standing Committees were held on 26-27 January 2026 and adopted the relevant documents on their agenda and recommended its decisions to the Executive Council for approval.

8. Meeting of the Drafting Committee on Declaration

An open-ended drafting committee on “Manama Declaration” was held on 27 January 2026. The interested delegations participated at this meeting and reviewed the draft text offered by the host country. After extensive exchange of views, the Manama Declaration was adopted. ([Attachment VII](#))

9. Presentation and adoption of the Reports of the Standing Committees:

During the Plenary Session, the Vice-Presidents and Chairpersons of the following Standing Committees presented their reports for final approval:

- Economic and Sustainable Development
- Social and Cultural Affairs
- Political Affairs
- Budget and Planning

([Attachment VIII](#))

10. Approval of the APA Vice-Presidents for 2026

The 16th Plenary considered and endorsed its Vice Presidents and the Chair of the four Standing Committees as follows:

- Jordan: Standing Committee on Political Affairs (May 2026)
- Iran: Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development (July 2026),
- Tajikistan: Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs (September 2026)
- Qatar: Standing Committee on Budget and Planning (December 2026)

11. Reconfirmation of APA President for 2027-2028

The 16th APA Plenary endorsed the Islamic Republic of Iran for the position of the APA Presidency for 2027-2028.

12. Any other matter

No issues were raised.

13. Closing Ceremony

At the closing ceremony, H.E. Mr. Ahmed Al-Salloom, representative of the APA President and H.E. Dr. Mohammad Reza MAJIDI, the APA Secretary General delivered their closing speeches.

([Attachment IX](#))

Attachment I

Country	NAME
Azrbijan	H.E . Sahiba Gafarova
Azrbijan	Mr. RIZVAN NABIYEV
Azrbijan	Mr. Eldar Guliyev
Azrbijan	Mr. Sabir Hajihev
Azrbijan	Mr. Kamaladdin Gafarov
Azrbijan	Ms. Sabina Salmanova
Azrbijan	Mr. Anar Mammadov
Azrbijan	Mr. Firudin Hajihev
Azrbijan	Mr. Teymur Taghiyev
Azrbijan	Mr. Elmar Huseynov
Azrbijan	Mr. Ilkin Mammadov
Azrbijan	Mr. Agshin Hummatov
Azrbijan	Mr. Azar Gulaliyev
Azrbijan	Mr. Ilgar Nuri
Azrbijan	Mr. Ilkin Allahverdiyev
Azrbijan	Ms. Aydan Farajova
Azrbijan	Mr. Khatai Muzaffari-Hagigi
Azrbijan	Mr. Firudin Ismayilov
Azrbijan	Mr. Samir Alishov
Azrbijan	Mr. Nijat Novruzov
Azrbijan	Mr. Rizvan Melikov
Azrbijan	Mr. Bakhtiyar Shirinov
Azrbijan	Mr.Ulvi Badirov
Azrbijan	Ms Afag Hasanova
Azrbijan	Mr. Savalan Badalbayli
Bahrain	
Bhutan	Mr. LUNGTEN DORJI
Bhutan	Mr. NAITEN WANGCHUK
Bhutan	Ms. SONAM DEMA
Cambodia	Mr. Chanphal NGY
Cambodia	Mr. Phanita YOS
Cambodia	Mr. Panha SOK
Cambodia	Mr. Cheanorin TAING
Cambodia	Mr.ANG Vong Vathana
Cambodia	Ms. VANN Vimol
China	Mr. Yongguan Zhu
China	Ms. Lixin Zhao
China	Ms. Dan Wu
China	Mr. Yichen Sun
China	Mr. Chengcheng Jiang
CYPRUS	Mr. NICOLAOS TORNARITIS

CYPRUS	Ms. Chariklia ELLINA TORNARITI Spouse
CYPRUS	Ms. Loukia MOUYI
Indonesia	Hon. Mr. Syahrul Aidi Maazat
Indonesia	Hon. Mr. Idrus SalimAl Jufri
Indonesia	Hon. Mr. Samuel Job David Wattimena
Indonesia	Ms. Diah Aty Rachmawaty
Indonesia	Mr. Arief Rahman Hakim
Indonesia	Ms. Aswidya Indririski
Indonesia	Mr. Widjoseno Sastroamidjojo
Iran	H.E. MR. HAMID REZA HAJI BABAEI
Iran	H.E. MR. MOHSEN ZANGANEH
Iran	H.E. MR. ALI REZA SALIMI
Iran	H.E. Ms. SHAHIN JAHANGIRI
Iran	H.E. Ms. FATEMEH JARAREH
Iran	H.E. MR. ABBAS PAPIZADEH BALANGAN
Iran	MR. HOSSEIN NOUSHABADI
Iran	MR. JALAL ABOULHASANI CHIMEH
Iran	MR. MAHMOUD DIBAEI
Iran	MR. MOHAMMAD ALI NOUDEH
Iran	MR. VAHID AMINI
Iran	MR. EHSAN TAEBI
Iran	MR. ALI SAFARI
Iran	MS. LEILA TAATI
Iran	MS. NARGES AGHAVIRDIPOUR
Iran	MR. MAHDI SAADI ARANI
Iran	Mr. SAYAR PISH BAHAR
Iran	MR. SHAHRAM NAMVAR ZAHRA
Iran	MR. SAMAD ASGARI
Iran	MR. SEYED MORTEZA SEYED HOSSEINI SOGHEH
Jordan rep	Mr. IBRAHIM ALSARAYREH
Jordan rep	Mr. MOHAMMED ALROUD
Jordan rep	Mr. ISMAIL ALMASHAQBEH
Jordan rep	Mrs. FERYAL BANYSALMAN
Jordan rep	Mr. BASIM RAWABDEH
Jordan rep	Mr. HASAN ALRIYATI
Jordan rep	Mr. SALEH ABU-TAYEH
Jordan rep	Mr. KHALED ALKHARABSHEH
Jordan rep	Mr. OMAR OBEIDAT
Jordan sen	MR. AHMAD TBAISHAT
Jordan sen	Mr. Haya AlQaraleh
Jordan sen	MR. SULTAN ALJAZI
Jordan sen	Mr. RAMZI AL ZURAIQAT
KSA	Shaikh Dr. Abdullah Bin Mohammed Al Sheikh
KSA	Mr. H.E.Dr ALI ALALI
KSA	H.E.Dr FARES ALOSAIMI

KSA	Mr KHALID ALMANSOUR
KSA	Mr. KHALID ALTURKI
KSA	Mr. YOOUSEF ALALHARBI
KSA	Mr. FAHAD ALOMER
KSA	Mr. ABDULLAH ALNASSER
KSA	Mr. ABDULLAH ALGHAMDI
KSA	Mr. BASSAM ALALBAHAR
Oman	H.E Khalid Hilal Nasser Al Maawali
Oman	Mr. Najib Saleh Mohamed Al Zadjali
Oman	Mr. Ghanim Said Khamis Al Junaibi
Oman	Mr. Yousuf Mohammed Ahmed Al Mehri
Oman	Mr. Hamdoon Abdullah Hamdoon Al Harthy
Oman	Mr. Jalal Juma Al- Mur Al-Hamrashdi
Oman	Mr. Sulaiman Said Salim Al Rawahi
Pakistan NA	Ms. Tamkeen Akhtar Niazi
Pakistan ST	Mr AFNAN ULLAH KHAN
Pakistan ST	Mr. GURDEEP SINGH
Pakistan ST	Mr. MUHAMMAD ASLAM ABRO
Pakistan ST	Mr. MANSOOR AHMED
Palestinian	Mr. Rawhi Fatooh
Palestinian	Mr. Mohammad Hamdan
Palestinian	Mr. Sameh Qettami
Palestinian	Mr. Aref Saleh
Palestinian	Mr. Taha Abdulkader
Qatar	Mr. AHMAD AL-HITMI
Qatar	Mr. SAOUD AL-BUAINAIN
Qatar	Mr. YOUSEF AL-SADA
Qatar	Mr. NASSER AL-HEMAIDI
Qatar	Mr. AHMAD AL-NOUBI
Qatar	Ms. ALYA AL-BADER
Qatar	Ms. TARFA AL-KUWARI
Qatar	Mr. YOUSEF ALEMADI
Russia	Mr. Bair Zhamsuev
Russia	Mr. Gennady Ordenov
Russia	Ms. Olga Folomeeva
Russia	Ms. Veronika Belousova
Russia	Ms. Daria Skvortsova
Russia Doma	Mr. Petr TOLSTOY
Russia Doma	Mr. Aleksandr REMEZKOV
Russia Doma	Mr. Kazbek TAISAEV
Russia Doma	Mr. Alexander TARASOV
Russia Doma	Mr. Andrei BORZOV
Russia Doma	Mr. Denis ANTONIUK
Russia Doma	Ms. Mariia VALUEVA

Russia Doma	Ms. Anastasia REMEZKOVA
Russia Doma	Ms. Nina MANTUSOVA
Russia Doma	Ms. Anastasiia LAZARENKO
Tajikistan	Mr. SHERMUHAMMAD SHOHIYON
Tajikistan	Mr. MIRSHAKAR JALOLZODA
Tajikistan	Mr. ABDUJABOR SATTORZODA
Tajikistan	AMB. Akram Karimi
Tajikistan	Mr Nizomgon Sharifzoda
Thailand	Hon. Gen. Kriangkrai SRIRAK
Thailand	Hon. Ms. Chayanant TIYATRAKARNCHAI
Thailand	Hon. Assoc. Prof. Lae DILOKVIDHYARAT
Thailand	Hon. Asst. Prof. Nophadol IN-NA
Thailand	Hon. Mr. Amornsak KITTHANANAN
Thailand	Hon. Mr. Pichan PORNSIRIPRATHARN
Thailand	Ms. Steejit TAIPIBOONSUK
Thailand	Mr. Saritpon SATAWEDIN
Thailand	Mr. Russdy KHANTANIT
Thailand	Mr. Samakorn NUANTHAI
Thailand	Ms. Charuphan CHOOVEJ
Thailand	Ms. Yossawadee TALEERAT
TÜRKİYE	Mr ABDULKADİR EMİN ÖNEN
TÜRKİYE	Mr ÖMER ÖZMEN
TÜRKİYE	Mr Hüseyin ALTINSOY
TÜRKİYE	Mr VECDİ GÜNDÖĞDU
TÜRKİYE	Mr OSMAN CENGİZ ÇANDAR
TÜRKİYE	Mr Hasan KOCABIYIK
TÜRKİYE	Mr MURAT HASTÜRK
TÜRKİYE	Mr Mehmet Yahya ÇİÇEKLİ
TÜRKİYE	Mr HARUN İPEK
UAE	H.E. Dr. Tariq Al Tayer
UAE	H.E. Nedhal I Teneiji
UAE	H.E. Fatima Al Mheiri
UAE	H.E. Dr. Sedra Al Mansoori
UAE	H.E. Mohamed Al Kashef
UAE	Ms. / Eman Al Suwaidi
UAE	Mrs. Amna Alkaabi
UAE	Mr. Saeed Al Mheiri
UAE	Mr. Mohammed Al Shehhi
UAE	Ms. Hamda Al Blooshi
APA	Mr. Mohammad Reza Jalal Majidi (Secretray General)
APA	Mr. Kia Mirjalaleddin Tabatabaee
APA	Mr. Mehdi Abbas Mollahosseini
APA	Mr. Seyed Javad Hashemi
APA	Mr. Mehdi Mohammad Ali Ghashghavi

APA	Mr. Saeed Sohrabinia
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| Observer | |

Arab Parliament	H.E. Mr. Mohamed Alyammahi
Arab Parliament	Mr. Hossam Elsayed
Arab Parliament	Ms. Mais Elsayed
Arab IPU	Mr. AHMED ALAWI HAFEEDH BAABOOD
Arab IPU	Ms. AYA ZEAITER
IPC	Mr. ABDELRAHIM FALAH OBEIDALLAH ALMAAIA
IPA CIS	Mr. Dmitrii Kobitskii
IPA CIS	Mr. Aleksei Dolzhikov
IPA CIS	Mr. Denis Zhuk
IPU	Mr. MARTIN PUKWAREKE CHUNGONG
PABSEC	Mr. Asaf Hajiyev
PUIC	Mr. Mohamed El Hafed Maham
PUIC	Mr. Osama Mahmoud Abdelfattah Mohamed
TURKPA	Mr Ramil Hasan
TURKPA	Mr. Muhammet Alper Hayali
TURKPA	Mr. Yadligar Mammadov

Attachment II



Asian Parliamentary Assembly Opening Remarks by Dr. Mohammad Reza Majidi, APA Secretary General 16th APA Plenary (24-28 January) Manama- Kingdom of Bahrain

**Honorable Parliament Speakers,
Esteemed Delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,**

It is with great pleasure and profound honor for me to address the 16th Plenary Session of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, the august meeting convened in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

This esteemed occasion allows me to warmly welcome all the honorable participants who have graciously accepted the invitation of His Excellency Ahmed bin Salman Al Musalam, honorable Speaker of the Council of Representatives and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Parliamentary Group of the Kingdom of Bahrain, together with the APA Secretary General, to take part in this important session.

Allow me also to convey, on behalf of the APA Permanent Secretariat, all the participating delegations and on my own behalf, our deepest appreciation to the Honorable Speaker of the Council of Representatives and to the distinguished officials of the Government and Parliament of the Kingdom of Bahrain for their exceptional organization of this event and their generous hospitality, which have created an environment worthy of the importance of our deliberations.

**Honorable Speakers,
Esteemed Delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,**

Our meeting today represents a significant milestone in the life of our Assembly, as we witness the orderly transition of the APA presidency from the esteemed

Milli Majlis of Azerbaijan to the respected Council of Representatives of the Kingdom of Bahrain, thereby opening a new chapter of leadership through the year 2026. This transition reflects the continuity of our shared mission and builds upon the cumulative accomplishments of all previous APA presidencies.

As the institutional voice of the parliaments, the founding basis of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) intended to bring the direction of parliaments across Asia closer together, while being fully aware that this could be a tough task based on the extremely diverse cultures and differing outlooks in this world's largest continent. In spite of the differences in the systems of governments and the status of parliaments in each member country, there are, nonetheless, reliable common denominators among Asian countries that witness to the existence of a solid base for dialogues with a forward-looking strategy for stronger parliaments and enhancement of Asian Cooperation.

However, the track record of the APA programs and activities during the past two decades indicate that we have still a long way ahead. International developments intertwined with dynamic organizational activities leave us no choice, but to face the new challenges and try to move more effectively forward, if we are to appear in the mantle of an efficient organization both at regional and international levels. This vision can be duly pursued from both structural and substantive aspects.

How to set the vision, mission, and objectives of our organization? To do this, our regional development agenda must provide a road map for the enhancement of its functional capacity with the aim of covering the multi-faceted objectives enshrined in its Charter, noting with firm conviction that under the recent promising vision the global economic, cultural and technological centre is shifting from Europe and North America to Asia on account of its energy, dynamism and its young and educated population.

To this end, it is my firm conviction that we should make a thorough scrutiny of challenges and opportunities and look into APA prospective programs differently, if we are to guard against any vicious cycle and move steadfastly to achieve the required outcome in favor of the real revitalization of our organization with an internationalization prospectus. There is no doubt that the 16th Plenary in Manama held on the occasion of the APA 20th anniversary is an excellent opportunity to make an overview of the APA strengths and setbacks as the foremost steps leading us to the realization of wide range of objectives set out by the founding members of our organization.

I am fully confident that, under the prudent and dynamic leadership of the Council of Representatives of the Kingdom of Bahrain, our Assembly will further strengthen its role, relevance, and impact in the coming months.

In this spirit, I reaffirm the full and unwavering commitment of the APA Permanent Secretariat to stand alongside and support the Bahraini presidency in every possible way, with the shared objective of ensuring tangible and meaningful outcomes for our organization.

**Honorable Speakers,
Esteemed Delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,**

The theme of this Plenary Session entitled:

“The Role of Asian Parliaments in Strengthening Intercultural and Inter-civilizational Dialogue in Asia: Opportunities, Challenges, and Future Pathways,”

underscores our commitment to addressing all dimensions of intercultural and inter-civilizational dialogue, including its opportunities and challenges. It also reflects our collective determination to engage constructively with one of the most pressing issues of our time.

Within this framework, it is imperative to underline our steadfast support for the Palestinian people, particularly in light of the severe and tragic conditions they continue to endure. I firmly believe that the APA, as a united parliamentary family, must go beyond merely issuance of declarations of solidarity and work decisively to forge a coherent and active response to the ongoing atrocities in Gaza and the wider military aggression across West Asia.

Our collective responsibility demands collective action and the mobilization of all available resources to pursue a swift, comprehensive, and just resolution to this inhuman and catastrophic situation imposed by the Zionist regime.

In closing, I once again reaffirm the enduring commitment of the APA Permanent Secretariat to advancing the objectives of our Assembly through effective utilization of our human capital, financial means, and institutional capacities, in full support of our new leadership.

Thank you for your distinguished presence and your kind attention.

The 16th Plenary Session of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly
“The Role of Asian Parliaments in Strengthening Intercultural and Inter-civilizational Dialogue in Asia: Opportunities, Challenges, and Future Pathways”
26 January 2026, Manama, Bahrain

**Honorable Speakers, Vice Speakers and members of Parliaments,
Distinguished colleagues,
Ladies and gentlemen.**

It is my great pleasure and honor to greet you all at the 16th Plenary Session of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly. I would like to thank His Excellency, Mr. Ahmed bin Salman Al Musalam, Speaker of the Council of Representatives of the Kingdom of Bahrain for the invitation, the generous hospitality and the excellent organization of the plenary session.

Dear colleagues,

In February twenty twenty four (2024), the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan took over the presidency of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly at the 14th Plenary Session held in Baku.

And now, using this opportunity, I would like to briefly inform you on the works done over the past two years.

First of all, I would like to emphasize that during Azerbaijan's presidency of the APA, the ranks of our organization have expanded. At the fifteenth (15th) plenary session held in Baku last year, the Shura Council of the Sultanate of Oman became a full member of the APA, and the Council of the Republic of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus obtained status of observer.

The number of international organizations with observer status in the APA has also been increased. Thus, Association of Secretaries General of Arab Parliaments (ASGAP) was granted the status of observer.

And today, hopefully, the plenary will endorse granting observer status also to Asian-African Parliamentary Council.

Distinguished colleagues,

Our presidency has maintained a central focus on institutional development of the APA. Increasing the effectiveness of the existing bodies has been one of the main issues. In line with our proposal the APA Bureau meetings have been activated, which are now being convened during the meetings of the Standing Committees. It allows us to promptly review and discuss all issues on the organization's agenda.

Establishing new mechanisms that will meet the needs of the Assembly and solidify its activities has also been given high consideration. We have put forward the initiative on establishing Commission on Women.

I hope that the plenary will adopt the final resolution in its next meetings, which will strengthen our work on the issues of gender equality and women empowerment.

It should also be noted that during the presidency of Azerbaijan, a consensus was reached on the decision to form the APA budget, which is very important for further strengthening and increasing the Assembly's capabilities.

We have also worked extensively on improving coordinating mechanisms of the APA. Under our chairmanship, four coordinating meetings of the APA were organized on the sidelines of the Inter-Parliamentary Union. These meetings were important in terms of enhancing our cooperation and coordination on key international issues of common interest.

Strengthening the role of the APA in parliamentary diplomacy and its visibility in international arena have also been of special significance. We see development of cooperation between the APA and other inter-parliamentary organizations as an effective tool in realization of this goal. Specifically, efficient ties have been established between the APA and the Parliamentary Network of the Non-Aligned Movement, currently chaired by the Milli Majlis. And delegation of the APA regularly take part in the work of the Network.

Taking this opportunity, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Mr. Mohammad Reza Majidi, the Secretary General of the APA and the Secretariat for

their continuous efforts on development of our organization and strong support during our presidency.

Dear colleagues,

During the period of presidency, we spared no efforts in enhancing our cooperation and dialogue in the framework of the Assembly. This is the testament to the importance that we attach to the APA as an inter-parliamentary platform. Indeed, as we are going to celebrate the twentieth (20th) anniversary of the establishment of the APA this year, we can firmly state that the Assembly has already become a significant multilateral institution for cooperation, constructive dialogue and solidarity. This is also reflected in the issues that we consider in our work and try to deliver solutions for. And today's plenary is no exception.

Indeed, the current situation in the world with all its challenges and conflicts, demand us not to neglect intercultural and inter-civilizational dialogue as a way to move forward. Because achieving peace, justice, and prosperity is first and foremost about building trust, confidence, and mutual understanding between people. In this sense, the Asian region has plenty to offer. Diversities of the Asian region should not be viewed as a dividing line between our countries and peoples. Instead, these diversities have the potential to bring them closer and make this dialogue even more meaningful.

Dear colleagues,

Azerbaijan is a staunch supporter of intercultural and inter-civilizational dialogue. Our country has continuously promoted this dialogue through organizing numerous international events, such as United Nations Alliance of Civilizations Forum, Global Baku Forum and World Religious Leaders' Forum.

The World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue, initiated by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, His Excellency Mr. Ilham Aliyev as part of the “Baku Process”, is supported by the United Nations as one of the key global platforms for intercultural and interreligious dialogue.

Let me note that in the framework of the 6th edition of the Forum held in May twenty twenty four (2024), our Parliament organized an Inter-Parliamentary Conference, contributing a parliamentary dimension to this dialogue.

In my speech at the Sixth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament, organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union in July twenty twenty five (2025), I called on the IPU to include intercultural dialogue into its future agenda and activities. In this sense, the efforts of the APA to address this matter are highly commendable.

Distinguished colleagues,

The issue of climate change also bears a special significance and is high on the agenda of the APA.

Being unanimously chosen as the host of the COP29, in November twenty twenty four (2024), Azerbaijan successfully organized this prominent event, building bridges and bringing together different parties behind the common cause. It is pleasing to note that another country of our region, brotherly Türkiye has been chosen as the host of the COP31. And I am sure that Türkiye’s leadership in global climate discussions will be as successfull as Azerbaijan’s.

And another important event that our region will host in twenty twenty six (2026) is Thirteenth Session of the World Urban Forum that will be organized in Baku in May this year.

Being one of the most pressing challenges of our time, sustainable urban planning is closely connected to global sustainable development agenda. We invite all the member countries of the APA to take active part in the World Urban Forum.

Dear colleagues,

Ladies and gentlemen,

In conclusion, I would like to, once again, thank you for support and trust put in our Presidency. We are very pleased to pass this presidency to the Council of Representatives of the Kingdom of Bahrain. I am sure that under the wise leadership of His Excellency, Mr. Ahmed bin Salman Al Musalam, our joint work will further enhance and the Asian Parliamentary Assembly will strengthen its role as a platform for dialogue, cooperation and mutual understanding.

I thank you for your attention.

كلمة

معالي السيد أحمد بن سلمان المسلم
رئيس مجلس النواب
رئيس اللجنة التنفيذية للشعبة البرلمانية
رئيس الجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية

في اجتماع المجلس التنفيذي والجلسة العامة الـ ١٦
ل الجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية

((دور البرلمانات الآسيوية في تعزيز الحوار
بين الثقافات والحضارات في آسيا:
الفرص، والتحديات، والمسارات المستقبلية))

المنامة - مملكة البحرين
٢٤ يناير ٢٠٢٤

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

الحمد لله، والصلوة والسلام على أشرف الخلق والمرسلين، سيدنا محمد وعلى آله وصحبه
أجمعين..

معالي السيد / علي بن صالح الصالح، رئيس مجلس الشورى الموقر..
معالي البرفسور د.صاحبـة غافاروفـا، رئيسـة الجمعـية الـوطـنـية بـجمهـوريـة أـذـرـبـيـجـان

أصحابـ المعـالـي والـسعـادـة، رـؤـسـاء وأـعـضـاء المـجـالـس والـبرـلـمانـات، والـوـفـود المـشارـكـة..

سعـادـة الدـكتـور / محمد رـضا مـجيـدي، الأمـين العام لـلـجـمـعـية الـبرـلـمانـية الـآـسـيـوـيـة..

الأخـوة والـأـخـوات، الحـضـورـ الكرـام..
الـسـلام عـلـيـكـم وـرـحـمـة الله وـبـرـكـاتـهـ،
بداـية يـسـرـنـي أـن أـرـحـبـ بـكـمـ فـي مـلـكـةـ الـبـحـرـينـ، فـي اـجـتـمـاعـ المـجـلـسـ التـنـفـيـذـيـ، وـالـجـلـسـةـ الـعـامـةـ
الـ١٦ـ لـلـجـمـعـية الـبرـلـمانـية الـآـسـيـوـيـةـ، مـتـمـنـيـا لـكـمـ طـيـبـ الإـقـامـةـ، وـالـتـوـفـيقـ وـالـنـجـاحـ، فـيـ هـذـاـ التـجـمـعـ
الـبرـلـمانـيـ الـآـسـيـوـيـ.

ويـشـرـفـنـيـ أـنـ أـنـقـلـ لـكـمـ تـحـياتـ حـضـرـةـ صـاحـبـ الـجـلـالـةـ الـمـلـكـ حـمـدـ بـنـ عـيـسـىـ آلـ خـلـيـفـةـ مـلـكـ الـبـلـادـ
الـمـعـظـمـ حـفـظـهـ اللهـ وـرـعـاهـ، وـصـاحـبـ السـمـوـ الـمـلـكـيـ الـأـمـيـرـ سـلـمـانـ بـنـ حـمـدـ آلـ خـلـيـفـةـ وـلـيـ الـعـهـدـ رـئـيـسـ
مـجـلـسـ الـوـزـرـاءـ حـفـظـهـ اللهـ، وـدـعـمـ مـلـكـةـ الـبـحـرـينـ لـلـتـعـاـونـ الـبـرـلـمانـيـ الـآـسـيـوـيـ فـيـ كـافـةـ الـمـسـارـاتـ
الـتـنـمـوـيـةـ، الـتـيـ تـعـودـ بـالـخـيـرـ وـالـنـفـعـ عـلـىـ الـجـمـيـعـ.

مـعـرـباـ عـنـ شـكـرـنـاـ وـتـقـدـيرـنـاـ، لـثـقـتـكـمـ الـكـبـيرـةـ بـتـولـيـ الشـعـبـةـ الـبـرـلـمانـيـةـ لـمـلـكـةـ الـبـحـرـينـ رـئـاسـةـ
الـجـمـعـيةـ الـبـرـلـمانـيـةـ الـآـسـيـوـيـةـ لـلـعـامـ ٢٠٢٦ـ، وـمـشـيدـاـ بـجـهـودـ مـعـالـيـ السـيـدـةـ صـاحـبـةـ غـافـارـوفـاـ، رـئـيـسـةـ
الـجـمـعـيةـ الـوـطـنـيـةـ بـجـمـهـوريـةـ أـذـرـبـيـجـانـ، خـلـالـ رـئـاسـتـهـاـ لـلـجـمـعـيةـ الـبـرـلـمانـيـةـ الـآـسـيـوـيـةـ، وـمـوـكـداـ حـرـصـنـاـ
عـلـىـ مـوـاـصـلـةـ الـعـلـمـ وـالـإـنـجـازـ فـيـ مـسـيـرـةـ الـعـلـمـ الـبـرـلـمانـيـ الـآـسـيـوـيـ.

الحضور الكرام،

ينعقد اجتماعنا اليوم، والعالم يواجه تحولات متسرعة، وتحديات معقدة، بما في ذلك التوترات الجيوسياسية، والأزمات السياسية، والتحديات الاقتصادية، والمخاطر المتعددة، والتداعيات الإنسانية الكبرى، التي تستوجب جهداً جماعياً فعالاً لتعزيز التضامن الدولي، وترسيخ الحوار والتفاهم، وتعزيز قيم ومبادئ التعايش والتسامح، من أجل مستقبل أكثر أمناً واستقراراً، وتنمية وازدهاراً.

كما يأتي هذا الاجتماع، والعالم يستعد للاحتفاء باليوم الدولي للتعايش السلمي، في ٢٨ يناير من هذه السنة، إثر اعتماده من الجمعية العامة للأمم المتحدة، بناءً على مبادرة من مملكة البحرين، والذي يعكس إنجازاً دولياً كبيراً، يجسد رؤية حضرة صاحب الجلالة ملك البلاد المعظم حفظه الله ورعاه، في نشر ثقافة التسامح والتعايش السلمي، بين مختلف الشعوب والثقافات.

الحضور الكرام،

وحيث أن اجتماعنا يحمل عنوان: ((دور البرلمانات الآسيوية في تعزيز الحوار بين الثقافات والحضارات في آسيا: الفرص، والتحديات، والمسارات المستقبلية)), فإننا نؤكد حرص مملكة البحرين على تحقيق أهداف "اليوم الدولي للتعايش السلمي" ومقاصده السامية، من خلال مواصلة جهودها الدبلوماسية كشريك دولي فاعل في تحقيق السلام العادل والشامل في المنطقة والعالم، وتغليب الحوار والتفاوض لإنهاء الحروب والنزاعات، وترسيخ قيم التسامح والتعايش السلمي، ونبذ التطرف والكراهية، والتضامن من أجل خير الإنسانية.

وأود أن أشير إلى المبادرات الملكية الرائدة لنشر ثقافة الحوار والسلام، وتدشين إعلان مملكة البحرين للحرفيات الدينية، وتنظيم مؤتمرات عالمية للحوار الديني والحضاري، والدعوة إلى إقرار اتفاقية دولية لتجريم خطاب الكراهية، بالإضافة إلى إنشاء جائزة الملك حمد للتعايش السلمي، ومواصلة برامج مركز الملك حمد العالمي للتعايش والتسامح التعليمية والثقافية في تمكين الشباب.

الحضور الكرام،

وانطلاقاً من موقف مملكة البحرين الثابت في دعم القضية الفلسطينية والحقوق المشروعة للشعب الفلسطيني الشقيق، فإننا نؤكد دعم جهود تحقيق السلام العادل المستدام، ونهج المفاوضات والحلول الدبلوماسية لاستعادة حقوق الشعب الفلسطيني كاملة غير منقوصة وفق قواعد القانون الدولي وميثاق الأمم المتحدة،

وترحيب مملكة البحرين بقرار الجمعية العامة، باعتماد "إعلان نيويورك" بشأن التسوية السلمية للقضية الفلسطينية وتنفيذ حل الدولتين، ومشيدين بالاعتراف الدولي بالدولة الفلسطينية، والجهود الحثيثة التي بذلتها بهذا الخصوص، المملكة العربية السعودية بالشراكة مع الجمهورية الفرنسية.

كما أود في هذا السياق، أن أعرب عن بالغ الشكر والتقدير، للدول الشقيقة والصديقة، وبالخصوص الدول العربية والإسلامية والآسيوية، التي دعمت فوز مملكة البحرين بعضوية مجلس الأمن الدولي، ومؤكداً للجميع أن مملكة البحرين ستكون صوتاً للسلام والعدالة والإنسانية، ومدافعاً عن الحقوق العربية والإسلامية والآسيوية.

ختاماً،

نتقدم بخالص الشكر والتقدير، إلى الأمانة العامة للجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية، والأمانتين العامتين بمجلسى الشورى والنواب، على كافة التجهيزات والإعداد المتميز، لهذا التجمع البرلماني الآسيوي، متمنياً للجميع التوفيق والنجاح.

والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته..

**Your Excellency the President of APA -Mr. Ahmed bin Salman Al Mussallam,
Honourable Speakers and Heads of Delegations, Distinguished
Parliamentarians, Distinguished Observers,
Ladies and Gentlemen.**

It is an honour for my delegation and me to address this distinguished Assembly. At the onset, I would like to heartily congratulate the Kingdom of Bahrain, in particular the Bahraini Parliament for graciously assuming the presidency and successfully hosting the Asian Parliamentary Assembly for the year 2026. I would also like to acknowledge and commend the exceptional presidency and work done by the Azerbaijani Parliament under the leadership of H.E Dr. Sahiba Gafarova, the Speaker of Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

On behalf of His Majesty the King, the People, and the Parliament of Bhutan, I extend warm greetings to the President, the Secretary-General, and the APA Secretariat. I also express sincere appreciation to the Government and people of the Kingdom of Bahrain for your gracious hospitality and for welcoming us to the magnificent city of Manama.

The Asian Parliamentary Assembly is a vital platform for advancing parliamentary dialogue and strengthening cooperation in Asia. Bhutan values the APA as a practical forum for building trust, exchanging legislative experiences, and strengthening collective responses to shared regional and global challenges. Having participated in the 15th APA Plenary Session in Baku last year, I have realized its important role in fostering dialogue, mutual understanding, and consensus among Member Parliaments.

The theme of this Plenary Session “**The Role of Asian Parliaments in Strengthening Intercultural and Inter-Civilizational Dialogue in Asia: Opportunities, Challenges and Future Pathways**”—is both timely and significant. Asia is home to some of the world’s oldest civilizations and a rich mosaic of cultures and beliefs. This diversity is our strength, but it also calls for sustained dialogue, mutual respect, and wisdom.

For Bhutan, harmony and peaceful coexistence are deeply rooted in our values. Guided by the philosophy of **Gross National Happiness**, Bhutan approaches development holistically; balancing economic progress with cultural preservation, environmental sustainability, and good governance. We believe that development is meaningful only when it strengthens social cohesion and respects cultural diversity.

In this spirit, Bhutan—though a small nation always seeks and strives to contribute to global peace in meaningful ways. For example, our hosting of **Global Peace Prayers** last year in November brought together the spiritual leaders from different faiths and traditions from different countries, reflecting our belief that even small states can serve as conveners of dialogue and symbols of unity. Such efforts remind us that peace can be nurtured through shared values and sincere engagement.

Excellencies,

Parliaments carry a clear responsibility in advancing intercultural and inter-civilizational dialogue. As representatives of our peoples, we shape laws, guide public debate, and influence how differences are understood and addressed. Through inclusive legislation and sustained parliamentary engagement, we can promote understanding across cultures and civilizations.

At the same time, parliaments must respond to growing challenges, including polarization, misinformation, and cultural misunderstanding. These challenges cannot be addressed by individual parliaments alone. They require consistent engagement, practical cooperation, and shared responsibility at the regional level.

Regional parliamentary cooperation, particularly through the APA, is therefore essential. The APA provides a trusted space to exchange experiences, build confidence, and strengthen cooperation based on mutual respect and shared responsibility.

On behalf of the Parliament of Bhutan, I reaffirm our firm commitment to the objectives of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly. Bhutan stands ready to work closely with fellow Member Parliaments and to ensure that Asia's diversity remains a source of unity and peace.

In closing, my delegation and I once again express our sincere appreciation to the Government and people of the Kingdom of Bahrain, and to the APA Secretariat, for your exceptionally warm hospitality and excellent arrangements. We extend our gratitude for this opportunity to participate in this esteemed Assembly and for the continued efforts of APA in strengthening parliamentary engagement across Asia. Let us move forward with clarity and cooperation to build a peaceful, inclusive, and resilient Asia, and the world.

Thank you.

*Speech of the Head of Tajikistan's Delegation
H.E. Shermuhammed Shodzijon*

*YF SG of the APA
Distinguished Chair,*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

S. Shodzijon

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude, on behalf of myself and the parliamentary delegation of the Republic of Tajikistan, to the Kingdom of Bahrain and the leadership of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly for the invitation and for organizing the 16th Plenary Session at a high level, as well as for selecting a topical and timely theme for discussion at today's meeting.

The Parliament of the Republic of Tajikistan considers the strengthening and development of cooperation within the framework of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly to be extremely important. The Asian Parliamentary Assembly directs joint cooperation toward addressing issues in order to achieve enhanced cooperation, peace and stability, the goals of the International Agenda until 2030, and to strengthen special attention to cooperation in various fields across the Asian continent.

Distinguished participants,

Today, at a time when the international community is facing various threats to universal values, constructive dialogue among cultures and civilizations is more relevant than ever. In such circumstances, the Asian continent can play a worthy role in

strengthening mutual understanding and peace. Historical experience shows that precisely through dialogue and mutual understanding the peoples of Asia have been able to ensure peace, cooperation, and progress.

In this context, the Republic of Tajikistan, as an active member of the international community, is firmly in favor of strengthening peace and stability, security, and sustainable development at the global and regional levels. Our side considers active and constructive cooperation with Asian countries, international and regional organizations, including the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, to be one of the priority directions of its foreign policy.

The parliaments of Asian countries can provide a solid basis for tolerance, respect for diversity of opinion, and peaceful coexistence.

However, it should be noted that there are a number of challenges on the path toward strengthening intercultural and inter-civilizational dialogue. These include the spread of extremist ideas, the misuse of religious beliefs for political purposes, insufficient levels of legal and cultural awareness, and the negative influence of certain information processes, which may hinder the development of constructive dialogue.

Therefore, in our view, future measures to overcome these challenges should include the following directions:

First, strengthening the role of legislation in preventing extremism, promoting a culture of peace, and respecting diversity of opinion. Laws should not only be used for punitive purposes but also have an educational and preventive character.

Second, through the expansion of inter-parliamentary cooperation within regional and international platforms, the Asian Parliamentary Assembly can become a permanent forum for the exchange of views and initiatives in the field of the dialogue of civilizations.

Third, engaging youth, civil society, and academic circles in this process. Without the active participation of the younger generation, intercultural dialogue cannot be sustainable and long-term.

Fourth, utilizing digital technologies to expand cultural dialogue. Digital technologies can become an effective tool for bringing people, especially young people, closer together.

Distinguished participants,

The Republic of Tajikistan, as a country with rich experience in the coexistence of cultures and religions, attaches special importance to strengthening intercultural and inter-civilizational

dialogue. The Parliament of the Republic of Tajikistan believes that intercultural and inter-civilizational dialogue is not only a spiritual value but also an essential condition for international security and sustainable development.

Historical experience in our region demonstrates that the coexistence of cultures and civilizations has always been a factor for progress and stability.

In this context, I would like to point out several important opportunities available to the parliaments of Asian countries, among them, legislation - as the main instrument for strengthening tolerance. The adoption of laws and national programs aimed at protecting cultural diversity, freedom of belief, combating extremism, and preventing discrimination can provide a favorable environment for mutual understanding in societies.

At the same time, parliamentary diplomacy can be considered one of the main opportunities in this regard. Inter-parliamentary meetings, exchange of experiences, organization of forums, and friendship groups allow dialogue and trust to be maintained even under difficult political conditions.

Moreover, the cultural and historical potential of Asian countries is also considered a source of peoples' coexistence. The rich spiritual heritage of Asian peoples, humanistic values,

tolerance, and respect for others can become a natural bridge for civilizational dialogue.

We consider the activities of committees, working groups, and joint initiatives in the fields of peace and security, sustainable development, environmental protection, gender equality, and youth to be important.

In this context, I would like to refer to the international initiatives of the Republic of Tajikistan, which have received wide support from the international community. Tajikistan consistently raises issues related to peace, security, and sustainable development at the United Nations and other international platforms.

Distinguished participants,

In conclusion, I would like to emphasize that the Republic of Tajikistan is ready to further expand its cooperation with the Asian Parliamentary Assembly and the parliaments of member countries in all areas of mutual interest. We are in favor of continuous dialogue, mutual understanding, and respect for the legitimate interests of all states.

We are confident that the outcomes of the 16th General Assembly of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly will contribute to strengthening inter-parliamentary cooperation, promoting peace

and stability, fostering mutual understanding, and supporting sustainable development across the Asian continent and globally.

I would like to take this opportunity once again to express gratitude to the leadership of the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Asian Parliamentary Assembly for providing favorable conditions for organizing this session, and to wish the Assembly success in its work.

Thank you for your attention.

STATEMENT
General Kriangkrai Sirak
First Deputy President of the Senate
Head of the Thai Parliamentary Delegation
the 16th Plenary Session of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly
Plenary Session
26-27 January 2025
Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain

Topic: "The Role of Asian Parliaments in Strengthening Intercultural and Inter-civilizational Dialogue in Asia: Opportunities, Challenges, and Future Pathways"

**President of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,
Heads of APA Member Country Delegations,
Members of APA Member Parliaments,
Secretary-General of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,
And All Distinguished Guests,**

I am delighted to participate in this Asian Parliamentary Assembly meeting, and this is my first visit to Bahrain. I am deeply impressed by the hospitality, care, and goodwill that the Bahraini Parliament and the people have shown to me and my delegation. I am honored to deliver this statement before all my fellow parliamentarian.

In today's volatile and uncertain world, humanity faces complex and multidimensional challenges intensifying political conflicts in many regions. Geopolitical competition is affecting international stability and security and economic competition is creating inequality and tension and diverse viewpoints that in many cases have evolved into severe ideological divisions. These challenges threaten not only the peace and security of individual states or regions, but also signal trends toward violence, division, and erosion of trust among groups with different views and identities.

Asia, one of the world's most culturally, religiously, linguistically, and civilizational diverse regions, cannot escape these dynamics. The diversity that was once Asia's strength and pride could become a vulnerability without mechanisms to manage differences constructively and peacefully.

In this context, parliaments, as representatives of the people and the heart of democracy, have crucial roles and responsibilities as bridges between diversities. Parliaments must stand as neutral mediators above political conflicts and divisive ideologies, fostering constructive interaction among different viewpoints through open, inclusive, and participatory dialogue.

Creating spaces for listening, mutual learning, and understanding among groups with different perspectives or interests is a vital parliamentary mission—not merely to resolve immediate conflicts, but to build foundations of trust and long-term cooperation, leading to societies that can coexist peacefully amid differences and transform diversity into developmental strength.

Looking ahead, it is clear that challenges facing Asia and the world will intensify and become more complex. Competition for natural resources—particularly water, energy, and critical minerals—will inevitably increase as limited resources clash with growing demand from population growth and economic development. Such resource tensions may evolve into food and water insecurity and international conflicts without effective cooperative frameworks and management mechanisms. In this context, the international parliamentary system, especially inter-parliamentary cooperation mechanisms, plays a vital role as a central forum for dialogue, negotiation, and seeking pathways for peaceful and equal coexistence.

The APA thus presents significant opportunities and potential for leading positive change to address regional transformations for four key reasons:

Firstly, parliaments possess democratic legitimacy as representatives of the people, enabling them to effectively drive policies and laws that promote diversity, non-discrimination, and cross-cultural dialogue.

Secondly, parliament's oversight and checks-and-balances role helps prevent divisive policies from being implemented.

Thirdly, parliaments are open public forums for rational debate and models for managing differences peacefully.

Finally, in this digital age of rapid cross-border communication, parliaments can use technology as tools for networking, exchanging experiences, and strengthening mutual cooperation. Developing and strengthening trust among regional parliaments through committed and robust approaches like those of the APA will build understanding, trust, and closer relationships among people's representatives from various countries.

**President of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,
Fellow Parliamentary Members,**

The global community still faces several significant challenges in differences in political systems, levels of democratic development, deeply rooted historical conflicts, lack of resources and effective cooperation mechanisms, and new threats from disinformation and use of digital media to

incite hatred and division. To address these challenges, the APA must uphold core organizational principles, particularly promoting democratic processes, good governance, and enhancing regional peace and cooperation, together with comprehensive integrated actions including strengthening members' capacity for cross-cultural dialogue, developing laws and policies protecting rights of various social groups, creating inclusive participatory spaces, and systematically and sustainably developing inter-parliamentary cooperation at the regional level. This aligns with the Thai Parliament's efforts over the past year supporting APA's fundamental principles through presenting a draft resolution on "Promoting the Halal Economic principle as a Framework for Ethical, Sustainable, and Inclusive Development" in the Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development, emphasizing ethical, transparent, equitable principles with universal application.

Ultimately, success in strengthening intercultural and inter-civilizational dialogue depends not solely on structures or mechanisms, but on the shared commitment and responsibility of all parliamentary members as representatives of the people. Diversity is not an obstacle but the wealth and strength of us Asians that must be nurtured, preserved, and utilized constructively through genuine collaborative work based on listening, understanding, and mutual respect. I am confident that Asian parliaments can serve as pillars of peace, stability, and sustainable regional development, leading Asia toward a secure, peaceful, and prosperous future amid diversity.

Thank you.



كلمة

سعادة/ الدكتور. طارق حميد الطاير- النائب الأول لرئيس المجلس
الوطني الاتحادي
في الجلسة العامة الـ 16 للجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية

المنامة - مملكة البحرين

24-28 يناير 2026

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

معالي الأخ/ السيد أحمد بن سلمان المسلم، رئيس مجلس النواب لمملكة البحرين
الشقيقة

معالي الأخ/ معالي السيد علي بن صالح الصالح، رئيس مجلس الشورى
 أصحاب المعالي والسعادة،
السادة الحضور،
السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

يطيب لي بداية أن أقدم، بالأصلالة عن نفسي ونيابة عن أعضاء المجلس الوطني الاتحادي ، بأصدق عبارات الشكر والتقدير لمملكة البحرين الشقيقة، حكومة وشعبا، على حسن الاستقبال وكرم الضيافة ، ولجميع القائمين على الإعداد والتنظيم المتميزين لانعقاد مؤتمتنا هذا.

السادة الحضور ، ،

إن قارة آسيا، بتاريخها العريق وحاضرها المتسارع، ليست فقط قارة جغرافية، بل منظومة فكرية واقتصادية وثقافية متنوعة - أثبتت قدرتها على بناء نماذج تنمية ملهمة للعالم أجمع. ومن هنا، تبرز أهمية هذه المنظمات التي لا تجمع الدول فحسب، بل تجمع الرؤى، وتوحد الجهد، وتصنف مساحات حقيقة لتكامل والشراكة.

تنوع قارة آسيا السياسي والاقتصادي والثقافي ، رغم أنه يمثل مصدر قوة استراتيجية إلا أنه يتطلب أيضاً آليات أكثر فاعلية للتنسيق والتعاون الإقليمي المنظم ، وبناء الثقة وتبادل الخبرات بطريقة عملية ومستدامة . فالتجارب الدولية أثبتت أن المجتمعات التي تدير اختلافاتها وتنوعها عبر أطر مؤسسية مستدامة ، هي الأكثر قدرة على الصمود أمام الأزمات السياسية والاقتصادية والثقافية.

أصحاب المعالي والسعادة،

تقدّم دولة الإمارات نموذجاً متقدماً في صياغة مفهوم الحوار بين الثقافات باعتباره سياسة دولة، ومنهج عمل مؤسسي. فمنذ تأسيسها، تتعامل القيادة الإماراتية الرشيدة مع التنوع بوصفه رأساً مالاً استراتيجياً للدولة الحديثة. وهذا النهج كان وما زال ركناً أساسياً من مبادئ الدولة التي أرسى لها المغفور له - بإذن الله تعالى - الشيخ زايد بن سلطان آل نهيان، طيب الله ثراه، حين ربط بين بناء الدولة وبين ترسیخ ثقافة التعايش والانفتاح واحترام الإنسان أياً كانت خلفيته الدينية أو القومية أو العرقية.

وتجسد ذلك بوضوح في تأسيس وزارة التسامح وإطلاق وثيقة الأخوة الإنسانية برعاية كريمة من صاحب السمو الشيخ محمد بن زايد آل نهيان - رئيس الدولة (حفظه الله)، التي تمثل دعوة عالمية صادقة لتعزيز ثقافة السلام، واحترام الآخر، وترسيخ مبادئ العدالة والتضامن والإحسان ، بعيداً عن أي تمييز على أساس الدين أو الثقافة أو العرق. وتعكس هذه الرؤية إيمان دولة الإمارات بأن الحوار والتسامح يشكّلان أساساً متنبئاً لتعزيز السلام المجتمعي، وبناء شراكات إنسانية قادرة على مواجهة التحديات المشتركة بروح من المسؤولية والتفاهم.

السادة الحضور،

إن الـبرلمـانـات لـيـسـتـ فـقـطـ مـؤـسـسـاتـ لـصـنـاعـةـ الـقوـانـينـ، بل تـقـومـ عـلـىـ مـبـدـأـ الـحـوـارـ بـيـنـ الـثـقـافـاتـ، وـبـنـاءـ جـمـسـورـ التـفـاـهـمـ وـالـثـقـةـ بـيـنـ الـدـوـلـ، وـتـحـوـيـلـ الـحـوـارـ الـبـرـلـانـيـ إـلـىـ أـدـوـاتـ عـمـلـيـةـ تـدـعـمـ التـنـمـيـةـ وـالـاسـتـقـرـارـ.

ويضاف إلى ذلك - أن المكانة الخاصة التي تتمتع بها قارة آسيا باعتبارها أحد أهم أقطاب الاقتصاد العالمي والتي تتميز بتنوعها في كافة الأصعدة ، تمنح برلماناتنا فرصة فريدة لتأسيس نموذج آسيوي للحوار الحضاري، ينطلق من الخصوصية الآسيوية التي جمعت بين الحكمة التاريخية والطموح المستقبلي.

ومن هنا، فإن المسارات المستقبلية لتعزيز أسس التسامح والتعايش يجب أن تقوم على ثلاثة مركبات استراتيجية:

الأول: إدماج الحوار بين الثقافات في السياسات التشريعية الوطنية ، عبر قوانين تحمي التعددية ، وتكافح جميع أشكال التمييز.

الثاني: تفعيل الدبلوماسية البرلمانية الآسيوية بوصفها قناعة مرنّة وقدرة على بناء جسور الثقة في الملفات التي تعجز أحياناً القنوات الرسمية عن معالجتها.

الثالث: بناء منصات آسيوية مشتركة للحوار الثقافي، تشارك فيها الـبرلمـانـاتـ وـمـرـاـكـزـ الـفـكـرـ وـالـمـؤـسـسـاتـ الـتـعـلـيمـيـةـ وـالـإـلـاعـامـيـةـ، لماـلـهـاـ مـنـ دورـ أـسـاسـيـ فيـ نـشـرـ ثـقـافـةـ التـسـامـحـ وـقـبـولـ الآـخـرـ وـتـعـزـيزـ الـوـعـيـ الـمـجـتمـعـيـ.

في الختام، أتوجه مرة أخرى لملكة البحرين الشقيقة على حفاؤه الاستقبال وطيب الضيافة المعهودة، وأتمنى لاجتماعنا هذا التوفيق والنجاح،

والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته



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CS CamScanner

Speech by Mr. Martin Chungong, IPU Secretary General

16th Plenary Session of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly
"The Role of Asian Parliaments in Strengthening Intercultural and Inter-civilizational
Dialogue in Asia: Opportunities, Challenges, and Future Pathways"

President, SG A/HK

Manama, 26 January 2026

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear friends,

→ Sohdaty IPU
— Thanks to Bahrain
— Congratulation to Almousa

I am pleased to address the 16th Plenary Session of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly on a topic that has been a priority for the Inter-Parliamentary Union for several years, following the wishes of our membership. Bahrain is a fitting venue for this conversation given its credential in promoting peaceful coexistence, interfaith dialogue, and Al Khidmat for leadership. In a fragmented and polarized world, it is essential to reinforce the bonds of culture, shared heritage and civilization that unite us. Asia's extraordinary diversity of cultures, religions and traditions is a strength, and Asian parliaments play a vital role in fostering cultural, religious and civilizational dialogue and diversity and in lawmaking to protect cultural heritage and uphold non-discrimination and freedom of religion or belief.

I therefore commend the APA for the topic of this plenary session, and its recent resolutions on promoting cultural and civilizational diversity, protecting cultural heritage, and advancing interfaith dialogue and harmony. The value given to upholding intercultural and civilizational dialogue resonates strongly with other Asian-led international initiatives,

including the Interparliamentary Conference on cultural heritage in Baku; the International Parliament for Tolerance and Peace meeting in Phnom Penh; and the establishment of international days dedicated to peaceful coexistence, dialogue among civilizations, and combating Islamophobia.

Allow me to share a few reflections from the IPU's experience in supporting intercultural and interfaith dialogue for parliaments around the world, which, it might not surprise you to hear, has also been driven by Parliaments on the Asian continent.

Dialogue across cultures and faiths for peaceful coexistence has long been part of the IPU's work, not only as a value in itself, but as a practical tool for prevention, early action and conflict-sensitive policymaking.

Parliaments and MPs play a crucial role in creating the legal and moral framework for a society to be more just, equal, and tolerant, and where cultural heritage and religious freedom are protected.

In recent years, our commitment to intercultural and interfaith dialogue has been reinforced through two Asian Parliaments: the General Debate of the 137th IPU Assembly in St. Petersburg in 2017 focussed on "Promoting cultural pluralism and peace through inter-faith and inter-ethnic Dialogue". The General Debate of the 146th IPU Assembly here in Manama in 2023 addressed promoting peaceful coexistence and fighting intolerance.

These moments highlight how fostering pluralism, respect and peaceful coexistence through dialogue are priorities for national parliaments.

The Manama Assembly was particularly inspiring since it led to a partnership with the King Hamad Global Center for Coexistence and Tolerance. With their support, we delivered an edition of our Science for Peace School in Jordan last year. Our membership has further benefitted from the King Hamad Center's expertise on wide-ranging topics including promoting coexistence, countering hatred and polarization, fostering religious literacy, and harnessing ethical values for peace.

In 2023 and 2025 we organised, together with the Parliaments of Morocco and Italy respectively, two international Parliamentary Conferences on Interfaith Dialogue, which convened parliamentarians, religious and cultural representatives, civil society, the United Nations and other experts. These Conferences produced joint commitments from parliamentarians to harness intercultural and interfaith dialogue to prevent polarization and violence, foster peaceful coexistence and inclusion, and reinforce strong, rights-based institutions in full respect of the rule of law

Turning to the challenges: they are many. These range from lack of political will and budget constraints, to weakening social cohesion through growing intolerance and polarisation. Cultural heritage sites can fall victim to destruction, theft, neglect and environmental degradation. Sometimes the laws protecting cultural heritage and religious freedom are lacking, at other times, despite strong legislation, implementation, resourcing and enforcement remain weak. We are also living in a time of global disunity, in

which fear and uncertainty can too easily overshadow dialogue, patience and mutual understanding.

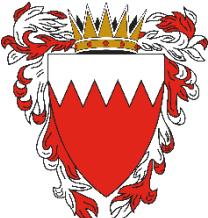
Politics is never free from challenges, and parliaments, as representative institutions, have a particular responsibility to confront these challenges through dialogue, inclusive lawmaking and accountability, while striving to work for more peaceful and just societies. In the face of conflicts, the IPU continues to offer its good offices to facilitate parliamentary dialogue and diplomacy, and to support parliaments in the exercise of their mandates.

A third Parliamentary Conference on Interfaith Dialogue is in planning for 2027. Following conferences in Africa and Europe, we would welcome the opportunity to bring this initiative to Asia, allowing parliamentarians worldwide to benefit from Asia's rich civilizational experience. This would align closely with your recent resolutions encouraging deeper intercultural and interreligious engagement as a preventive, educational and constructive force for peace, social cohesion and sustainable development.

I remain open to dialogue on this and other areas where the IPU can support your work.

I conclude by thanking the organizers for this invitation and by recognizing the leadership of the Kingdom of Bahrain, as we prepare to mark the first International Day of Peaceful Coexistence in two days' time.

Asian Parliamentary Assembly



The 16th Plenary Session

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain
24-28 January 2026



Agenda

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Election of the Bureau
3. Remarks by APA President, H.E. Speaker of the Bahrain Council of Representatives
4. Report of the Chairperson of the Executive Council
5. Report of the Secretary General on the work of the Organization
6. General Debate: Statements by Head of Delegations on
"The Role of Asian Parliaments in Strengthening Intercultural and Intercivilizational Dialogue in Asia: Opportunities, Challenges, and Future Pathways"
7. Meeting of the Standing Committees
8. Meeting of the Drafting Committee on Manama Declaration
9. Presentation and adoption of the Reports of Standing Committees on:
 - Economic and Sustainable Development
 - Social and Cultural Affairs
 - on Political Affairs
 - Budget and Planning
10. Approval of the APA Vice- Presidents for 2026
11. Re-Confirmation of APA President for 2027-8
12. Any other matter



APA Executive Council Meeting

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain
25 January 2026

Final Report

At the invitation of the Bahrain Council of Representatives, the Executive Council (EC) meeting of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) was held on 25 January 2026 in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain, with the participation of the following member countries:

Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye and UAE,

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The draft Agenda was adopted unanimously.

2. Election of the Bureau

The following delegations were elected as members of the Bureau by acclamation:

- Chairman: Azerbaijan
- Vice Chair: Cyprus
- Rapporteur: Cambodia

3. Remarks by Chairperson

H.E. Mr. Rizvan Nabihev, Chairman of the Executive Council and Representative of the APA President and Head of Azerbaijan delegation presented his opening remarks.

4. Report by APA Secretary General

Dr. M.R. MAJIDI, APA Secretary General presented his report on the work of the four Standing Committees and other APA activities in the year 2025.

5. Nomination of Vice Presidents for 2026

Iran and Qatar were confirmed as nominees of the two posts of APA Vice Presidency for Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development as well as Budget and Planning, respectively for the year 2026. In the course of the Executive Committee Meeting, Tajikistan submitted the letter of nomination of the parliament of Tajikistan as APA Vice-President and Chair of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs. The Chair of the Executive Council encouraged the participating delegation to nominate themselves for the position of vice president for the Standing Committees on Political Affairs for 2026.

6. Request of the Asian-African Parliamentary Council (AAPC) for APA observer status

The Asian-African Parliamentary Council (AAPC) on 20 October 2025 officially applied for APA observer status. The Executive Council considered the application but was unable to reach a consensus on the issue.

7. Consideration and adoption of Final Reports of Standing Committees on:

- Economic and Sustainable Development

The Executive Council Meeting considered and approved the 3 draft resolutions presented by the Standing Committee and sought the endorsement of the 16th Plenary.

- Social and Cultural Affairs

The Executive Council considered and approved the 14 draft resolutions presented by the Standing Committee and requested for the final approval by the 16th Plenary.

- Political Affairs

The Executive Council considered and approved 9 draft resolutions presented by the Standing Committee and recommended the draft resolutions to the 16th Plenary for its approval

- Budget and Planning

The Executive Council considered the draft resolution on Budget & Planning presented by the Standing Committee for the subsequent approval of the 16th APA Plenary.

8. Report on the Bureau Sessions

The representative of the APA term President in his capacity as Chairman of the Bureau in 2025-2026, presented the Report to the Executive Council. He stated that during the year 2025, the APA Bureau had four sessions on the sidelines of the Standing Committee meetings respectively in Manama, Moscow, Mashhad, Doha and two other sessions on the margin of 150th and 151st IPU Assemblies, in Tashkent and Geneva. The Bureau had also its final meeting on the eve of the 16th APA Plenary. The EC approved the Report of the Bureau meetings 2025-2026.

9. Draft Agenda of 16th APA Plenary

The Executive Council considered and adopted the draft Agenda of the 16th APA Plenary.

10. Any other matters

At the end of the meeting, the participants expressed sincere gratitude to the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan, under the leadership of Speaker Sahiba Gafarova, for its successful two-year presidency of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly from 2024 to 2025, and warm appreciation for its leadership and dedicated efforts in advancing the noble objectives of the APA through effective parliamentary diplomacy during this period.

The participants also unanimously praised the professional approach of the representative of the term President, Dr. Rizvan Nabihev, as well as his consensus-building attitude on various APA issues throughout the two-year term of Azerbaijan's presidency.

Noting the final presence of Mr. Nicolaos Tornaritis as the Head of Cyprus delegation in APA Meetings, the EC highly appreciated his valuable contributions during his long years of legislative career.



**Asian Parliamentary Assembly
16th Plenary Session**

Manama, Bahrain
24-28 January 2026

**Report by the Secretary General on the work of the
Organization**

**Mr. President,
Honorable speakers,
Esteemed Delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,**

It is with great pleasure and a deep sense of privilege that I, in my capacity as the APA Secretary-General, extend my warmest welcome to all distinguished participants attending the 16th Plenary Session of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, convened in Manama, the dynamic capital of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

It is an honor to convene this 16th APA Plenary Session under the distinguished leadership of H.E. Ahmed bin Salman Al Musalam, honorable Speaker of the Council of Representatives of the Kingdom of Bahrain, whose commitment, and stewardship have been instrumental in hosting this important gathering.

On this auspicious occasion, Mr. President, I wish to convey my sincere congratulations to you and to the Council of Representatives of the Kingdom of Bahrain on assuming the presidency of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly. Please be assured of the Permanent Secretariat's full and unwavering support throughout the period of your presidency.

I would also like to express our collective appreciation to the outgoing APA President, Azerbaijan, for its exemplary leadership and forward-looking vision. During her tenure of presidency, APA's presence and effectiveness on regional and international platforms were significantly enhanced, leaving a lasting institutional legacy.

**Mr. President,
Honorable Speakers,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,**

I wish to commend the Council of Representatives of the Kingdom of Bahrain for selecting the timely and meaningful theme of this Plenary Session:

“The Role of Asian Parliaments in Strengthening Intercultural and Inter-civilizational Dialogue in Asia: Opportunities, Challenges, and Future Pathways.”

This theme eloquently captures the responsibility of Asian parliaments to employ parliamentary diplomacy as a means of reinforcing multilateral cooperation and responding collectively to the shared challenges.

In effect, Asia, as the cradle of some of humanity's oldest civilizations, is endowed with unparalleled cultural, religious, linguistic, and historical diversity. When nurtured through dialogue, understanding, and mutual respect, this diversity serves as a powerful source of strength and resilience. When ignored or misinterpreted, however, it risks becoming a source of division and instability.

Today, our continent stands at a crossroads. On the one hand, there is a growing consensus that intercultural and inter-civilizational dialogue is indispensable for sustainable peace, regional stability, and inclusive development. On the other hand, deep-rooted political, social, and economic challenges continue to test our collective resolve.

**Mr. President,
Distinguished Delegates,**

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the APA as the cornerstone for parliamentary diplomacy and a strong parliamentary mechanism in multilateral parliamentary cooperation. During the span of two decades since its birth, measures were taken on various occasions to make a thorough survey of the current structure of the APA in order to work out an inclusive plan aimed at encouraging further contribution and cooperation of all its members as well-equipped parliamentary elements in order to make a strong regional organization responsive to creation of an integrated Asia

This welcome occasion has provided an excellent opportunity for me to address this august meeting from a different perspective and touch on some cases that have hindered us from taking timely decision to duly overcome the challenges and benefit from the most impactful opportunities that could direct us to more promising fruitful prospective results after two decades of work under the motto of parliamentary diplomacy in Asia.

It is to be noted that APA with a wide spectrum of membership, places in a position to assume a more vivid stance in influencing the course of events in the region in line with its goals and aspirations which include peace, prosperity and development for all people and further integration in Asia. In this vein, it is absolutely crucial to review the APA functional potential as part of the capacity building needed in support of the plan of action to be outlined for enhancement of the efficiency of our organization.

Although, in the course of the internationalization of its parliamentary mandate and entrenchment of international relations in legislative functions, APA has steadily played its part to pave the grounds for exerting best parliamentary practices and to uphold parliamentary diplomacy as a complementary instrument to respond to the needs of the region within a multilateral parliamentary system, it has not proved any tangible takeaway after twenty years of continued efforts.

In fact, Manama Plenary should serve as a turning point in the realization process of Asian Cooperation and encourage sharing of good parliamentary practices and innovations to make legislative process conducive, thereby allowing the respective member parliaments to have a significant influence on sustainable development policies by inscribing targets and objectives into laws. This process calls for collective efforts of all members, otherwise isolated and fragmented efforts, or unilateral approaches will prove to be a non-starter and counter-productive

In my opinion, the following Important points should be addressed in future:

- Selection of the themes for our meetings during the next decade should be based on cultural issues as an initiative to open new horizon for further enhancement of parliamentary diplomacy,
- Establishment of parliamentary research services in the member parliaments and subsequent efforts to prepare bulletins within international visions,

Let me also touch on certain shortcomings which are redeemable with further cooperation of member parliaments.

- Absence of an annual calendar of events which is mostly associated with lack of cooperation on the part of members in showing the required interest for nominating themselves to complete the positions of vice-presidents. This issue is a cause of hinderance in the fulfillment of the responsibilities entrusted to the APA Secretariat not being able to plan

and observe the required intervals between the meetings of the Standing Committees.

It is also to be noted that under the APA Charter certain principles and objectives have been formulated which have so far left unnoticed. Among them we can refer to:

- Formation of joint bodies for the purpose of economic development,
- The need for harmonization of law-making process,
- Failure to pay due attention to Article 2 of the APA Charter elaborating seven key points on the main purpose for the establishment of the APA and the 5 points enumerated under Article 3 of the Charter on the objectives for the establishment of the APA Charter, *inter alia*, on the issue of access to up-to-date knowledge or knowledge-based parliamentary activities
- Discourse creation on diversity of culture, religion, ethnic and language diversity for mutual understanding, progress and development in Asia. This is a pathway which requires vision and action plan.

It should be noted that we have entered the 2nd quarter of the Asian Century. Therefore, how much we are prepared to help for the realization of the objectives of Asian Century? And what is our functional peculiarities, roadmap and the action plan?

I believe that the above- mentioned cases should be duly noted and considered as part of the agenda of the meetings of the APA in order to prepare the grounds for greater cooperation and relations among the parliaments in Asia in an attempt to create a unified front against elements intended to hinder progress and prosperity of the Asian nations.

In fact, the Asian Parliamentary Assembly is a representative body whose member parliaments should periodically raise their opinions and views for realization of the above objectives and even play a vital role in friendship and cooperation among different nations to ease their political differences and mobilize for the removal of other obstacles through exchange of views and experiences.

**Mr. Chairman,
Esteemed Delegates,
Distinguished Colleagues,
Ladies and gentlemen,**

Another key item before this Plenary is the nomination of the APA Vice Presidents for 2026. I am pleased to report that the Executive Council has confirmed the candidacies of Iran, Qatar and Tajikistan accompanied by their commitment to host Standing Committee meetings in 2026. I warmly congratulate them and commend their continued dedication to the work of the Assembly.

Looking ahead to 2026, I am confident that the Bureau of the Assembly, with its distinguished composition, will take decisive steps to further advance APA's program of work, with full cooperation of member parliaments and the Secretariat.

Thank you for your kind attention

Attachment VI



كلمة

سعادة المهندس أحمد بن هتمي الهتمي
عضو مجلس الشورى ورئيس الوفد المشارك في
المؤتمر الـ16 للجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية

من 24-28 يناير 2025



بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

أصحاب المعالي والسعادة،
رؤساء البرلمانات وال المجالس،
رؤساء الوفود البرلمانية،
السيدات والساسة الحضور،

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته،

يسريني أن أنقل إليكم تحيات سعادة السيد حسن بن عبدالله الغانم رئيس مجلس الشورى، وتمنياته الصادقة بنجاح أعمال هذه الدورة، وبما يعزز مسيرة العمل البرلماني الآسيوي المشترك، ويسهم في دعم الاستقرار والتنمية والسلام في منطقتنا وقارتنا الآسيوية والعالم أجمع.

كما أتقدم بخالص الشكر والتقدير إلى مملكة البحرين الشقيقة، قيادةً وحكومةً وشعباً، على كرم الضيافة وحسن التنظيم، وعلى ما وفرته من بيئة مثالية لانعقاد هذه الدورة المهمة، بما يعكس عمق الروابط الأخوية التي تجمع دولنا وشعوبنا.

أصحاب السعادة،

تتعقد دورتنا هذه في ظرف إقليمي ودولي بالغ الحساسية، يتسم بتصاعد التوترات، وتنامي الأزمات، وتدخل التحديات السياسية والأمنية والإنسانية، بما يفرض على البرلمانات مسؤوليات مضاعفة، تتجاوز الأطر التقليدية للعمل البرلماني، لتشمل الإسهام الفاعل في دعم الاستقرار، وتعزيز الحوار، وترسيخ منطق الحلول السلمية.

وفي هذا السياق، تؤكد دولة قطر، انطلاقاً من ثوابتها الدستورية وسياستها الخارجية الراسخة، التزامها الدائم بنجاح الوساطة والدبلوماسية الوقائية، والعمل على تسوية النزاعات بالطرق السلمية، وبما يحفظ سيادة الدول، ويصون وحدة أراضيها، ويحقق تطلعات شعوبها في الأمن والاستقرار والتنمية.

لقد تولت دولة قطر بقيادة حضرة صاحب السمو الشيخ تميم بن حمد آل ثاني، أمير دولة قطر، حفظه الله ورعاه، أدوار الوساطة المحمودية في عدد من الملفات الإقليمية والدولية، إيماناً منها بأن الحوار هو السبيل الأنجع لمعالجة الأزمات، وأن الاستقرار الإقليمي لا يتحقق إلا عبر حلول سياسية شاملة وعادلة، تُعلي من قيمة الإنسان، وتحترم القانون الدولي، وتكرس مبادئ العدالة والسلام وتأتي هذه الجهود اليوم أكثر إلحاحاً في ظل ما تشهده المنطقة من توترات متضاعدة تستدعي تكاتفاً جماعياً، وتنسيقاً بربماً ودبلوماسياً مسؤولاً، لحماية أمن شعوبنا ومستقبل أجيالنا.

السيدات والسادة،

تجدد دولة قطر تأكيدها على دعم القضية الفلسطينية القضية المركزية الأولى في وجدان الأمة العربية والإسلامية، وفي ضمير الإنسانية جماء، وتؤكد دولة قطر موقفها الثابت والداعم لحقوق الشعب الفلسطيني المشرفة، وفي مقدمتها حقه في تقرير مصيره، وإقامة دولته المستقلة على حدود عام 1967، وعاصمتها القدس الشرقية، وفق قرارات الشرعية الدولية ومبادرة السلام العربية. وفي هذا الإطار، قامت دولة قطر، بالتعاون الوثيق مع شركائها الإقليميين والدوليين، بدور محوري ومسؤول في الجهود الدبلوماسية التي أفضت إلى التوصل إلى اتفاق شرم الشيخ، والذي مثل خطوة مهمة نحو تهدئة الأوضاع، ووقف التصعيد، وتهيئة الظروف لاستئناف المسار السياسي. إن هذا الدور يعكس التزام قطر الراسخ بنهج العمل المشترك، وإيمانها العميق بأن تحقيق السلام العادل والدائم لا يمكن أن يتم إلا من خلال تنسيق دولي فاعل، وحلول سياسية تستند إلى الشرعية الدولية وتحفظ حقوق الشعب الفلسطيني غير القابلة للتصرف.

أصحاب المعالي والسعادة،

وإذ نثمن ما تم التوصل إليه من تعديلات على ميثاق الجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية، فإننا نعتبر هذه الخطوة محطة مفصلية في مسيرة تطوير العمل المؤسسي للجمعية، وتعزيز حوكمتها، وتحديث بنيتها التنظيمية، بما يجعلها أكثر قدرة على الاستجابة للتحديات الراهنة، وأكثر فاعلية في تحقيق أهدافها الاستراتيجية.



ويشيد مجلس الشورى بدولة قطر بالروح التوافقية التي سادت النقاشات حول هذه التعديلات، وبالدور الجماعي الذي اضطاعت به الدول الأعضاء في الوصول إلى صيغة متوازنة تعكس تطلعات الجميع، وتكرس مبادئ الشراكة، والمساواة، والعمل المؤسسي المشترك.

وانطلاقاً من ذلك، ندعوا إلى الشروع الجاد في تحديث النظام الداخلي للجمعية، بما يضمن مواءمته مع الميثاق المعدل، ويحقق الانسجام التشارعي والمؤسسي بين الوثائق التأسيسية للجمعية، ويعزز الشفافية، والكفاءة، والفاعلية في آليات العمل واتخاذ القرار، بما يخدم أهداف الجمعية ويقرّي حضورها الإقليمي والدولي.

السيدات والسادة،

إن المرحلة الراهنة تتطلب منا جمِيعاً تطوير أدوات العمل البرلاني الآسيوي، وتعزيز التنسيق، وتوحيد الرؤى، وتحويل الجمعية البرلانية الآسيوية إلى منصة فاعلة للتكامل البرلاني، والتعاون السياسي، والدفاع عن مصالح شعوبنا، وترسيخ قيم السلام، والجوار، والتنمية المستدامة.

وفي الختام، أتقدم بجزيل الشكر والتقدير إلى جمهورية أذربيجان على جهودها المقدرة خلال فترة رئاستها للجمعية، وما حققته من تقدم في دعم العمل البرلاني المشترك. كما نعرب عن تمنياتنا الصادقة بال توفيق والنجاح إلى مملكة البحرين الشقيقة في توليمها رئاسة الجمعية خلال المرحلة المقبلة، واثقين بقدرتها على مواصلة مسيرة التعاون وتعزيز دور الجمعية بما يخدم تطلعات دولها الأعضاء.

ونسأل الله أن يوفقنا وإياكم في أعمال هذه الدورة لما فيه خير لدولنا ولشعوبنا، وأن نخرج بقرارات ونوصيات تعزز الاستقرار والسلام والتنمية في قارتنا الآسيوية والعالم.

والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته.

Statement by H.E. Ngy Chanphal, Head of Cambodia Parliament Delegation, Chair of the Senate Committee on Human Rights and Complaints,
At the 16th APA Plenary

“The Role of Asian Parliaments in Strengthening Intercultural and Inter-Civilization Dialogue in Asia: Opportunities, Challenges and Future Pathways.”
Manama, Bahrain, 24-28 January 2026

Your Excellency the President of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,
Honourable Speakers and Members of Parliament,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure and honour for me to address the 16th Asian Parliamentary Assembly here in Manama. I sincerely thank the Kingdom of Bahrain and the APA for convening us under such a meaningful theme: *the role of Asian parliaments in strengthening intercultural and inter-civilization dialogue in Asia*.

Asia is not only a vast continent; it is a shared home of ancient civilizations, diverse cultures, and major world religions. Our histories are different, yet deeply interconnected. From this diversity comes both great opportunity and great responsibility.

Cambodia is a small country in Asia, poses no harm to any sovereign state and a peace-loving nation, but one with a long and proud civilizational history. For more than two thousand years—from the era of the Khmer Empire to the present day—our society has been shaped by values of tolerance, respect, and peaceful coexistence. Today in Cambodia, Buddhists, Muslims, Christians, Hindus, and followers of other faiths live together as neighbours, colleagues, and fellow citizens. This experience is not perfect, but it reminds us that harmony among different beliefs is possible when mutual respect is nurtured.

Opportunities

The first opportunity before us is Asia’s rich cultural and spiritual heritage. Our civilizations teach compassion, dialogue, moderation, and respect for human dignity. These shared values can serve as a strong foundation for cooperation among Asian parliaments.

A second opportunity lies in the role of parliaments themselves. As representatives of our people, we are uniquely placed to transform dialogue into policy—through

inclusive laws, parliamentary diplomacy, and people-to-people exchanges that strengthen trust across cultures and borders.

A third opportunity is our young generation. Asia's youth are more connected than ever. If we guide them with the right values—through education, cultural exchange, and civic engagement—they can become powerful ambassadors for tolerance, peace, and inter-civilizational understanding.

Challenges

At the same time, we must be honest about the challenges we face. Across Asia and beyond, religious intolerance, extremism, misinformation, and social polarization threaten harmony. Differences in faith or culture are sometimes misused for political or ideological purposes, turning diversity into division.

Rapid globalization and digital transformation also present challenges. While technology connects us, it can also amplify misunderstanding and hatred if not guided by responsibility and wisdom. Moreover, social inequality and unresolved conflicts continue to undermine trust among communities.

For parliaments, the challenge is not only to promote dialogue in words, but to ensure it is reflected in laws, institutions, and daily life.

Future Pathways

Looking ahead, I believe there are clear pathways for Asian parliaments to strengthen intercultural and inter-civilization dialogue.

First, we must uphold and protect the principles of inclusivity, religious freedom, and equality before the law. Strong legal and institutional frameworks are essential to ensure that diversity becomes a source of strength rather than tension.

Second, parliaments should deepen cooperation through regional platforms such as the APA—sharing experiences, best practices, and lessons learned from our diverse societies. Dialogue among parliaments can help prevent misunderstandings and build long-term trust.

Third, we must invest in education, culture, youth, and women as key drivers of peace. Preserving cultural heritage while promoting mutual understanding will ensure that harmony is passed on to future generations.

Cambodia's own journey—rooted in an ancient civilization and shaped by modern challenges—has taught us that peace is not automatic. It must be built patiently, through dialogue, respect, and shared responsibility.

In closing, let us reaffirm our collective commitment to an Asia where civilizations do not clash, but converse; where diversity is not feared, but celebrated; and where parliaments play a leading role in building a peaceful, harmonious, and prosperous future for all.

Thank you for your kind attention.

حُسْنٌ

Honorable Speaker Al Musallam,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to join you in beautiful Manama for the 16th Plenary Session of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA). On behalf of the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China, I wish to congratulate this session on its convening and extend sincere appreciation to the host country, the Kingdom of Bahrain, for its thoughtful arrangements and warm hospitality.

Asia is among the earliest regions where humanity settled. With its profound historical and cultural heritage, it is a major cradle of human civilization. Today, changes unseen in a century are accelerating, and the international situation is fraught with turbulence and uncertainty. Global economic growth is losing momentum; hotspot issues linger unresolved; and geopolitical instability continues to spread. Certain major country seeks supremacy and puts self-interest above all else, resorting to unilateral bullying as the law of the jungle runs rampant—seriously undermining the international order. Against this backdrop, this session—under the theme "*The Role of Asian Parliaments in Strengthening Intercultural and Inter-civilizational Dialogue in Asia: Opportunities, Challenges and Future Pathways*"—examines how exchanges and mutual

learning among civilizations can advance peace, development, prosperity, and solidarity among Asian countries. This carries important relevance.

The civilizations of all countries are the symbol of humanity's historical development, and they also offer valuable inspiration for addressing the pressing challenges of our time. President Xi Jinping has put forward the Global Civilization Initiative, advocating the promotion of world peace and development through dialogue among civilizations, enhancing mutual understanding and affinity among peoples, and building a community with a shared future for humanity. This is a major effort by China to advance dialogue among civilizations. As legislative bodies, we have both the responsibility and the capacity to promote dialogue among civilizations and civilizational progress in our respective countries, and to add new splendor to the great garden of world civilizations.

We should respect the diversity of civilizations. Civilizations differ only in their rich and varied colors; none is superior or inferior. Civilizations across countries and regions each have their own beauty, and together they can thrive in harmony. We should uphold equality among civilizations, mutual learning, dialogue, and inclusiveness—letting cultural

exchanges transcend estrangement, mutual learning transcend clashes, and coexistence transcend feelings of superiority.

We should champion the common values of humanity.

Peace, development, fairness, justice, democracy, and freedom are shared aspirations of peoples across civilizations. We should understand that different civilizations may perceive the connotations of these values in different ways. We must firmly oppose imposing one's own values and models on others, and oppose ideological confrontation.

We should attach importance to both inheritance and innovation in civilizations. For civilizations to endure and flourish, we need not only to pass the torch from generation to generation and safeguard it with care, but also to keep pace with the times and innovate. We should fully tap into the contemporary value of different civilizations, inject new momentum into their development through innovation, invigorate the wellspring of civilizational progress, and create more achievements that reflect the spirit of our era.

We should strengthen international exchanges and cooperation among civilizations. Exchange and mutual learning are intrinsic requirements for civilizational development, and an important driving force for the progress of human civilization as well as world peace and development.

Only by staying open and inclusive, learning from one another, and drawing on each other's strengths can civilizations maintain lasting vitality. We should expand exchanges, broaden channels of cooperation, and achieve shared development and progress.

Colleagues and Friends,

The lessons of the Second World War remain a solemn warning. Many Asian countries suffered colonial aggression; Asian civilizations endured devastating destruction; and the peoples of Asia detest militarism. Seeking peace, pursuing development, and promoting cooperation have become the mainstream consensus of the vast majority of Asian countries. This hard-won situation deserves to be cherished all the more.

During the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Tianjin Summit, President Xi Jinping solemnly proposed the Global Governance Initiative, advocating five guiding principles: sovereign equality, international rule of law, multilateralism, a people-centered approach, and real actions. The Initiative injects Chinese impetus into reinvigorating the United Nations' central and leading role, and offers China's proposal for building a more just and equitable global governance system. Since its launch, it has won broad endorsement and positive response from the international community, including Asian countries. It will surely chart the right course for reforming the global

governance system and bring much-needed stability and certainty to a turbulent world.

The National People's Congress of China attaches great importance to developing friendly exchanges and cooperation with parliaments across Asia. Guided by the Asian values of peace, cooperation, openness, and inclusiveness, we actively practice the commitment of fostering an amicable, secure and prosperous neighborhood, upholding the principle of amity, sincerity, mutual benefit and inclusiveness, as well as the vision of a shared future. Over the past year, with head-of-state diplomacy as strategic guidance, we have strengthened high-level exchanges between legislative bodies, conducted exchanges between committees and working bodies, expanded mechanisms for exchanges, enriched the work of parliamentary friendship groups, and held seminars for parliamentarians from Arab States, ASEAN, Pacific Island countries, and other developing countries. The invitations have covered nearly all APA member states, further promoting exchanges and cooperation among legislative bodies across Asia, and also deepening our bonds of friendship and mutual affection. This year, the Second China–Arab States Summit will be held in China, and I believe it will be another milestone event in the history of China–Arab relations. The National People's Congress will also continue to host seminars for

parliamentarians, and we warmly welcome member parliaments to send representatives to participate.

At present, China is building a great country and advancing national rejuvenation on all fronts through Chinese modernization. The Fourth Plenary Session of the 20th CPC Central Committee deliberated and adopted the recommendations for the 15th Five-Year Plan, charting a blueprint for China's development over the next five years. The recommendations propose deepening integrated development with neighboring countries, strengthening shared security, consolidating strategic mutual trust, and building a community with a shared future with neighboring countries—offering broad opportunities to Asian countries, among others. China stands ready to work with Asian countries among other neighboring countries, to deepen integrated development on the basis of mutual benefit and win-win cooperation, and to build a peaceful, safe and secure, prosperous, beautiful and amicable home together. The National People's Congress of China will continue to provide the rule-of-law safeguards for advancing high-level opening up and regional cooperation. We are ready to work with the parliaments of Asian countries to practice true multilateralism and jointly write a new chapter in building a community with a shared future for humanity. Thank you.

**16TH PLENARY SESSION OF THE ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY,
24 – 28 January 2026, Bahrain**

**INTERVENTION BY THE HEAD OF THE CYPRUS DELEGATION,
Mr. NICOS TORNARITIS, MP**

The Role of Asian Parliaments in Strengthening Intercultural and Inter-civilizational Dialogue in Asia: Opportunities, Challenges, and Future Pathways

Your Excellencies,

Distinguished Colleagues,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to begin by warmly thanking the Kingdom of Bahrain for its generous hospitality and the excellent organisation of this 16th Plenary Session of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly. By hosting this gathering, Bahrain sends a clear message in support of dialogue, inclusiveness and parliamentary cooperation.

We meet at a time of profound global uncertainty. Armed conflicts, humanitarian crises, climate emergencies and geopolitical tensions are increasingly interconnected, placing severe pressure on international peace and stability. In such circumstances, multilateralism, respect for international law and peaceful dispute resolution are being tested. This is precisely when parliamentary diplomacy must play a stronger role.

Parliaments are not passive observers. They are democratic institutions with political legitimacy and responsibility. Parliamentary diplomacy complements traditional diplomacy by fostering trust, maintaining dialogue and sustaining communication even when official relations are strained. Inter-parliamentary cooperation can counter polarisation and help uphold a rules-based international order.

Cyprus approaches its engagement with the Asian Parliamentary Assembly in this spirit. As a Member State of the European Union and a country geographically

and historically rooted in Western Asia and the Eastern Mediterranean, Cyprus occupies a unique strategic position. We view this position not as a dividing line, but as a bridge between Europe and Asia. Our participation in the APA is therefore substantive and forward-looking.

For more than twelve years, I have had the privilege of participating actively in the work of this Assembly, with the aim of strengthening parliamentary links between Cyprus, the European Union and Asia. The hosting by Cyprus of the APA Standing Committee Meeting on Economic and Sustainable Development in 2018 reflected this commitment in practical terms.

Cyprus has also demonstrated its role as a facilitator in times of crisis. Thanks to our geographic location, institutional capacity and political will, we have become a reliable hub for humanitarian operations and civilian evacuations. In this context, I wish to underline the humanitarian and political importance of the “Amalthea” maritime initiative, led by the Republic of Cyprus, which seeks to ensure the safe delivery of humanitarian assistance by sea to civilians affected by the crisis in Gaza, in full respect of international humanitarian law.

At the same time, Cyprus currently holds the Presidency of the Council of the European Union. Strengthening relations between the European Union and Asia is a key priority of our Presidency. Asia’s growing geopolitical and economic weight makes enhanced cooperation essential. We actively promote structured political dialogue, parliamentary engagement, cooperation on peace and security, sustainable development and people-to-people exchanges.

The Eastern Mediterranean should serve as a space of convergence linking Europe, Asia and the Middle East—based on dialogue, cooperation and respect for international law, rather than rivalry or destabilisation.

In closing, this Plenary Session marks my final participation as Head of the Cyprus Delegation to the Asian Parliamentary Assembly. I wish to express my

sincere gratitude to all colleagues, as well as to the Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General, for their cooperation and support over the years.

While my mandate concludes, my conviction remains firm: parliamentary diplomacy is an essential pillar of international governance, and EU–Asia cooperation is a strategic necessity for global stability. I am confident that this Assembly will continue to strengthen its relevance and impact through dialogue and inclusiveness.

Thank you for your attention.



Remarks

DR. SYAHRUL AIDI MAAZAT

**(Head of Delegation of the Indonesian
House of Representatives)**

**“The Role of Asian Parliaments in
Strengthening Intercultural and
Intercivilizational Dialogue in Asia:
Opportunities, Challenges, and Future
Pathways.”**

**Plenary Session of Asian Parliamentary
Assembly (APA)**

Manama, ----- January 2026

Your Excellencies,
***Speakers and Vice Speakers of the Asian
Parliamentary Assembly;***
Members of Parliament;
Distinguished Delegates;
Ladies and Gentlemen ...

**Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi
Wabarakatuh**

May peace be upon us all

- On behalf of the Indonesian House of Representatives, allow me to express our sincere appreciation to the Speaker of Majlis An-Nuwab (Council of Representatives) the Kingdom of Bahrain, H.E. Mr. Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam for the warm hospitality, and to the APA Secretariat for its dedication in convening this important session. This General Debate is timely and essential, as Asia's strength lies in its diversity, and dialogue is the key to transforming that diversity into lasting peace and shared prosperity.

- Asia has long been a meeting point of civilizations, home to ancient philosophies, rich spiritual traditions, and diverse cultural narratives that continue to shape the global imagination. Our region embodies a living tapestry of dialogue—between religions, ethnicities, and social systems—that has endured for centuries. Today, as geopolitical uncertainties intensify and global trust erodes, the role of Asian parliaments in strengthening intercultural and intercivilizational dialogue becomes not only relevant, but indispensable.

Ladies and gentlemen,

- Indonesia believes that meaningful dialogue can flourish only when rooted in **principled multilateralism**. As one of the world's largest democracies and the most populous Muslim-majority nation, Indonesia's foreign policy has been anchored in the conviction that global challenges—whether conflict, injustice, climate insecurity, or technological disruption—cannot be addressed through unilateral action. Indonesia's active role in ASEAN, the G20, the UN, and other parliamentary forum such as IPU, APA, PUIC, AIPA demonstrates our deep commitment to consensus-building, inclusive diplomacy, and the norms of international law. These platforms remind us that multilateralism is not merely an institutional

architecture, but a moral commitment to fairness, equality, and the peaceful settlement of disputes.

- Yet multilateralism can only function when all states are treated with equal respect. Indonesia thus firmly rejects **double standards**, which undermine the credibility of international norms. Indonesia calls for **resilience-oriented diplomacy** amid a world order under strain, warning that **inconsistent respect for international law** erodes global credibility and weakens collective security. Indonesia firmly insists that **multilateral institutions be reshaped to better represent, empower, and deliver for developing nations**.
- This commitment to consistency is the foundation of Indonesia's long-standing support for the **right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and independence**. For Indonesia, Palestine is not merely a geopolitical issue—it is a question of justice, humanity, and the universal principle that occupation and collective punishment have no place in our world. Indonesia has demonstrated this through decades of humanitarian assistance, capacity-building programs, and diplomatic advocacy. Indonesia encourages Asian parliaments to uphold the same consistency: to reject violence against civilians, support humanitarian corridors,

and champion a just and lasting peace based on internationally recognized parameters.

- **Ladies and gentlemen,**

- Despite our diversity, Asian nations share common aspirations: stability, prosperity, dignity, and the ability for all communities to thrive. There are immense **opportunities** for parliaments to institutionalize intercultural dialogue—through education, youth exchanges, digital literacy, cultural diplomacy, and legal protections for minority rights.
- Indonesia's own experience with *Bhinneka Tunggal Ika*—which means Unity in Diversity—illustrates how inclusive governance, interfaith engagement, and community-based conflict resolution can be sustained even in one of the world's most diverse societies. Translating those values into practice, the Indonesian House has supported policies that mainstream religious harmony, protect minority rights, and expand civic space for interfaith collaboration. These domestic habits of pluralism shape our diplomacy: we bring to Asia a lived experience that dialogue is security, inclusion is resilience, and empathy is strategy.

- We must also acknowledge our **challenges**: rising intolerance, information disorder, weaponization of identity, and geopolitical rivalries that risk widening cultural divides. We, Parliamentarians, have a unique responsibility to counter these threats by strengthening oversight, promoting responsible digital ecosystems, and ensuring that public policy protects cultural diversity rather than allowing it to be manipulated.
- Looking forward, Asia must lead by reaffirming that intercultural dialogue is not an abstract concept, but a practical pathway to peace. Let us enhance parliamentary networks, invest in people-to-people connectivity, and reinforce multilateral institutions that treat all nations with dignity.

Syukron Katsiron

Wassalamualaikum Warahmatullahi
Wabarakatuh

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

أصحاب المعالي والسعادة..... السيدات والسادة الحضور ،،،،
السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته،
بادئ ذي بدء ،

أسمحوا لي بالأصالة عن نفسي ونيابة عن وفد مجلس الأمة الأردني بأن
أتقدم بخالص الشكر والعرفان إلى الأمانة العامة والجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية
والشعبية البرلمانية بمملكة البحرين الشقيقة على دعوتهم الكريمة لنا للمشاركة في
أعمال الجلسة العامة السادسة عشرة، ونثمن لهم اختيارهم الحصيف
— (دور البرلمانات الآسيوية في تعزيز الحوار بين الثقافات والحضارات في
آسيا: الفرص والتحديات والمسارات المستقبلية) على جدول أعمالها، الأمر
الذي يمكن مؤسسة البرلمان في دولنا الآسيوية من الاضطلاع بأدوار أكثر
فاعلية تستهدف تعزيز الحوار بين الثقافات والحضارات، وهو ما يسهم في إدكاء
مسارات التعاون البرلماني في مواجهة التحديات والإشكاليات التي ألقت بظلالها
على تطلعات دولنا بالمضي قدماً نحو تحقيق "التنمية والازدهار".

كما لا يفوتي بأن أعبر عن خالص التقدير وعظيم الامتنان لـ مملكة
البحرين الشقيقة على استضافتها الكريمة — أعمال هذا التجمع البرلماني رفيع
المستوى، مثمناً ما وجدناه من حسن في التنظيم وحفاوة في الاستقبال وكرم

الضيافة، وإنه لمن الأهمية البالغة لنا كأعضاء في برلمانات دول آسيا بأن نلتقي اليوم في "المنامة" تحت مظلة "الجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية" لكي نجدد العزم البرلماني نحو تعزيز آفاق الحوار بين الثقافات والحضارات في آسيا بما يتسم من تطلعاتنا نحو صياغة "رؤى برلمانية ناجعة" نتمكن من خلالها: العمل على استثمار فرص "التنوع الثقافي" و"التنوع الحضاري" التي تزخر به قارة آسيا ناهيك عن مسؤوليتنا (الأخلاقية والبرلمانية) في تحديد ماهية المسارات المستقبلية القادرة على تعزيز دور مؤسسة "البرلمان" في إثراء التواصل الثقافي والتلاقي الحضاري في قارة آسيا على نحو يسهم في إرساء دعائم "الأمن والسلام والتنمية" في دولنا، وإنه لمن دواعي سرورنا بأن نلتقي بحضراتكم متمنيا لكم ولأجتماعنا التوفيق والنجاح، ولجهودكم البرلمانية المزيد من العطاء والتأثير.

أصحاب المعالي والسعادة.....السيدات والسادة الحضور ،،،،،

إن أجتماعنا اليوم يمثل لنا كـ أعضاء في برلمانات آسيا "فرصة ثمينة" ويضع على عاتقنا في الوقت ذاته "مسؤولية كبيرة" لـ تعزيز قيم الحوار البناء وصون التنوع الثقافي والحضاري وتحويله إلى مصدر "قوة وتكامل" وليس سبب للخلاف أو الانقسام، لاسيما وإن قارتنا الآسيوية تتميز بالتنوع الثقافي والتنوع الحضاري والإرث التاريخي المشترك، الأمر الذي يسهم في بناء (جسور التفاهم والتقارب بين الأمم والشعوب) فهدفنا في هذه الجلسة العامة، ليس مجرد اللقاء وطرح الأفكار فقط، بل لكي تقول "برلمانات آسيا" كلمتها الحاسمة في هذا المضمار بما يتسم من تطلعاتنا نحو تأصيل قيم الانفتاح تجاه الآخر وتعزيز التعددية الفكرية وترسيخ قيم التعايش السلمي بين شعوب القارة على نحو يدحض

أي مخططات تدميرية تستهدف تصاعد خطاب الكراهية والتطرف تجاه قيم التوعي الثقافي والتعايش الحضاري.

زملائي الأفاضل..... الحضور الكريم،،،،

وإذ أتطلع، كغيري من المشاركين في هذا الملتقى البرلماني ربيع المستوى إلى رسم مسارات مستقبلية للحوار الثقافي والتواصل الحضاري في قارتنا الآسيوية، ومن هنا، تأتي الدبلوماسية البرلمانية لتدوي دورها المحوري في بلورة "رؤية برلمانية آسيوية مشتركة" تعمق من "قيم الحوار بين الثقافات والحضارات" ليكون ركيزة أساسية في ترسيخ السلم والاستقرار وتعزيز التنمية المستدامة في آسيا والعالم أجمع، ونحن في مجلس الأعيان الأردني وبالتعاون مع مجلس النواب واستجابةً لتوجيهات جلالة الملك عبد الله الثاني ابن الحسين _ حفظه الله ورعاه _ تؤكد إيماناً عميقاً بمبادئ التنوع الثقافي والحضاري وننظر إليه كمصدر "قوة وإثراء" للمجتمعات في آسيا، كما ندعم كل جهد برلماني آسيوي يستهدف تعزيز دور "مؤسسة البرلمان" في ترسيخ مسارات مستقبلية ناجعة للحوار، تعمق من أسباب التعايش وقبول الآخر بما يسهم في بناء مجتمعات مستقرة ومتضامنة قادرة على مواجهة التحديات المشتركة.

وعليه، يقع على عاتقنا كأعضاء في برلمانات آسيا بأن نعمل على تكثيف جهودنا التشريعية في هذا السياق عبر اجراء عملية تجويد للتشريعات والقوانين على النطاق الوطني مع السعي المشترك نحو تعزيز أطر "التعاون والتنسيق" بين برلمانات دولنا تحقيقاً للتكامل التشريعي على الصعيد الإقليمي، وبالتالي إيجاد بيئة محفزة تحقق لنا إمكانية تبادل الخبرات البرلمانية للوقوف على الممارسات الفضلى المعززة للحوار الثقافي والحضاري مما يزيد من إمكانية تدشين مصفوفة

تشريعية وقانونية "ناجعة وحصيفة" تتسق مع تطلعات دولنا نحو تعزيز
(آفاق الحوار بين الثقافات والحضارات في آسيا) ، وهو ما يتطلب وبصورة لازمة
العمل على تفعيل دور "مؤسسة البرلمان" من خلال "الشراكة والتنسيق" مع
الجهات التنفيذية (الحكومية) للبناء على ما تزخر به دولنا من تنوع ثقافي وتعدد
حضارى وجعله ركيزة أساسية للتقدم والتطور ، بما يسهم في استشراف مسارات
مستقبلية فاعلة للحوار بين الثقافات والحضارات على نحو يعزز فرص تحقيق
(السلم والأمن والتنمية المستدامة) على صعيد دول القارة الآسيوية.

وبالختام، ومن على هذا المنبر البرلماني الآسيوي، أدعوكم إلى تكثيف
الجهود وتوحيدها لكي نضع مسارات برلمانية مستقبلية للحوار بين الثقافات
والحضارات في آسيا نتمكن من خلالها على تحديد ماهية الممارسات الفضلى في
هذا المضمار على نحو يجعل من (تنوع الهوية الثقافية وتعدد الحضارات) في
آسيا مصدر "قوة" ، ولتكون برلمانات آسيا شريكاً فاعلاً في صناعة السلام وبناء
مستقبل أفضل للأجيال الحاضرة والقادمة .
والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته.

16th APA Plenary Session

24-28th January 2026
Manam, Bahrain

General Debate: *“The Role of Asian Parliaments
in Strengthening Intercultural and Inter-
Civilizational Dialogue in Asia: Opportunities,
Challenges, and Future Pathways”*

Draft Speech

for

Head of Delegation (HOD)



**RESEARCH DIRECTORATE
SENATE SECRETARIAT**

سید علی نعیم

- Your excellency, Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam, Speaker of the Bahrain Council of Representatives and President of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly.
- Distinguished Speakers, Presiding Officers, delegates from APA fraternity.
- Honourable Secretary General of the APA.
- Ladies and Gentlemen.

Asalam-o-Alaikum!

It is a distinct honour and privilege to address this esteemed Assembly during this pivotal 16th Plenary Session of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly. I extend my sincere gratitude to our gracious hosts for their exceptional hospitality and commend the APA Secretariat for its meticulous arrangements in convening this important gathering.

The 16th APA Plenary Session marks a significant milestone in our collective parliamentary efforts to advance regional cooperation and promote shared aspirations for peace, stability, and sustainable development. On behalf of the Parliament of Pakistan, I express sincere appreciation for the constructive stewardship of the outgoing APA Presidency for its diligent and constructive leadership. We extend our full confidence and best wishes to the Kingdom of Bahrain as it assumes the

Presidency at this historic moment, coinciding with the 20th anniversary of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly.

At a time of unprecedented economic pressures, geopolitical tensions, and deepening societal divisions, the role of parliaments has become more critical than ever. As representatives of our peoples, we share the responsibility to shape inclusive policies, strengthen mutual understanding, and reinforce the bonds that unite Asia's diverse societies and civilizations.

Ladies and Gentlemen!

Asia is far more than a geographic expanse; it is a living, breathing civilizational continuum. From the ancient cradles of Indus Valley to Persia, China, and Mesopotamia, and through the profound wisdom of Buddhist, Hindu, Confucian, and Islamic traditions, our continent has long thrived on exchange, mutual learning, and coexistence. Our defining strength has been dialogue and not isolation.

Today, that legacy carries renewed relevance. Our societies face polarization, extremism, intolerance, and disinformation. Trust is under strain. Institutions are being tested. In this environment, intercultural and inter-civilizational dialogue is not a luxury. It is a necessity. It is essential for peace, stability, and shared progress.

Excellencies!

Parliaments occupy a unique position in meeting this challenge. We are the institutions where diversity finds representation and legitimacy. Through legislation, budgeting, and oversight, parliaments transform values into action. We protect rights. We enable education and cultural exchange. We uphold accountability. In doing so, we turn dialogue into governance.

Pakistan embraces this responsibility with deep historical consciousness. Our land has been a cradle of civilizations for millennia. From the Indus Valley to Gandhara, and through Persian, Mughal, and Islamic traditions, our history reflects synthesis, pluralism, and coexistence. This experience shapes our national outlook today.

That outlook is firmly anchored in our Constitution. It guarantees freedom of religion, equality before the law, and protection of minority rights. Institutions dedicated to interfaith harmony, cultural preservation, and minority inclusion reinforce these commitments in practice. Pluralism in Pakistan is not symbolic. It is institutional.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Pakistan has consistently championed dialogue as a cornerstone of peace and has remained critically engaged in multilateral initiatives across Asia, dedicated to fostering civilizational dialogue and bridging

understanding. These efforts are aimed at mitigating polarization and dismantling divisive and exclusionary narratives that undermines social cohesion and international stability. In this spirit, Pakistan has strengthened parliamentary diplomacy through the establishment of the Inter-Parliamentary Speakers' Conference, under the leadership of the Chairman Senate, Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani, to promote sustained dialogue and deepen legislative cooperation across regions in pursuit of peace, justice, and mutual coexistence.

At the international level, Pakistan continues to advance interfaith understanding and tolerance. At the United Nations, Pakistan co-sponsored the 2021 resolution on Promoting a Culture of Peace and Tolerance to Safeguard Religious Sites and the 2023 resolution on Promotion of Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue, reaffirming the principles of respect for religious symbols, rejection of hate, and the prevention of associating violence with any religion or culture.

Pakistan's commitment to dialogue is also reflected in practical confidence-building measures. The Kartarpur Corridor stands as a powerful example of how political leadership can translate dialogue into tangible outcomes, enabling people-to-people reconciliation and peaceful coexistence. At the national level, this commitment is reinforced through the adoption of Pakistan's first-ever National Culture Policy in 2018,

which promotes an inclusive national identity, social cohesion, and cultural harmony by integrating communities from all parts of the country.

Further efforts to preserve and promote Pakistan's rich tangible and intangible cultural heritage include the establishment of the National History Museum, heritage walks in historic city centers, and initiatives to revive cultural life in the Walled City of Lahore under the Walled City Authority. Institutional commitment has also been strengthened through the creation of a Minority Caucus in the Senate of Pakistan, tasked with safeguarding minorities' constitutional rights, promoting tolerance, and ensuring the effective implementation of inclusive legislation.

Together, these efforts underscore Pakistan's comprehensive and principled approach to advancing intercultural and inter-civilizational dialogue, reducing intolerance, and strengthening peaceful coexistence at the national, regional, and global levels.

Dear Colleagues!

Across Asia, parliaments face shared opportunities and common challenges. We can institutionalize dialogue through committees, caucuses, and working groups. We can invest in youth engagement, media literacy, and digital platforms that connect societies. At the same time, we must address polarization, safeguard freedom of expression, and counter narratives of exclusion. These tasks demand coordinated parliamentary action.

The Asian Parliamentary Assembly provides precisely this platform. Through its resolutions on cultural diversity and interfaith dialogue, and through sustained peer learning, the APA enables parliaments to act collectively. It allows us to build trust, share experience, and respond coherently to challenges that no parliament can resolve alone.

Ladies and Gentlemen!

Pakistan remains firmly committed and is ready to contribute constructively, collaborate sincerely, and learn collectively. By elevating intercultural and inter-civilizational dialogue as a sustained parliamentary priority, we can harness Asia's rich diversity as a source of unity, resilience, and shared progress.

Let us, as members of this esteemed assembly, translate these commitments into action through inclusive legislation, policies that expand opportunity, and oversight that ensures results. Let our parliaments work in concert, to forge a common future grounded in mutual respect, shared responsibility, and enduring peace.

Thank you.

پاکستان

Honourable Chair, respected colleagues, ~~بے ہتھ~~

We must speak honestly about **inequality** between countries and within societies.

The effects of global challenges are not evenly shared. Pakistan contributes **less than 1%** of global carbon emissions, yet we suffer greatly from climate change. Stronger monsoons, floods, and heatwaves destroy homes, crops, and infrastructure, pushing millions into poverty.

Many people in Pakistan still lack fair access to **jobs, finance, technology, and basic services**. This reflects a wider global problem, where poorer countries face climate damage and financial pressure, while wealthier nations benefit from past industrial growth.

Sustainable development must be fair. **Climate finance, development funds, and technology** must reach those who need them most, not be limited by power or politics. As parliamentarians, we must support fair access to **climate finance, clean technology sharing, and regional cooperation**.

Pakistan faces urgent water challenges. Rising temperatures are melting glaciers and causing stronger monsoon floods, while water shortages grow. We must manage water as a shared resource: **capture and store floodwater, revive traditional water-harvesting methods, protect natural reservoirs, and invest in modern purification and reuse systems**, such as **wastewater recycling models** used successfully in other Asian countries like Singapore.

Ethical economic systems, including **halal economic principles**, remind us that fairness, compassion, and support for those who lack opportunity are essential. Helping people stand on their own feet is not charity, it is a shared responsibility.

The challenges we face, such as **poverty, disease, climate pressure, and scarce resources**, are shared challenges. No country can solve them alone. They require **collective and coordinated action**.

Asia is a strong and capable continent. Rich in natural resources, fertile land, talent, creativity, and history, it lacks nothing. **Unity, cooperation, and shared commitment** to well-being and equality are what will make Asia truly great.

This Assembly must move beyond discussion **to action**. The challenges faced by many countries, including Pakistan, are urgent. This summit **must deliver clear, practical outcomes** that help people escape cycles of poverty and vulnerability.

If we act together, with purpose and harmony, Asia can (Insha'Allah) achieve its full promise.

Thank you.



TÜRKİYE BÜYÜK MİLLET MECLİSİ BAŞKANLIĞI
Dış İlişkiler ve Protokol Başkanlığı

ASYA PARLAMENTER ASAMBLESİ (APA) 16. GENEL KURULU
(Manama, Bahreyn)

AÇILIŞ OTURUMUNDA İSTİFADE EDİLEBİLECEK
KONUŞMA NOTU

Honorable Speaker of Bahrain's Meclis En-Nuwab,
Distinguished Representatives from Member Countries,
Dear Secretary General,
Esteemed Participants,

I would like to thank our host Meclis El-Vatani and Meclis En-Nuwab of Bahrain for their excellent organization of the 16th Plenary Session of Asian Parliamentary Assembly. I'm honored to present our host and all the participants of this plenary session with heartfelt greetings of Turkish people and His Excellency Numan Kurtulmuş, Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye.

I'm pleased to be here with you, in the Pearl of the Peninsula. We've gathered in one of the most important passages of Asia. Different regions of Asia are brought together in this organization. Therefore, in this Assembly, we have a vast cultural wealth. This cultural wealth, when combined with a younger population and rich natural resources, will transform Asia as central axis of the globe. Population size of Asia also supports this transformation. In order to move forward towards a bright future, investing in human capital has the highest economic benefit.

The positive aspects of cultural wealth will prosper when there is a common will towards strengthening inter-cultural and inter-civilizational dialogue. Main obstacle before a comprehensive peace and harmony is a self-centered worldview. Treating each other as equal, valuable and respectable beings is the first step towards a solid ground for cooperation. Many problems around the globe are based on the lack of this understanding.

Wherever there is a suffering or crime against humanity, there is an underlying selfish paradigm. Inter-cultural dialogue cannot coexist with ethnic hatred or megalomania.

Humanity needs to move forward. Wastefulness around the world is greater than the poverty. Nevertheless, recent global agenda is almost in a downward spiral. We sometimes witness good news here and there, whereas we encounter deficiency in the whole system.

I don't want to bring a pessimistic mood into this valuable gathering. Humanity still has hope. If we can promote dialogue, if we can promote harmony, then we can build a bright future for the following generations.

Parliaments have a unique prospect for dialogue and positive interaction, not only because they are the universal instruments for democratic representation, but also because they are the most comprehensive voice for peoples. Parliaments are not just symbolism or tools for legitimacy, they do not just consist of representatives. Parliaments are the platforms where different voices and opinions are heard and synthesized. We need the same approach in international relations and similarly parliamentary diplomacy is a key to construct and maintain a lasting peace and harmony.

Distinguished Participants,

First quarter of 21st century has shown that world is in a trend to face new challenges and new forms of crises. It's quite possible that the second quarter will not be easier than the first quarter. We need to utilize the advantages of joint action against problems that affect wide regions.

Asian Parliamentary Assembly is one of the most extensive inter parliamentary organizations all around the world. This is also true for the total size of population represented in any international organization. Asian Parliamentary Assembly is a large and promising international body. This scope makes it one of the most important tools of parliamentary diplomacy among all international parliamentary organizations. In order to strengthen APA and put it into motion, we can focus on participation. I would like to call on all the participants here at the moment to kindly remind your neighbors, which are not present in this plenary session, to recognize the unique value of APA and attend APA events. Please bring this up in bilateral meetings.

We need to act swiftly and take concrete steps, in order to achieve our potential. We have many topics to discuss and numerous matters to attend. Not only Asia can, but because Asia needs to. We need to prosper, integrate and reach our potential with a joint approach.

As the final words of my speech, I would like to thank Bahrain Parliament for their generosity and hospitality, and especially I thank Azerbaijan Parliament for their contributions and excellent chairmanship of APA. I would also like to wish success to the chairmanship of Bahrain. Türkiye is ready to act together and support the new chair-in-office.

I wish success to all events of this plenary session. Thank you for your attention.

As-salamu alaykum.

**Speech of the Deputy Chairman of the State Duma of the Russian Federation,
H.E. Mr. Petr Tolstoy at the Opening Ceremony of the APA Plenary Session**
(Manama, 26 January 2026)

Mr. Chairman,

Mr. Secretary General,

Speakers and their representatives,

My fellow parliamentarians,

On behalf of the Russian delegation and the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, I would like to extend our gratitude to the parliament of the Kingdom of Bahrain and personally to Speaker of the Council of Representatives of the National Assembly Mr. Ahmed bin Salman Al-Musallam for your hospitality and for ensuring such great conditions for our work here in Manama.

On this occasion, I would also like to congratulate our Azerbaijani colleagues and Speaker of the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan Mrs. Sahiba Gafarova with completion of their chairmanship in the Asian Parliamentary Assembly. You have made a valuable contribution to the APA's work and assumed responsibility for its development during a challenging time.

I am certain that by taking up the torch of chairmanship, Bahrain will continue coordinating the parliaments' efforts to address pressing regional and global matters. I wish the Bahraini team good luck and great success.

We are also grateful to our colleagues from Qatar and Iran for their contributions to the development of dialogue at this venue and for holding meetings of the Standing Committees on Budget and Planning and on Political Affairs.

I would also like to thank Secretary General Dr. Majidi and the APA Secretariat for ensuring the Assembly's continuing work.

Today, we all take part in the 16th APA Plenary Session. Its theme – “The Role of Asian Parliaments in Strengthening Intercultural and Intercivilizational Dialogue in Asia” – is important and topical like never before.

In a world of ever rising geopolitical turbulence, traditional diplomacy faces serious challenges. In this context, parliamentary diplomacy becomes especially important as a flexible instrument for maintaining and expanding dialogue, and reaching compromises.

Asian countries play a special role in shaping the global political and economic agenda. The unprecedented nature of integration processes taking place in the region makes it one of the leading global centers.

And in general, the system of international relations is moving towards the Global South and the Global East strengthening their positions and positions of their alliances. We are witnessing a consolidation of the Global Majority for the benefit of unconstrained development without external dictate or coercion, based on principles of international law, respect for national interests, and equality in international relations.

I would also like to note that Russia stands up for these principles and promotes means for creating a just world order, including as part of our special military operation in Ukraine.

Russia speaks in support of a comprehensive solution for Palestine based on international law. Our position is firm and well-known: we believe a Palestinian state must be created. As for the current situation in Gaza, we believe that we should all focus on ensuring that the Palestinian people witness their issues finally resolved in a way that will guarantee a long-term solution to the conflict in the Middle East.

As the West is trying to tear apart our unified space for cooperation in Asia and in the Eurasian region in general, we as parliamentarians must do everything in our power to protect the cultural and civilizational codes of our countries, preserve our moral and spiritual values and pass on our historical heritage to future generations.

The Asian Parliamentary Assembly is destined to become one such venue for promoting and unifying dialogue. I congratulate you all on the APA's 20th anniversary. This is a serious milestone for an international institute. Throughout the years, we have created conditions for developing multilateral dialogue on pressing global and regional matters. Thanks to its geographical diversity (spanning 45 countries), the APA is one of the most representative parliamentary forums in the region, which has strong potential for further development.

In the past two years, cooperation within the APA has proven most positive. We expect to keep up the momentum in the future as well. We support active participation of parliaments of our countries in the Assembly's work and hope that more new partners will soon join us.

The APA venue ensures all the necessary conditions for discussing possible solutions to global crises and addressing new challenges. We see that many of these crises have been caused in large part by internal tensions in a wide range of countries, a colonial system based on unjust economical principles, and political egoism. However, we also witness first-hand the creation of new processes that will strengthen multipolarity and bring in new mechanisms of international cooperation.

The APA can and must contribute to the development of these processes, and by accepting corresponding resolutions, we send a clear political signal. We talk about cooperation and creation, about recognition of the world's cultural and civilizational diversity, about people's natural right to cultural integrity, about respect for traditional values and religions. We say about the need to ensure safety and create a just world order. All these goals have manifested themselves in the APA's new resolutions to be accepted today. I would like to thank the parliaments of all the countries for their active work in the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural affairs chaired by Russia in 2024-2025. We encourage everyone to continue filling up the APA agenda with initiatives that are of great interest to most members and that aim to unite us.

New challenges and new threats mean that every country interested in progress must work together and combine their efforts. The strengthening and expansion of interparliamentary cooperation is one of the top priorities for Russian parliamentarians. It facilitates integration and harmonization of economic systems, protection of rights and interests of citizens, creation of legislative practices and their implementation into local laws.

Russia supports efforts for strengthening peace and stability in Asia and creating a unified platform for mutually beneficial cooperation. We reaffirm our interest in expanding and deepening cooperation within the APA. Russia is ready to work towards results.

I wish everyone fruitful discussions and all the best.

Speech of Mr. Asaf Hajiye, PABSEC Secretary General, at the APA General Assembly

(Bahrain, 24-29 January 2026)

Dear Mr. President of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA),

Dear Secretary General of the APA,

Distinguished Parliamentarians,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great honour and pleasure for me to address this distinguished gathering on behalf of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (PABSEC). Allow me to express my sincere gratitude to His Excellency Mr. Ahmed bin Salman Al Musalam, Speaker of the Council of Representatives of the Kingdom of Bahrain, and to Dr. Mohammad Reza Majidi, Secretary General of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, for their kind invitation, warm hospitality, and the excellent organization of this important meeting.

Established in 1993, the PABSEC, brings together 81 members of the Parliaments from thirteen Member States of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, revealing itself as a unique political forum of inter-parliamentary dialogue in the Black Sea Region. Its main objective is to achieve a high degree of regional economic cooperation and to transform the Black Sea Region into a zone of peace, stability and prosperity.

With regard to the topic under discussion "*The Role of Asian Parliaments in Strengthening Intercultural and Inter-civilizational Dialogue in Asia: Opportunities, Challenges, and Future Pathways*", I would like to underline that the Black Sea Region is home to a remarkable diversity of cultures, languages, religions, and ethnic communities, shaped by centuries of interaction, coexistence, and mutual influence. This rich mosaic constitutes both a valuable heritage and a shared responsibility.

Likewise, Asia hosts an exceptionally broad diversity of cultures and civilizations. Promoting intercultural and inter-civilizational dialogue in such a context is essential for strengthening social cohesion, preventing

misunderstandings, and fostering tolerance, mutual respect, and peaceful coexistence among our peoples.

Accordingly, enhancing cooperation among national parliaments and inter-parliamentary assemblies across regions becomes not only relevant, but indispensable. I would like to underline here that granting the PABSEC the Observer Status to the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA), represented a very important milestone in the activity of our Assembly, offering valuable opportunities to establish fruitful cooperation with the APA as well as with other Parliamentary Assemblies and international organizations. In this regard, we invite and we look forward to the even more active participation of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly and its member parliaments in our events, in the firm belief that such engagement will further strengthen our cooperation and enhance our common impact.

Dear colleagues,

The Black Sea Region plays an important role in world politics as a bridge between Asia and Europe, being situated at the crossroads of major transportation routes from East to West along the historic Silk Road and from North to South along the ancient Viking routes. At the same time, this region is rich in energy resources and hosts key energy corridors connecting Central Asia and the Caspian Region with international markets, serving as an outstanding source of oil and gas for the world economy. The development of transportation and energy routes opens new global spaces, brings prosperity to the region and the countries located along these corridors, and contributes significantly to the strengthening of intercultural dialogue among the nations of Asia and Europe.

At the same time, Asia is renowned for its vast natural resources, rapidly developing economies, and immense potential in goods, energy, and high technologies. Today, almost all major transportation routes connecting Asia to Europe converge in or pass through the Black Sea Region. Energy resources — notably gas and oil — together with metals, industrial products, and high-value goods originating from Asia are delivered to European and global markets through the Black Sea region. In this context, the development of the Middle Corridor will further enhance the geopolitical and geo-economic importance of the Black Sea Region, transforming it into a central hub connecting Asia, Europe, and Africa.

Dear colleagues,

In conclusion, I would like to underline that we live in a microscopic world, where distances are shrinking, interdependence is deepening, and connectivity increasingly determines prosperity and stability. In such a world, strong parliamentary diplomacy, effective multilateral cooperation, and intercultural dialogue are not optional, but indispensable. Allow me to express my sincere appreciation to the Council of Representatives of the Kingdom of Bahrain for hosting this high-level meeting. I am confident that today's exchanges will contribute meaningfully to shaping future pathways for enhanced intercultural and inter-civilizational dialogue in Asia and beyond.

Thank you for your attention!

16th Plenary Session of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly

**Speech of the Secretary General of TURKPA H. E.
Ambassador Ramil Hasan**

26-27 January 2026, Manama, Bahrain

**Excellencies,
Distinguished Speakers of Parliament,
Honourable Members of Parliament,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

First of all, allow me to extend my sincere gratitude to the leadership of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly and to the Secretary General Mr. Mohammad Reza Majidi, for the invitation to participate in the 16th APA Plenary Session and for providing the opportunity to address this significant event. I would also like to extend my appreciation to the leadership of the Parliament of the Kingdom of Bahrain, as the host, for their warm hospitality and the excellent organization of this important meeting.

As the Secretary General, I am very pleased to represent here the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic States, in short, TURKPA. TURKPA is the parliamentary dimension of Turkic cooperation. While implementing its mandate, TURKPA attaches particular significance to the exploring opportunities for constructive engagement with regional and global inter-parliamentary organizations. In this context, I would like to mention that TURKPA has been participating in the APA activities as an observer since 2017.

In today's rapidly changing international environment, parliamentary diplomacy has acquired particular importance. Inter-parliamentary dialogue plays a vital role in promoting mutual understanding, strengthening trust, and contributing to peace and stability both at the regional and global levels.

In this regard, I would like to underline that intensive and productive work has been carried out by the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic States in the recent period. In this context, I am pleased to inform that in 2026 in the Republic of Türkiye TURKPA intends to organize an international conference entitled: **"New Cooperation in Eurasia: The Role of TURKPA in Developing Strategic Relations – Parliamentary Diplomacy."**

We would highly welcome the active participation of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly and its Secretariat in this event and are confident that such cooperation would further strengthen our partnership.

By bringing together brotherly states, TURKPA has consistently prioritized parliamentary diplomacy as an effective platform for expansion of dialogue, the enhancement of mutual communication, and joint efforts to address a wide range of global and regional challenges.

I am pleased to note the positive development of relations between the Asian Parliamentary Assembly and TURKPA. The strengthening of cooperation between our organizations makes a meaningful contribution to peace, stability, and sustainable development in the region and beyond, based on mutual respect and common interests.

The Asian Parliamentary Assembly serves as an important platform for building new partnerships, deepening existing cooperation, and holding substantive discussions on issues of

shared concern. TURKPA remains fully committed to making active and constructive use of this platform and to further enhancing its engagement within the APA framework.

In conclusion, I would like to reaffirm that TURKPA attaches great importance to its cooperation with the Asian Parliamentary Assembly and remains fully committed to further strengthening this partnership for the benefit of our peoples and our shared future.

Once again, I express my deep gratitude to the hosts for the sincere hospitality shown to us, as well as for the high level of organization of the event.

Thank you for your attention.

Attachment VII

Asian
Parliamentary
Assembly

Manama Declaration

27 January 2026

Bahrain



Manama Declaration



Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain

27 January 2026

We, the Members of Parliaments of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, convened at the 16th Plenary Session in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain, from 24 to 28 January 2026, upon the kind official invitation of His Excellency Mr. Ahmed bin Salman Al Musalam, Speaker of the Council of Representatives and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Parliamentary Group of the Kingdom of Bahrain, President of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly;

Recognizing and valuing the deep historical and civilizational bonds that unite the countries of Asia, founded upon the values of cooperation, mutual respect, and solidarity among their peoples;

Recalling Asia's status as the cradle of civilizations that illuminated humanity's journey with science, knowledge, philosophy, trade, and culture, and which over centuries built bridges of communication and understanding among nations, we affirm that this historical legacy is not merely a page of the past, but a shared responsibility that compels us to harness the energies of Asian cooperation in the service of peace, development, justice, and prosperity for the peoples of our continent and the world;

Considering the theme of the 16th Plenary on inter-cultural and inter-civilizational issues and underscoring the urgent need of the world's and Asia to enhanced intercultural and inter-civilizational dialogue;

Affirming that Asia, with its ancient history and its civilizational, cultural, and religious diversity, has long offered the world inspiring models of coexistence and mutual understanding among peoples, and recognizing that entrenching a culture of dialogue, respecting national particularities, and rejecting hate

speech and extremism constitute a fundamental pillar for enhancing stability and comprehensive development, and for protecting future generations from conflict and division;

Commending the pioneering role played by the Kingdom of Bahrain in consolidating the values of coexistence and interfaith and intercultural dialogue through its initiatives and leading national institutions, foremost among them the King Hamad Global Center for Coexistence and Tolerance, and the qualitative efforts it undertakes to enhance human rapprochement and spread a culture of tolerance and mutual respect, alongside the adoption of national policies based on societal reconciliation and civilizational partnership; and considering that this integrated experience represents a regional and international model to be emulated in building safe and cohesive societies. Underscoring at the same time the constructive role of parliaments in safeguarding social peace and promoting stability and sustainable development;

Considering that parliamentary diplomacy plays an effective role in supporting peace, security, and regional and international stability, strengthening confidence, and expanding channels of dialogue among states;

Following with the interest political and security developments at the regional and international levels, and commending international efforts aimed at ending conflicts, particularly the Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration of 2025, including the ceasefire in the Gaza Strip, the exchange of prisoners, and reconstruction initiatives, which contribute to alleviating the humanitarian suffering of the Palestinian people and support the path toward a comprehensive political settlement, within the framework of the two- state solution;¹

Expressing our support for all efforts aimed at building confidence and enhancing serious political dialogue, contributing to the achievement of a just and lasting solution to the Palestinian–Israeli conflict, in accordance with the principles of international law and relevant international resolutions in a manner that guarantees the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to freedom, independence, self-determination and the establishment of their independent state;

¹ . Iran: Any reference within the text of Manama Declaration to concepts such as the "two -state solution" or references to documents and agreements that entail or imply recognition of the Israeli regime, do not constitute the position of I.R.Iran.

Expressing our sincere gratitude to the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan for its successful two-year presidency of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly from 2024 to 2025, and our warm appreciation for its leadership and dedicated efforts in advancing the noble objectives of the APA through effective parliamentary diplomacy during this period;

We, therefore,

1. **Affirm** our commitment to supporting parliamentary initiatives and regional programs that promote the values of coexistence and dialogue among civilizations, cultures, and religions, and urge member parliaments to enact legislation and policies that combat extremism, hate speech, and racism, support education for citizenship, and foster a culture of mutual respect and joint cooperation among the peoples of the continent;
2. **Reaffirm** the unwavering commitment of Asian parliaments to advance inter-cultural and inter-civilizational dialogue founded on mutual respect, equality, non-discrimination and appreciation of the diverse identities of Asia peoples;
3. **Appreciate** Azerbaijan's launch of the Baku Process on Intercultural Dialogue in 2008 as well as its hosting of the First World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue in accordance with the principles of the Baku Process and its related declarations supported by UNESCO, the UN Alliance of Civilizations, the Council of Europe, and ISESCO, and further commend the Republic of Azerbaijan for its sustained leadership in advancing inter-cultural dialogue through the organization of high-level international forums;
4. **Further** recognize the strong international appreciation for Azerbaijan's consistent and principled call, and its dedicated efforts, to combat Islamophobia and xenophobia and to promote tolerance, multiculturalism, and mutual respect at the global level, building on its rich and longstanding heritage of these values;
5. **Commend** international agreements and efforts concerning the Palestinian cause, foremost among them the Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration of 2025, and affirm the commitment of the international

community to halting the war in the Gaza Strip, protecting the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, and reaching a just and comprehensive peaceful settlement in accordance with international legitimacy resolutions, in a manner that ensures the establishment of an independent Palestinian state within the framework of the two-State solution;

6. **Welcome** the United Nations Security Council Resolutions as an important step toward ending the war in the Gaza Strip, and reaffirm its calls for the maintenance of the ceasefire, the unhindered provision of humanitarian assistance, while underscoring the obligation of all parties to ensure its full implementation, and recognizing that the Resolution includes a crucial reference to a credible path toward the establishment of an independent Palestinian State in accordance with international legitimacy and the two-State solution, on the basis of the 4 June 1967 lines, with East Jerusalem as its capital;
7. **Commend** the continuous efforts undertaken by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia within the United Nations, notably the High-Level International Conference on the Implementation of the Two-State Solution. This was followed by active diplomatic momentum within the halls of the General Assembly, which contributed to restoring the trajectory of the two-state solution to the forefront of international priorities. Furthermore, these efforts have mobilized broad support for the recognition of the State of Palestine and calling for practical, concrete steps leading to the end of the occupation and the realization of an independent Palestinian State, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of international legitimacy;
8. **Reaffirm** the principles of respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, and non-interference in the internal affairs of states, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, and emphasize that durable peace, security, and stability in Asia can only be achieved through inclusive regional dialogue, confidence-building measures, and cooperation led by the countries of the region themselves, in accordance with international law and without external intervention or imposition;²

² The written proposal of the Russian Federation is [attached](#).

9. **Call upon** governments and parliaments to enhance cooperation in confronting environmental challenges and climate change, in a manner that promotes sustainable development and social well-being in Asia;
10. **Affirm** our support for enhancing the participation of youth and women in political life and empowering them to play an effective role in decision-making, as a driver of progress and stability;
11. **Welcome** the initialing of the Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and Inter-State Relations between the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Armenia;
12. **Call** for the enhancement of food security through support for sustainable agriculture, protection and efficient use of water resources, and the establishment of cooperation networks and strategic food reserves among Asian states;
13. **Reaffirm** the rejection of the threat or use of force in international relations, as a violation of the Charter of the United Nations, and stress the necessity of resolving disputes exclusively through peaceful means, including dialogue, negotiation, mediation, and other diplomatic mechanisms, in order to preserve international peace and security and strengthen regional cooperation based on mutual trust;
14. **Encourage** the deepening of economic and trade integration among Asian states, and the facilitation of investment and cross-border infrastructure, in a manner that achieves inclusive growth and reduces development gaps;
15. **Dedicate** our efforts to preserving the national identity of the peoples and states of Asia and safeguarding their diverse civilizational and cultural heritage, as a fundamental pillar for a sustainable and prosperous future;
16. **Express** profound appreciation to the founders of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly for their steadfast dedication in fostering and advancing parliamentary diplomacy throughout Asia, on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of its founding;

17. ***Designate*** the period between 2027 to 2036 as the Decade of Asian Inter-cultural and Inter-Civilizational Dialogue;
18. ***Call upon*** all Member Parliaments to convey their ideas and viewpoints to the APA Secretariat, for compilation by the APA Secretary General in order to prepare the related roadmap and action plan for submission to the Executive Council and the APA Plenary for final approval;
19. ***Express*** our profound appreciation to the Parliamentary Group of the Kingdom of Bahrain for its warm hospitality and excellent organization, and commend its active role in enhancing Asian parliamentary action. We look forward to the “Manama Declaration” constituting a pivotal milestone that advances the paths of parliamentary cooperation and contributes to consolidating peace, coexistence, and sustainable development in our continent;

Attachment I

Dear Colleagues,

Following our discussions at the meeting of the Manama Declaration Drafting Committee participants agreed to withdraw point 13 as a repeat of the previous point 8.

Having said this, the Russian delegation would like to propose to merge two paragraphs and read it as follows:

8.Reaffirm the principles of the Charter of the United Nations in their entirety and interconnection ~~of respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, and non-interference in the internal affairs of states, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations~~, and emphasize that durable peace, security, and stability in Asia can only be achieved through inclusive regional dialogue, confidence-building measures, and cooperation led by the countries of the region themselves, in accordance with international law and without external intervention or imposition;

~~13. Reaffirm the rejection of the threat or use of force in international relations, as a violation of the Charter of the United Nations, and stress the necessity of resolving disputes exclusively through peaceful means, including dialogue, negotiation, mediation, and other diplomatic mechanisms, in order to preserve international peace and security and strengthen regional cooperation based on mutual trust.~~

Attachment VIII



Asian
Parliamentary
Assembly

SC-Economic and Sustainable Development/Rep/2026/01

27 January 2026

Bahrain

Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development

27 January 2026
Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain

Final Report

The Meeting of the Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development was held on January 27, 2026 and chaired by the Head of delegation of the Council of Representatives of the Kingdom of Bahrain H.E. Mr. Ahmed Alsalloom.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The participants adopted the agenda. ([Attachment I](#))

2. Opening Remarks by the Chairperson:

H. E Mr. Ahmed Alsalloom, welcomed participants and stated that in the Standing Committee meeting which was held on 14-16 September 2025 in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain, due to the time restrain the following three draft resolutions were considered and adopted:

- Financial Affairs: Ensuring Efforts for Economic Growth
- Water and Sanitation in Asia for All
- Promoting the Halal Economic Principles as a Framework for Ethical, Sustainable, and Inclusive Development.

3. Report of the Secretariat:

The Representative of Secretariat made a brief statement on the above-mentioned 3 draft resolutions.

4. Consideration of the Draft Resolution recommended by the Executive Council:

Under this agenda item, 3 draft resolutions were considered and approved.

[\(Attachment II\)](#)

5. Any other matters:

No issue was raised

Attachment I

Asian Parliamentary Assembly



Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development



Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain
24-28 January 2026

Agenda

- 1-Adoption of the Agenda
- 2-Opening Remarks by Chairperson
- 3-Report of the Secretariat
- 4-Consideration of Draft Resolutions recommended by the Executive Council
- 5-Any other matters.

Attachment II

Resolutions of the Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable Development

1. Resolution on Financial Affairs: Ensuring Efforts for Economic Growth
2. Resolution on Water and Sanitation in Asia for All
3. Resolution on Promoting the Halal Economic Principles as a Framework for Ethical, Sustainable, and Inclusive Development



Resolution on Financial Affairs: Ensuring Efforts for Economic Growth

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Expressing concern on repercussions of the sovereign defaults and financial markets volatility to the economic growth in APA countries;

Also Expressing concern on the adverse impact of the continuing fragility of the global economy, the slow pace of the restoration of global growth and trade, the ever-increasing geo-political tensions, the unilateral coercive measures and unlawful economic restrictions, and the increasing systemic risks that threaten financial stability;

Noting that a social order based on justice and equality is of critical importance to accelerate social and economic progress everywhere, help in achieving international peace and harmony;

Appreciating the measures that have already been taken by Asian Parliaments and their governments to contain the negative impacts of economic crisis in their economies, and expect them to take further steps to stimulate their respective economies;

Noting that the economic growth in many Asian Economies has not been shared equally in the society whereby the Gini Coefficient, as reported by the Asian Development Bank, has grown significantly over the past decades and that regional cooperation which have already existed in Asia could serve as a platform for enhancing cooperation among sub regional economic organizations that would improve welfare for all in Asia;

Noting that peace and stability in the region is an important contributor to economic growth while occupation, violence, and political instability act as inhibitors for economic development and that maintaining regional collaboration on political stability is crucial;

Recognizing also the necessity to effectively reform the current global financial architecture and international tax cooperation so as to achieve a more inclusive and balanced world economic financial and taxation order;

Encouraging parliaments to adopt policies through enactment of law and legislations, their legislative and scrutiny roles aiming to enhance the small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and the role of the private sector and increasing its contribution to economic integration, in order to create the appropriate job and jobs opportunities to achieve a comprehensive economic development on human and financial levels in Asia;

Emphasizing that the international financial system should bolster sustainable, inclusive, and sustained economic growth, sustainable development, and job creation, promote financial inclusion and support efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty and hunger, in particular in developing countries, while allowing for the coherent mobilization of all sources of financing for development;

Recognizing that a sustainable and inclusive development and economic growth are achieved when all nations equally enjoy opportunities to thrive and prosper and when no State seizes such opportunity to the detriment of the others;

Also Emphasizing on the role of the private sector by influencing national expenditure policies through the roles of parliaments, particularly with regard to discussions and approval of budgets and financial accounts, as well as the adoption of investment laws and the provision of incentives and guarantees for private sector growth;

Suggesting a halal moral economy, which emphasizes fairness, justice, and the moral implications of economic actions that will enable Asian Countries to promote and ensure social equity and the protection of vulnerable groups;

We therefore,

1. **Call upon** Asian governments to adopt policy approaches to develop a comprehensive and innovative growth strategies needed to sustain a resilient, balanced, sustainable and inclusive economic growth as necessary means to create decent jobs and reduce inequalities to promote the formation of a regional SME's network;
2. **Welcome** the adoption of Resolution on the Promotion of Inclusive and Effective International Tax Cooperation at the UN (A/C.2/79/L.8/Rev.1) adopted at the second committee of the 79th session of the UN General Assembly which has set a global precedent for the international community to work towards a Member State-led, open-ended intergovernmental negotiating committee for the drafting of the UN Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation and its two early protocols;
3. **Call for** a strengthened coordination from Asian Countries to ensure that the process of developing the global convention on International Tax Cooperation will and should reflect in balance and inclusive manner the perspectives of all UN Member States;
4. **Call upon** APA Parliaments to ensure, respect for the dignity and value of all human beings and ensure adherence to human rights particularly the right to development and social justice by legislative and oversight means, ensuring equality of opportunity for all;
5. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to work on an informal debate at APA platform on the potential benefits of social justice in their respective countries and promote greater cooperation for equitable economic development in Asia;

6. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to promote social justice and development in their respective policies to raise the living standards of people;
7. **Recommend** APA Member Parliaments to promote adoption of Basel III to improve supervision on financial sector governance and to fill any financial gap in case of any monetary crises;
8. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as the Sevilla Commitment (Compromiso de Sevilla) of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) and focus on policies that alleviate poverty, including improving access to health, education, capital, employment, and social protection to help close income inequalities;
9. **Call on** APA member parliaments to consider reviewing their respective legislations, where appropriate, to give more support to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) by giving access to low interest credit loan and to provide capacity building and regional networking to integrate SMEs into regional and global value chains;
10. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to support financial inclusion for the poor and people in vulnerable situations of society in each respective country and to share best practices of financial inclusion in the region;
11. **Also Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to support the conduct of comprehensive studies, with regional and global coordination regarding weak community groups in vulnerable situations, in the support of the need for the financial integration of the underprivileged;
12. **Recognize** the right to development and stress the importance of investing in human development and activate the concept of partnership among member states and to provide sufficient public funding for education and health for everyone, without discrimination, to face the future global and Asian economic demands;
13. **Stress** the critical importance of a stable, inclusive, and enabling global economic environment and the means of implementation including capacity building technology transfer on mutually agreed-upon terms and financial support for the advancement of sustainable development, for the reliable and effective financing of development and for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, mobilizing public and private, as well as domestic and international resources at reasonable costs; (adopted)
14. **Request** the APA Member governments to channel more funds in joint research and development (R&D) activities as a means to spur innovation and viable economic growth strategies to sustain a more resilient economic growth;
15. **Call upon** the APA Member Parliaments to continuously promote the need for reform in global financial institutions and architecture, financial technology

regulation, with the view for a balanced and fair world economic and financial order based on international law with more participation from developing countries;

16. **Call Upon** APA member countries to strive to create an enabling institutional and business environment that can promote financial stability, financial inclusion, and efficient mobilization and utilization of the available resources;
17. **Strongly condemns** the use of sanctions or any mechanisms of financial and economic pressure on APA Member States applied for political purposes in violations of the international law and UN charter;
18. **Encourage** APA member countries to support the Islamic Bank system in order to enhance the halal moral economy. Cooperation within the member countries of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly will pave the way for economic development in the region;
19. **Urge** member countries to launch concessional financing programs for small and medium enterprises, and support innovation and technology transfer and mutually agreed-upon terms between member states where appropriate, preferably through platforms including United Nations Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries (UNTBLDC).



Resolution on Water and Sanitation in Asia for All

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recognizing the outcome document of the United Nations Summit for the adoption of Post-2015 Development Agenda entitled "*Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,*" adopted in September 2015;

Recalling United Nations' General Assembly resolution (A/64/292) adopted on 28th July 2010, which formally recognized water and sanitation as human rights and UN Human Rights Council resolution (A/HRC/RES/18/1) adopted on the 28 September 2011, recognizing that the right to safe drinking water and sanitation are part of the right to an adequate standard of living;

Welcoming the SDG goal 6 on ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, including universal and equitable access to drinking water, sustainable water resources management and wastewater treatment;

Also noting (adopted) the Nusa Dua Communique adopted by the IPU Parliamentary Meeting on the occasion of the 10th World Water Forum in Bali, Indonesia, May 2024, which encompasses recommendations of, among others, protecting the rights to water and sanitation, promoting adaptive measures, such as more resilient water supply and sanitation systems that can withstand growing climate change impacts, and promoting parliamentary dialogue and cooperation at the regional and international levels;

Emphasizing that achieving the sixth goal of the sustainable development goals related to water quality, wastewater management, water scarcity, use efficiency, water resource management, and protection and restoration of water-related ecosystems;

Stressing that one of the goals of sustainable development is also to ensure that everyone has access to adequate sanitation services and to put an end to everything that leads to water pollution and the spread of diseases that lead to hundreds of thousands of deaths due to unsafe drinking water or as a result of poor sanitation services that affect public health;

Deeply concerned that approximately one billion people across Asia could face severe water shortage by 2050;

Stressing upon the need for Asian Governments to focus in national policies on water and sanitation issues and contribute towards international efforts in resolving these issues;

Encouraging the development of sanitation and hygiene, especially access to quality toilets, among marginal and vulnerable groups and ensuring the sharing of technology and good practices on water and sanitation with APA member states;

Emphasizing that water management will lead to a high level of human health and reduce many diseases, especially as many local, urban, and rural communities rely on wastewater for agricultural production, which may lead to the spread of infectious diseases;

Encouraging parliaments within the Asian Parliamentary Assembly to support comprehensive studies, in regional and global coordination, to identify the causes and challenges of water scarcity worldwide and develop solutions to ensure water availability to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals for 2030;

Affirming the role of parliaments in setting a strategic developmental vision in collaboration with their governments regarding water management, provided that the vision includes plans with measurable and evaluable indicators;

Highlighting the link between sound water management and the need to address the issue of climate change, which threatens drought and dust and sand storms in many regions of the world;

We therefore,

1. **Welcome** the inclusion of water and sanitation in Post-2015 Development Agenda and the acceptance of human right to safe drinking water and sanitation by the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council;
2. **Consider** the critical role of parliamentarian in ensuring that the rights to water and sanitation are promoted through the adoption of legislative measures, the oversight of relevant water policies, support on water budget as well as the act of bridging the constituents' aspiration with regards to safe, accessible and clean water, sanitation and hygiene;
3. **Request** Member Parliaments to urge their respective governments to cooperate within their regions to address the water utilization and to study in depth the causes of the water challenges and to provide appropriate solutions and strategies to overcome these challenges;
4. **Encourage** integrated water resource planning and management³ for reducing widespread scarcity and pollution of freshwater resources in many regions and give priority to the fulfillment of basic needs and safeguarding of ecosystems in developing and using water resources;
5. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to vigorously engage with their executive branch to address the effects of climate change, that may manifest themselves in the form

³ **Integrated water resources management (IWRM)** has been defined by the Global Water Partnership (GWP) as "a process which promotes the coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources, in order to maximize the resultant economic and social welfare in an equitable manner without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems".

of water scarcity and flooding in different geographic areas;

6. **Encourage** APA Members to support advanced water technology transfers on voluntary and mutually agreed-upon terms from developed countries to the developing countries of Asia and sharing of good practices for efficient allocation of water among sectors;
7. **Adopt** awareness programs by Member States parliaments to inform their citizens about the problem of water scarcity in order to reduce their wastefulness, prevent pollution or waste, and limit their use to the necessary human needs without any other uses;
8. **Note with interests** the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028 which was held in New York on 22-24 March 2023 in accelerating actions on the internationally agreed water-related goals and targets, including those contained in 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
9. **Call for** Supporting innovation projects in water recycling and wastewater treatment;
10. **Enhance** regional cooperation to share efficient conservation and management of water resources across borders.
11. **Launch** awareness campaigns about conserving water and reducing consumption;



Resolution on Promoting the Halal Economic Principles as a Framework for Ethical, Sustainable, and Inclusive Development

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling the Asian Parliamentary Assembly's founding principles, including its commitment to promoting sustainable development, human dignity, economic justice, and mutual cooperation among Asian nations,

Reaffirming the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (A/RES/70/1); particularly Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere; Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all; Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries; and Goal 12 Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns,

Recognizing the Halal economic principles as an ethical, values-based economic model grounded in the principles of justice (*adl*), trust (*amanah*), transparency (*shafafiyah*), responsibility (*mas'uliyyah*), and compassion (*rahmah*), which align with socially responsible systems of trade, finance, governance, as well as global aspirations for just and equitable development,

Acknowledging that the Halal economic principles are not solely limited to food and finance, but encompasses a comprehensive framework including ethical production, environmental stewardship, human dignity, financial inclusion, and community well-being,

Observing the increasing global interest in economic systems that address rising inequality, unsustainable consumption, environmental degradation, and ethical lapses in global financial systems,

Highlighting the alignment of Halal economic principles with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs), particularly in promoting social justice, environmental protection, and economic inclusion,

Welcoming the efforts of States, international organizations, Islamic finance institutions, civil society, and the private sector in advancing halal and ethical economic initiatives,

We therefore,

Consider the Halal economic principles as a comprehensive and inclusive economic

framework informed by Islamic ethics, promoting moral integrity in production, consumption, finance, labor relations, and governance;

Underline the fact that the Halal economic principles are not limited to Muslim-majority countries but are applicable globally as an ethical, sustainable, and socially responsible model;

Commend the Halal economic principles' contribution to the achievement of the SDGs, particularly Goal 1 on Poverty Eradication, Goal 8 on Decent Work and Economic Growth, Goal 10 on Reduced Inequalities, and Goal 12 on Responsible Consumption and Production;

Promote the Halal economic principles as a viable and holistic development paradigm that aligns with ethical, sustainable, and inclusive development goals across Asia;

Encourage APA Member Parliaments to collaborate with their respective governments to explore and adopt policy frameworks that incorporate the Halal economic principles into national development strategies, fiscal policies, and regulatory environments, particularly in areas of:

- (a) Ethical and sustainable trade
- (b) Inclusive finance and risk-sharing models
- (c) Value-based entrepreneurship
- (d) Social protection systems
- (e) Environmental responsibility through circular and green economy initiatives;

Invite APA Member Parliaments and relevant international bodies to develop guidelines for Halal economic principle that extend beyond food to include resource allocation, social stability, and environmental impact;

Urge APA Member Parliaments to consider Halal economic principles as budgeting frameworks that promote equitable distribution of resources, reduce economic inequality, enhance financial stability, and foster inclusive prosperity to support sustained social development.

Call upon development institutions, central banks, and regulatory bodies to engage with halal and Islamic financial principles, including profit-and-loss sharing, risk mitigation, asset-backed finance, and the prohibition of exploitative practices;

Encourage the establishment of academic and policy research institutions focused on the Halal economic principles to generate evidence-based policy recommendations and innovative models of implementation as sustainable tools for tackling poverty issues;

Encourage regional and international cooperation, particularly among the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), United Nations agencies, and multilateral financial institutions, to harmonize standards and share best practices in implementing the Halal economic principles;

Encourage inclusive participation of all communities, regardless of religious affiliation, in the Halal economic principles, emphasizing its universal principles of fairness, equity, environmental responsibility, and social solidarity;

Invite collaboration between APA Member Parliaments and relevant stakeholders-such as national halal certification bodies, civil society organizations, academia, and private sector actors-to co-create initiatives that advance the goals of the Halal economic principles;

Recommend APA Secretariat to establish a comprehensive progress report and monitoring mechanism to measure impacts, identify challenges, and propose recommendations for continuous improvement.



Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain
27 January 2026

Final Report

The Meeting of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs was held on 26 January 2026, and chaired by H.E. Mr. Petr Tolstoy, Head of the delegation of Russian Federation.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Member Parliaments unanimously adopted the Agenda.

([Attachment I](#))

2. Opening Remarks by the Chairperson

The Chairperson of the meeting welcomed the participants and expressed hope that this meeting would constructively address the important topics under its consideration. He stated that the meeting of the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs, was held on 28-30 October 2025 in Moscow. During the course of two sessions, 14 draft resolutions were updated and adopted by consensus. A new draft resolution on the preservation of cultural diversity and strengthening multilateral cooperation in Eurasia was introduced by the Russian Federation and amended and adopted by Committee.

3. Report of the Secretariat:

The Representative of the Secretariat referred to the general perspective pertaining to the context of the 14 draft resolutions under consideration by this committee.

4. Consideration of the Situation of Women Parliamentarians in Asia:

APA by adopting Res/2014/16 decided to establish Special Committee of APA women parliamentarians under the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural

Affairs. Women Parliamentarians are called upon to present their views/reports on topics of their interests under this agenda item.

5. Consideration of Draft Resolutions recommended by the Executive Council:

The Representative of the Secretariat indicated that all 14 draft resolutions recommended by EC, were considered, and approved by the Committee. ([Attachment II](#))

5. Any other matters.

No issue was raised.

Attachment I

Asian Parliamentary Assembly



Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain
24-28 January 2026



Agenda

- 1- Adoption of the Agenda
- 2- Opening Remarks by Chairperson
- 3- Report of the Secretariat
- 4- Consideration of the situation of Women Parliamentarians in Asia
- 5- Consideration of Draft Resolutions recommended by the Executive Council
- 6- Any other matters.

Attachment II

Resolutions of the Standing Committees on Social and Cultural Affairs

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



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;

Deploring 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 interreligious 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.



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)⁴ and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2008).

Recalling WSIS⁵ 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;

⁴ Delegation of Saudi Arabia has registered her reservation on this Covenant.

⁵ 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.



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. **Urge**s 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;



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;



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 bring 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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



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;



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

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;

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.



**Standing Committee on
Political Affairs**

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain
27 January 2026

Final Report

The Meeting of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs was held on 27 January 2026, and due to early departure of delegation of Iran the meeting was chaired by the representative of the Secretariat.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Member Parliaments unanimously adopted the Agenda.

([Attachment I](#))

2. Opening Remarks by the Chairperson:

Representative of the Secretariat presented a brief background on the activities and relevant documents of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs, which was held on 4-5 December 2025 in Mashhad, Islamic Republic of Iran. He stated that the Standing Committee adopted 9 draft resolutions and presented them to the EC. The Sub-Committee on Palestine was also held in Mashhad and chaired by H.E. Ali Faisal, head of the Palestine delegation who delivered a comprehensive report on the situation of Gaza and West Bank. All delegations expressing their full support for and solidarity with the Palestinian people. The Sub-Committee meeting deliberated on draft resolution entitled “Unwavering support for the Palestinian People” and finally, adopted the draft resolution with some new amendments.

3. Report of the Secretariat:

The representative of APA Secretariat presented on behalf of the Iranian Delegation, the report of the meeting of the Standing Committee held in Mashhad.

4. Consideration of the Draft Resolution recommended by the

Executive Council:

The Standing Committee considered 9 draft resolutions recommended by the Executive Council and adopted them.⁶

([Attachment III](#))

5. Any other matters:

No issue was raised.

⁶ Separate Opinion of the Russian Delegation is [attached](#).

Attachment I

Asian Parliamentary Assembly



Standing Committee on Political Affairs

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain
24-28 January 2026



Agenda

- 1- Adoption of the Agenda
- 2- Opening Remarks by Chairperson
- 3- Report of the Secretariat
- 4- Consideration of Draft Resolution recommended by Executive Council
- 5- Any other matters.

Attachment II

Separate Opinion of the Russian Delegation on the APA Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People

(Manama, 24-28 January 2026)

The Russian delegation to the Asian Parliamentary Assembly would like to express appreciation to delegations of all Member Parliaments in this organisation and make the following remarks concerning the Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People.

We support the APA's contributions to efforts of the international community to defuse the crisis in the Middle East.

We express our sincerest condolences to the families of the victims of this armed conflict and to everyone affected by it. We hope that the humanitarian situation in the crisis area will improve. We condemn any violence against civilians and any attacks on civil infrastructure, including medical facilities.

We call for full resumption of the political and diplomatic process to find a long-term and fair solution to the long drawn-out conflict in the Middle East based on recognised international law, including, in particular, UN Security Council Resolutions. The result of this process should be the establishment of an independent Palestinian State with East Jerusalem as its capital that will peacefully and safely co-exist with Israel. Only through this will it be possible to reach a long-term solution and break the vicious circle of bloodshed.

Russia's stance on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and ways for establishing long-lasting peace in the region is firm and well-known. In our opinion, making the Gaza ceasefire long-term should be top priority at the current stage. We call upon both sides of the conflict to adhere to the October 2025 agreement between Israel and HAMAS in full and in good faith. This will ensure long-term stabilisation of the situation in the enclave and help establish unhindered humanitarian access

to everyone in need and proceed with large-scale restoration of practically fully destroyed infrastructure. We also affirm that UNRWA shall have the key mandate as the singular organisation that provides aid for Palestinians.

In view of the above, the Russian delegation, while generally supporting the spirit of the APA Draft Resolution on Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People, underlines the importance of using terms and definitions set forth in UN Security Council and General Assembly Resolutions and consistent with the Asian Parliamentary Assembly's high level of operation.

Attachment III

Resolutions of Standing Committee on Political Affairs

1. Resolution on Good Governance
2. Resolution on the Rule of Law and Judicial Empowerment
3. Resolution on Good Parliamentary Practices
4. Resolution on Building Prosperity in Asia through Friendship and Cooperation
5. Resolution on Asian Parliaments and Governments Together for Prosperity in Asia
6. Resolution on Harmonious Development through Democracy
7. Resolution on Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People
8. Resolution on Enhancing Cooperation among the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly to Protect and Promote Multilateralism
9. Resolution on the June 2025 Military Attacks Against the Islamic Republic of Iran



Resolution on Good Governance

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

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

Taking in to account all essential characteristics of good governance and their positive impact on achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to protect the needs and interests of present and future generations by creating conducive political, legal, and economic environment to nurture individual capacities and promote private initiatives;

Recognizing the importance of sustainable development to implement effective economic, social and environmental policies and ensuring good governance and transparent institutions to advance sustainable development and to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies;

Acknowledging that parliament serves as the bedrock-institutions of good governance by whereby through exercising their functions as legislation authority, robust oversight, budgetary provision, and by serving as a conduit for addressing public grievance channel, ensuring national policies can promote and protect the best interest of the public;

Acknowledging that coordination among national, provincial and local governments is essential for ensuring and overall good governance;

Deeply concerned about the far-reaching consequences of emergencies, including those arising from pandemics and natural disasters, armed conflicts, unilateral coercive measures and other crises and their negative impact on good governance, the rule of law at all levels and the achievement of the sustainable development goals, in particular Goal 16 on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all, and the establishment and strengthening of effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and its targets;

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

Also Emphasizing that diversity of cultural, religious, legal, and historical particularities and background of Member States, should be taken into account in implementation of any model of good governance with full respect to national sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and domestic legal systems;

We therefore,

1. **Reiterate** that good governance is a key to achieving inclusive economic, social and institutional development;
2. **Recognize** that transparency, governance, free, responsible media, efficient and effective service delivery and strengthen ongoing efforts to prevent and combat illicit financial flows, corruption, money-laundering and tax evasion and a vibrant civil society are the essential of good governance;
3. **Stress** upon the Member Parliaments to identify gaps in governance which may lead social ills such as poverty, injustice, non-inclusivity and inequality;
4. **Encourage** Member Parliaments to further make full and effective use of the UN Convention against Corruption to develop, implement, and where appropriate, improve and strengthen anti-corruption policies, in accordance with domestic legal frameworks as part of the steps taken to enhance good governance and the rule of law;
5. **Recommend** Member Parliaments to adopt or strengthen the emergency protocol as appropriate, and relevant institutions with robust governance framework legislation as a way to ensure its preparedness and address corruption during times of emergencies, crisis response and recovery;
6. **Encourage** Member Parliaments to ensure as appropriate enhanced participation of women, youth differently abled persons and persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities as applicable in the national political process in accordance with the domestic laws;
7. **Urge** APA Secretariat to pursue stronger partnership, cooperation and collaboration with relevant inter-parliamentary institutions working to promote transparency, voice and accountability, government effectiveness, political stability, rule of law, and combat corruption;
8. **Stress** that international cooperation in good governance must not be used as a tool for political conditionality or interference in domestic affairs of Member States, and must be based on mutual respect and equality;
9. **Invite** the Secretariat to establish a database/ platform for the exchange of the best practices of Member States, sharing successful models in good governance;



Resolution on the Rule of Law and Judicial Empowerment

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

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

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

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

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

Inviting all Member States to settle their disputes, inviting all Member States to settle their disputes, as appropriate through peaceful means, including, through diplomatic negotiation, mediation, conciliation, arbitration and judicial settlement;

Further reaffirming that the rule of law is an essential assurance for independence of judiciary and improves the protection of human rights;

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

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

Stressing that the key role in maintaining the rule of law rests solely on sovereign states;

We therefore,

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

2. **Emphasize** the importance of institutional strengthening by maintaining the rule of law;
3. **Promote** parliamentary measures to protect the independency of the judiciary in making impartial decisions free from any interventions and provide an adequate proper oversight control as a way to ensure the ethics supremacy among judiciary authorities;
4. **Stress** also the necessity for strengthening the bilateral and multilateral judicial cooperation among judicial authorities of all Member States;
5. **Urge** Member Parliaments to ensure compliance with universal human rights and humanitarian law, in a manner that does not conflict with the constitution, social values and religious constants of Member States;
6. **Condemn in its strongest term** the consistent and continued blatant violations of international human rights and humanitarian laws, a manifestation of total disregard and ignorance of the international rule of law, by Zionist Entity authorities in Gaza and the Occupied Palestinian Territory;
7. **Encourage** the promotion of a system of justice which incorporates the full range of judicial measures to ensure accountability, justice, provide remedies to victims, reconciliation, and establish independent oversight;
8. **Reiterate** our strong and unequivocal condemnation of terrorism, extremism in all its forms and manifestations, committed by whomever, wherever and for whatever purposes, as it constitutes one of the most serious threats to the rule of Law while reiterating that terrorism should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group, recognizing the need for addressing conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism through a comprehensive approach, and stressing that terrorism should not be exploited to justify the suppression of the legitimate right to self determination;
9. **Reaffirm** that the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy be up-dated and re-examined regularly, by taking into account new and emerging trends in the context of terrorism particularly threats posed by the rise of terrorist attack on the bases of xenophobia, Islamophobia, racism, right wing extremism, State sponsored extraterritorial assassinations and disinformation campaigns, use of terrorist groups as proxies and hydro terrorism;
10. **Underscore** that any reform in legal systems must be nationally driven, reflect the unique legal and cultural identity of the nation, and be protected from external political agendas or unilateral pressure;

11. **Call upon** Member Parliaments to assess the impact of digital technologies on justice delivery—particularly on privacy, misinformation, and algorithmic bias—and to ensure their ethical use in accordance with local legal principles;



Resolution on Good Parliamentary Practices

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

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

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

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

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

Taking into account the cultural diversity, role of persons belongs to minorities, diversity of religions, faith and ethnics in all Asian societies;

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

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

Calling for enhanced cooperation among parliaments at the regional and international levels to exchange experiences and best practices, aiming to develop parliamentary capacities and improve performance efficiency in a manner that serves the interests of the people and keeps pace with global developments;

We therefore,

1. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to adopt transparent modes of the communication with the public, through ensuring access to their Parliamentary system and to develop their own websites and broadcasting channels;
2. **Further urge** APA Member Parliaments to devise effective outreach mechanisms for engagement with public, including, civil society, with a view to ensuring their meaningful contribution in the legislative processes;

3. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to adopt measures for ensuring public confidence in the integrity of parliamentarians, through enforceable codes of conduct and transparency in managing the affairs of political parties and their funding;
4. **Encourage** APA Member Parliaments to streamline their legislative process by encouraging the transparency and public participation through public hearing in respective constituencies;
5. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to ensure their effective participation at regional and international forums with a view to promoting transnational collaboration amongst Member Parliaments and to devise a strategy towards this end by the APA;
6. **Emphasize** the fundamental principles of national sovereignty, independence, the territorial integrity of States, and non-interference in internal affairs of states, the non-use of force or of the threat of use of force in international relations as essential foundations for effective parliamentary cooperation; further call upon APA Member Parliaments to promote mutual respect and peaceful coexistence by recognizing the cultural, religious, and ethnic diversity of Asian societies, and to ensure that parliamentary practices are inclusive, respectful, and consistent with national values and priorities;
7. **Encourage** Member Parliaments to strengthen their involvement and engagement to OGP through the possible development of a stand alone of Open Parliament Action Plan, aiming for a better and good parliamentary practices;
8. **Also call upon** APA Member Parliaments to ensure their oversight of the executive, particularly, in the formulation of international policy, and to make recommendations to their respective governments towards a peaceful settlement of international disputes;
9. **Urge** APA Member Parliaments to adopt positive measures for ensuring a meaningful participation of women, youth and people in vulnerable situations in their working;
9. **Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to promote inter-parliamentary cooperation through formation of friendship groups and working groups on issues of common interest;
10. **Further Call upon** APA Member Parliaments to encourage developing democracies through sharing their experiences and best parliamentary practices and provide technical and other required support with a view to facilitate their process of democratization;



Resolution on Building Prosperity in Asia through Friendship and Cooperation

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Affirming that true friendship and cooperation must be rooted in mutual respect, moral integrity, and resistance to divisive narratives, including sectarianism, racial superiority, or political hegemony;

We therefore,

1. **Call upon** all Member States to focus on exchanging cultural experiences and deepening social communication through holding forums and events under the umbrella of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, for the positive objectives that benefit the Member States;
2. **Encourage** the strengthening of collective and coordinated efforts among all member parliaments of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly to provide humanitarian assistance in all its forms to affected populations or those living in vulnerable conditions, in support of regional solidarity and shared humanitarian responsibility;
3. **Call Upon** all Asian States to direct their diplomatic efforts at reducing political tensions and utilize all ways and means within their power to avoid and de-escalate controversies which have potential to undermine principles of friendship and cooperation in Asia;
4. **Welcome** the initiative of the Inter-Parliamentary Union supported by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 72/278 to organize a world conference on interfaith and inter-ethnic dialogue with the participation of Heads of State, parliaments and world religions;
5. **Call** Asian Parliaments to disseminate information about the APA Declaration on the Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia by all available means including parliamentary and state publications, parliamentary friendship groups, public programs, etc;
6. **Underline** that every Member Parliament should motivate public and private media networks, websites and the like at local and national levels to engage in promoting and spreading the word about the content, importance and positive results of the adoption and implementation of the APA Declaration on the Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia;

7. **Encourage** Asian academic institutions, think-tanks and research centers, universities and educational institutions, as well as professional associations throughout Asia to take part in promoting and adhering to the tenets and guidelines enshrined in the APA Declaration on the Principles of Friendship and Cooperation in Asia;
8. **Call upon** Member Parliaments to counter disinformation campaigns and divisive media content that threaten regional harmony and to promote responsible communication in line with shared Asian values;
9. **Recommend** strengthening the role of parliamentary diplomacy as a proactive tool for regional peace-building, particularly in areas of long-standing conflict and foreign occupation;
10. **Emphasize** that genuine cooperation in Asia requires respect for religious and cultural diversity identities and the promotion of inclusive dialogue rooted in mutual acknowledgment and dignity;
11. **Call upon** parliaments to strengthen cooperation with regional and international humanitarian organizations, and to exchange experiences and best practices in crisis response, in a way that contributes to building community resilience, achieving sustainable development, and promoting social peace;



Resolution on Asian Parliaments and Governments Together for Prosperity in Asia

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

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

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

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

Encouraging Member Parliaments to consider developing model laws on issues of mutual interest to both APA and Asian Governments;

We therefore,

1. **Call all** Member Parliaments to inform relevant high-ranking officials of their respective governments of the great potentials, activities, and achievements of the APA as the largest inter-parliamentary organization in Asia;
2. **Study** the possibility and suitability to form APA parliamentary groups comprising nominated delegates from volunteer Member Parliaments under the supervision of the APA Vice-President for Political Affairs and in full coordination with the APA Secretariat, to hold contacts and meetings with relevant inter-parliamentary and inter-governmental organizations, with a view to converging points of view and considering possible joint initiatives pertaining to regional and global issues, including the creation of an Asian Parliament;
3. **Request** APA Member Parliaments to identify and describe their priority desirable topics for receiving training, as well their capabilities to offer training and best practices, and share them with other Parliaments through the APA Secretariat, in

order to organize training programs on exchanging best practices and learning from each other;

4. **Emphasize** that cooperation between parliaments and governments must remain voluntary, balanced, and mutually respectful, without being subject to external ideological, political, or economic pressures;
5. **Support** the development of governance models and legislative frameworks that are rooted in indigenous legal traditions and national priorities, especially in areas such as realization of right to development, transfer of know-how and technology and cultural preservation;
6. **Encourage** the APA Secretariat to serve as a regional hub for coordinating legislative best practices, comparative legal research, and policy harmonization on non-political technical areas such as water governance, environmental resilience, digital economy, and cultural diplomacy;



Resolution on Harmonious Development through Democracy

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

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

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

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

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

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

We therefore,

1. **Acknowledge** the core role of Parliaments in the socio-economic development by involving the will of the people through transparent, accessible, accountable and effective institutions at all levels;
2. **Stress** the need to strengthen parliament as an institution of check and balances, holding the government to account for every political, socio-economic development policies it creates and implements;
3. **Affirm** democracy, transparency and accountability among the important means to sustainably end poverty, promote shared prosperity and the basic social and economic needs;
4. **Commit** to remove and eradicate all obstacles in the administration of socio-economic polices and all forms of discriminations, including, but not limited to race, color, creed, cast, sex, language, religion, nationality, and ethnicity;

5. **Acknowledge** that APA Member Parliaments may adopt national policies, legislative measures and institutional mechanisms – such as interfaith harmony frameworks, minority commissions, welfare funds and job quotas – to eliminate discrimination and promote inclusion of people in vulnerable situation;
6. **Recognize** the need for active engagement with civil society organization and youth at all tiers of governance to ensure equitable development;
7. **Recognize also** the effectiveness of women's participation as one of the most important contributors to sustainable development, given their assumption of leadership position to promote democracy and gender justice;
8. **Urge** that APA Members Parliaments shall continue to encourage sustainable human development through social security programs for vulnerable groups of the society;
9. **Emphasize** that targeted welfare initiatives, scholarship schemes, financial assistance programmes, and support for the upkeep of minority religious sites play an essential role in mainstreaming minority communities and strengthening social cohesion;
10. **Acknowledge** that regional disparities in economic development are amongst the leading causes of marginalization of efficacy and efficiency of democratic setups, requiring affirmative actions to bring equitable and judicious development across the region;
11. **Emphasize** to improve regional and inter-regional connectivity to promote socio-economic development of the people of Asia;
12. **Urge** APA Members to generate an informed debate and share experiences at APA platform on the democratic process leading to development;
13. **Affirm** that democracy is a universal aspiration but not a one-size-fits-all model. Member States have the sovereign right to design and develop their own democratic systems in accordance with their legal traditions, religious values, cultural identity, and national development priorities, without external pressure or interference;



Resolution on Asian Parliaments' Unwavering Support for the Palestinian People

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA Resolutions on Supporting Palestinian State and Protecting Rights of Palestinian People, (APA/Res/2013/03, 9 December 2013); Violations of International Humanitarian Law in the Palestine and the War Crimes Committed By the Zionist entity in Gaza (APA/Res/2009/01, 8 December 2009); and Humanitarian Crisis in Palestine Particularly in the Gaza Strip (APA/Res/2008/08, 29 November 2008); the catastrophic humanitarian impact of the aggressive war on the Gaza Strip in July 2014. and Zionist entity indiscriminate bombardment on the Gaza Strip since 7 October 2023 which deliberately targeting the civilians including women and minors;

Also recalling the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council, including resolutions 242 (1967), 252 (1968), 267 (1969), 298 (1971), 446 (1979), 465, 474, 478 (1980), 468 (1980) and 1322 (2000), 2334 (2016), and resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and other relevant international documents.⁷

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

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

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

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

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

⁷ Iran has registered its reservation on the content of this paragraph.

Affirming the responsibility of the international community to support implementation of resolutions and recommendations of the United Nations Security Council; the UN General Assembly; the Human Rights Council; International Court of Justice the APA pertinent to the situation in Palestine, particularly in Al-Quds and the advisory opinion of the ICJ and warrants of arrests from the ICC;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

We therefore,

1. **Urge** the international community to put immediate and effective pressure on Zionist Entity to halt all military aggression and attacks against the Palestinian people, including in the Gaza Strip, and ensuring a full and lasting ceasefire;
2. **Demand** all countries to use their influence to urge Zionist Entity to stop and refrain from taking actions that violate human rights, as well as to lift the total blockade of Gaza;
3. **Calls** upon all parties to take immediate action in ensuring the protection of Palestinian civilians & humanitarian workers as well as providing unhindered, safe and rapid access of humanitarian relief to Gaza at scale;
4. **Condemn**, in the strongest terms possible, the killing and targeting of innocent Palestinian civilians by the Zionist Entity military machine as well as all its acts contrary to international law and Humanitarian law, **stress** the need to force the Zionist occupying entity to fulfill all its obligations under international humanitarian law to ensure the protection of the Palestinian civilians's access to basic needs, safety and fundamental rights especially in the Gaza Strip;
5. **Call for** the immediate cessation of the barbaric aggression of the Zionist Entity occupation forces against the Palestine people and the immediate lift of the siege imposed on the Gaza Strip;
6. **Request** the Secretary General to consider the possibility of forming a political-

technical body consisting of APA Member Parliaments and relevant high profile experts from their respective countries to assess the humanitarian damages caused to the Palestinian territories under the recent military attack of the Zionist Entity and to report to the upcoming session of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs in cooperation with Palestinian State and United Nations;

7. **Request** also the Secretary General to discuss with the APA Member Parliaments, other international and regional organizations and specialized legal institutions the issue of documentation of the crimes of the Zionist Entity, especially its recent crimes committed in the Gaza Strip, for later use in the lawsuits brought before the international courts and to report to the next session of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs in this regard;
8. **Express** grave concern at the latest escalation of violence since the 7th of October and the grave deterioration of the situation in Gaza and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and condemns attacks targeting civilians;
9. **Strongly condemns** the continued military escalation by the Zionist regime, which is destabilizing the region and posing serious threats to regional and international peace and security, including the expansion of aggression against the Lebanese Republic and the Syrian Arab Republic, and the repeated violations of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq and the Islamic Republic of Iran; all taking place amid the absence of decisive and impartial measures by the United Nations and the continuing inaction of international legitimacy;
10. **Reject** and strongly condemn the statements made by the Zionist Entity Prime Minister on 10th of September 2019, in which he announced his intention to annex the entire Palestinian Jordan Valley, the northern Dead Sea and settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, in a massive and flagrant violation of the rules of international law and the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and its resolutions, particularly Security Council resolution 2334 for 2016. We call upon the United Nations to defend its resolutions that end the Zionist Entity occupation and enable the Palestinian people to self-determination on their land;
11. **Condemn** all violations of international law that threaten international peace and security, including all acts of terrorism and organized crime, and human rights violations by Zionist Entity occupying forces and settlers in Palestine, and call for international protection of the Palestinian people in accordance with General Assembly Resolution A/RES/ES-10/20 on 13 June 2018, and the relevant Geneva Conventions;
12. **Encourage** all members of the international community to take up with the pressure on Zionist Entity to immediately release all the Palestinian prisoners including the Members of the Palestinian Parliament and condemns the Zionist

Entity Knesset's failure to respond to the fact-finding and investigation committees established by the Inter-Parliamentary Union on prisoners in Zionist Entity jails as evident in to International Parliamentary meetings in St. Petersburg and Geneva in March 2018, and dismantle all illegal settlements as well as the entire separating wall and put an end to confiscating Palestinian lands;

13. **Declare** all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Zionist Entity, including expropriation of land and properties which tend to change the legal status of Jerusalem as invalid and bearing no legal effect on their original status;
14. **Condemn** Zionist Entity continuation of building settlements defying applicable international law particularly Security Council resolution 2334 of December 2016; disregarding the legitimate rights of the Palestinian People including their right to resist and protest against foreign occupation of their lands; and hampering international efforts towards achieving a just and lasting peace in the region;
15. **Express** grave concerns on the suppression and injustice, as well as continuing violence practiced against the Palestinian people, particularly women and children, in the occupied Palestinian territories under the Zionist Entity occupation including East Jerusalem, and in the Syrian Golan occupied by Zionist Entity;
16. **Call Upon** Countries, to impartially and fully abide by the decision of the international courts including in the context of taking an appropriate action to implement the warrants of arrest to Benjamin Netanyahu and Yoav Gallant;
17. **Welcome** the historic decision of the International Criminal Court to issue arrest warrants against the Zionist regime Prime Minister and Minister of Defense and call on the Parliaments of Member States of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly to support this decision and participate in strengthening international efforts to hold those responsible for crimes against humanity accountable. We also stress the importance of upholding the principle of the rule of law and promoting international justice in the face of impunity;
18. **Call Upon** all members of the APA and the United Nations as well as all regional and international organizations concerned, particularly the United Nations Security Council and the International Criminal Court to address, under the UN Charter and the Rome Statute, the crimes against humanity and the war crimes committed by Zionist Entity in Palestine which threaten the international peace and security;
19. **Condemn** the closure of the PLO diplomatic mission in Washington in retaliation for the membership of Palestine to the International Criminal Court;
20. **Praise** the decision taken by the European Union not to purchase any products produced in the settlements based in the occupied territories and call on states of

the APA Member Parliaments to act in a similar way and affirm the full support for international boycott movement against Zionist Entity occupation and welcome the recent recognition of the State of Palestine by a number of countries, particularly several European states, during the 80th session of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2025, and encourage other countries to join this growing international trend in support of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people;

21. **Reject** the occupation policies and measures contrary to international law and the international legitimacy resolutions practiced by the Zionist entity to change the historical, cultural, religious and demographic features of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, especially the city of Jerusalem and its Islamic and Christian sanctities in general, and Al-Aqsa Mosque in particular, and also reject the Knesset law aimed at splitting the Al-Aqsa Mosque temporally and spatially; This constitutes a blatant attack on the freedom of worship and the practice of religious rites, as stipulated in human rights charters, and international humanitarian law;
22. **Reject** the illegal decisions taken by the Zionist Entity Knesset, such as the Judaization of Jerusalem, the Law of Loyalty to Citizenship, the Denial of the Palestinian State and the rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Territories, the Law of Jewish Nationalism, and / withholding the Financing of the State of Palestine, and the theft of clearing funds that belong to the State of Palestine under the pretext of Palestinian caring for the families of the martyrs and wounded and the families of prisoners and detainees, who are victims of the occupation, in violation of Articles 89 and 98 of the Geneva Convention Furthermore, condemn the recent laws passed by the Knesset during 2024 and 2025, including the legislation rejecting the establishment of an independent Palestinian State, the attempts to annex parts of the West Bank to the occupied territories, and the adoption of capital punishment targeting Palestinian prisoners accused of killing Zionist settlers, which constitute blatant violations of international law;
23. **Reject** and condemn the US Administration's decision to suspend its financial contributions to UNRWA, and all attempts, resolutions and alternatives that affect the status and role of UNRWA established by UN Resolution 302 of 1949. We call on all countries in the world, especially the members of this Assembly, to support and protect UNRWA's budget so that it can fulfill its obligations to about 6 million Palestinian refugees until their case is resolved in accordance with UN Resolution 194;
24. **Call upon** the international community to fulfill its pledges to rebuild infrastructure and rehabilitate people in Gaza, which have been destroyed by Zionist Entity forces, and to support the Palestinian economy in the occupied Palestine;

25. **Express** its full support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to struggle for self-determination and to establish the independent state of Palestine with Al-Ghods as its capital and the right of return of the refugees who were displaced from Palestine in 1948 in accordance with the UN General Assembly Resolution 194;
26. **Call upon** countries that have established embassies, offices or diplomatic missions in occupied Jerusalem, to draw back the decisions in compliance with the UN Security Council resolutions referred to in the preamble to the resolution, in particular resolution 478 of August 1980, and UN General Assembly Resolution: A / ES-10 / L. 22 of December 2017, which considered the recognition of Jerusalem as Zionist Entity capital as null and void, and calling on all APA member states to refrain from establishing diplomatic missions in occupied Jerusalem;
27. **Affirm** that development, investment and improvement of the standard of living are rights denied to the Palestinian people for 75 years now, due to the continuation of the Zionist Entity occupation. It's a must first to end the occupation, in order to liberate the Palestinian economy, and enable the Palestinian people to control their natural resources and economic wealth, and invest to live a decent life away from blackmail and bargaining;
28. **Reaffirm** its rejection of US Secretary of State declaration on 18th of Nov 2019 that Zionist Entity settlement in the Occupied Palestinian Territories is not inconsistent with the international law and considers the declaration a flagrant violation of international law and UN resolutions in particular UN Security Council resolution 2334;
29. **Invite** the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to ensure regular updating and publication of the “Black List” of Zionist Entity and foreign companies dealing and/or working in Zionist Entity settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territories as a necessary step to isolate settlements and protect human rights;
30. **Strongly Condemn** the recent Zionist Entity attacks on the Gaza Strip, the killing and displacement of Palestinians, and the targeting of women and children, and call for the necessity for the international community to act urgently to stop the occupation's repeated attacks against civilians, and the flagrant violation of the rules of International Humanitarian Law;
31. **Affirm** the legitimacy of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, the legitimacy of the Palestinian struggle and resistance under occupation, and that the struggle of the Palestinian people is a legitimate struggle due to the existence of the occupation;
32. **Encourage** the member parliaments of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly to take

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

33. **Strongly Condemn** the calls for forced displacement of the Palestinian people from Gaza and the continued targeting of defenseless civilians to implement this plan that aims to liquidate the Palestinian cause and affirm the legitimate right of the Palestinian people to establish their independent, sovereign state on the Palestinian territories, with the borders of June 1967, in accordance with international legitimacy resolutions;⁸
34. **Encourage** the international community to be more objective and fairer in assessing the situation in Palestine, and refrain from resorting to double standards and hypocritical views;
35. **Call** for a thorough reform of international systems, particularly the United Nations and its Security Council, in order to strengthen their role in preventing and resolving all conflicts, including in Palestine;
36. **Further condemn in strongest terms** the blatant targeting by Zionist Entity brutal occupation forces of Al-Ahli Baptist Hospital in Gaza Strip, which killed and injured hundreds of innocent sick, injured and displaced innocent civilians, in stark violation of the international humanitarian law;
37. **Call on** Zionist Entity to immediately halt its barbaric aggression and allow UN and other humanitarian agencies to immediately provide humanitarian and relief assistance to the people of Gaza;
38. **Calls upon** member parliaments to take a serious regional and international stance in the face of this dangerous escalation by Zionist Entity and the barbaric, unprecedented bombardment to which civilians in the Gaza Strip are facing;
39. **Affirm** its rejection of the double standard policy, which grants Zionist Entity an unconditional green light and an unrestricted license to kill whilst disregarding any opposing opinion;
40. **Call** for an immediate, durable and sustained humanitarian ceasefire leading to a cessation of hostilities, demands that all parties immediately and fully comply with their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law, particularly in regard to the protection of civilians and civilian objects, also demands the immediate,

⁸ Delegation of Iran has registered its reservation on the content of this paragraph.

continuous, sufficient and unhindered provision of essential goods and services to civilians throughout the Gaza Strip;

41. **Reaffirm** that the only solution to the issue of Palestine is the recognition of the Palestinian People's rights to self -determination and the establishment of a Palatine state on the historical land of Palestine;
42. **Urge** APA Members to support media campaign that aimed to increase the awareness of Palestinian people rights with focusing on Zionist Entity desecrations against innocent people, in particular women and children;
43. **Support** international resolutions and decisions, in particular the judgments, decisions, orders as well as advisory opinions of International Court of Justice related to illegal Zionist Entity presents in Palestinian Land;
44. **Appreciate** South Africa legal efforts of submitting the lawsuit to the International Court of Justice against Zionist Entity for its genocide massacre in Gaza;
45. **Strongly Condemn** the recent Zionist regime attacks on the Gaza Strip, the killing and displacement of Palestinians, and the targeting of women and children, and call for the necessity for the international community to act urgently to stop the occupation's repeated attacks against civilians, and the flagrant violation of the rules of International Humanitarian Law;
46. **Affirm** the legitimacy of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, the legitimacy of the Palestinian struggle under occupation, and that the struggle of the Palestinian people is a legitimate struggle due to the existence of the occupation;
47. **Encourage** the member parliaments of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly to take political initiatives and adopt positions that support the legitimacy of the Palestinian cause and the legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people;
48. **Strongly Condemn** the calls for forced displacement of the Palestinian people from Gaza and the continued targeting of defenseless civilians to implement this plan that aims to liquidate the Palestinian cause and affirm the legitimate right of the Palestinian people to establish their independent, sovereign state on the Palestinian territories with the borders of June 4, 1967, in accordance with international legitimacy resolutions;
49. **Isolate** the Zionist Entity Knesset and boycott its membership in both the international parliament and the anti- terrorism committee , regarding it as , illegitimate parliament , legislating laws on mass killing and acts of genocide let alone the hanging of the Palestinian prison inmates Furthermore, call on the parliaments of APA Member States to suspend all parliamentary interactions with the Knesset of the Israeli regime, including the organization of official visits and parliamentary friendship groups;

50. **Condemn** the support made by the United States to the Zionist Entity aggressions and the acts of mass genocide against the Palestinian people and it to stop the provision of weapons to Zionist Entity also, underline the serious threat posed by the Zionist Entity's nuclear weapons and Weapons of Mass Destruction stockpile and capabilities, and stress the necessity for the Zionist Entity to be held accountable by the international community;
51. **Stop** normalization of relations with Zionist Entity, following the suit of the Iraqi parliament;
52. **Put** pressure on Zionist Entity to release the confiscated monies and possessions of the Palestinians Authority;
53. **Denounce** the discrimination policy exercised by the Zionist Entity against the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territories occupied in 1948;
54. **Refer** to the destruction of entire Gaza hospitals and not restrict that not the private hospitals;
55. **Welcomes** the ceasefire in Gaza, which constitutes an opportunity to address the urgent humanitarian needs, considers it essential to use this positive momentum to contribute to the realization of the two-state solution in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions;⁹
56. **Condemn** Israel's aggression in Lebanon, which has not yet halted and Israel continues ceaselessly its crimes, destruction and occupation, despite establishment of the ceasefire to which Lebanon is committed, but Israel has declined to abide by it;

⁹ Delegation of Iran has registered its reservation on the content of this paragraph



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

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Determined, for the sake of peace and stability and promoting friendly and mutually beneficial relations among all nations in the world through, including, contribution to international cooperation aimed at strengthening multilateralism and curbing the negative effects of unilateralism, we, the Member Parliaments of APA, *agree* to undertake the following measures, among others;

We therefore,

1. **Reaffirm** our commitment to the Charter of the United Nations and universally recognized norms and principles of international law and the objectives and principles enshrined in the Charter of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly;
2. **Reaffirm** our commitment to effective multilateralism with the United Nations at its center;
3. **Assert** on behalf of the parliamentarian community of Asia to work in line with the expectation that the world will become more committed to promote multilateralism in all aspects of world affairs;
4. **Encourage** closer engagement among national parliaments and international and multilateral organizations to ensure democratic oversight of global decision-making and to enhance the legitimacy and accountability of multilateral institutions;
5. **Call upon** all Parliamentarians in Asia to redouble their efforts at all possible levels to adopt measures aimed at preventing and curbing the negative effects of illegal unilateral measures undermining free, open and transparent relations among members of the Asian community;
6. **Call on** developing countries to actively participate in promoting the principle of multilateralism in order to accelerate the world peace process, which requires enhanced forms of cooperation and multilateral governance based on international law;
7. **Welcome** all initiatives of the Member Parliaments to promote and strengthen cooperation in various fields including economy, finance, transport and trade within the geography of APA at bilateral and multilateral levels;
8. **Reaffirm** the willingness of the Asian parliamentarians to closely cooperate and collaborate with other branches of their respective governments in formulating proper and effective national plans to help promote multilateral cooperation in all spheres of regional and international relations;
9. **Reject** unilateral coercive measures with all their extraterritorial effects as tools for political and economic pressure against any country in particular against developing countries;

10. **Underscore** the need for all states to avoid politicization of the UN Security Council sanctions regime;
11. **Urge** all Member Parliaments to facilitate the adoption of urgent and effective measures to impede the use of unilateral coercive measures against any country that are inconsistent with the principles of international law as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and that contravene the basic principles of the multilateral trading system;
12. **Request** States applying these measures or laws to revoke them fully and immediately;
13. **Emphasize** that JCPOA, was a significant achievement of multilateral diplomacy endorsed unanimously by the UN Security Council through Resolution 2231 dated 2015 and despite termination of resolution 2231 and all previous relevant Security Council Resolutions, underscore the need for dialogue and diplomacy to resolve nuclear issues, and call upon all relevant parties to prioritize negotiations and support a peaceful settlement which ensures the inalienable rights of Iran as a member to the NPT to peaceful nuclear energy and encourages all relevant parties to reach a viable solution to strengthen regional peace and prosperity;
14. **Reaffirm** sovereign right of our people to acquire, manufacture, export, import and retain all economic goods required to ensure an acceptable standard of living and a sustainable development for them, and *emphasizes* that no undue restrictive measure should be taken against any country in this regard;
15. **Emphasize** that under no circumstances should people be deprived of their own means of subsistence and development and stress that no illegal restrictive measures should be taken against any Member State in this regard;
16. **Reiterate** that food and basic goods should not be used as an instrument for unilateral political and economic pressure. *Stress* the importance of international cooperation and solidarity, especially within the framework of APA, to prevent such unilateral coercive measures that affect the trade related to food and basic goods and would endanger food security impacting specially groups in vulnerable situations;
17. **Request** the Secretary-General to submit a report to the next meeting of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs containing initiatives, including those introduce by the Member Parliaments, to promote the role of parliamentarians, especially within the framework of APA, in furthering multilateralism;



Resolution on the June 2025 Military Attacks Against the Islamic Republic of Iran

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations in all their entirety and interconnectedness, including the obligation of States to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state;

Reaffirming the absolute and unconditional prohibition of any use of force, threat of force, or act of sabotage against peaceful nuclear facilities, and emphasizing that such acts are never justifiable under any pretext;

Bearing in mind international decisions prohibiting armed attacks on nuclear installations devoted to peaceful purposes, including IAEA General Conference Resolutions GC(XXIX)/RES/444 (1985) and GC(XXXIV)/RES/533 (1990), the IAEA Board of Governors resolution of 12 June 1981, and United Nations Security Council Resolution 487 (1981);

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) to develop, research, production, and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination, in conformity with Articles I, II, and IV of the Treaty;

Deeply alarmed by the military strikes conducted by Israel in June 2025 against Iranian territorial integrity that resulted in loss of more than 1100 mostly civilian lives, and targeted residential neighborhoods, essential civilian infrastructure, media centers as well as peaceful nuclear facilities; and the subsequent attacks by the United States against nuclear facilities under the IAEA safeguards;

Recognizing the urgent necessity for the international community to uphold the objectives and principles of the United Nations Charter in all their entirety and interconnectedness, defend the inviolability of civilian nuclear infrastructure, and ensure accountability for violations of the principles of international law;

Determined to promote parliamentary diplomacy and dialogue to uphold the principles of international law and the UN Charter;

We therefore,

1. **Condemn** unequivocally as a grave violation of international law, the UN Charter, and the IAEA Statute, the military attacks conducted by Israel in June 2025 against Iranian territorial integrity, which targeted its peaceful nuclear facilities, residential neighborhoods as well as essential civilian infrastructure; and, the subsequent attacks by the United States against Iranian nuclear facilities under the IAEA safeguards;
2. **Request** the Secretary-General of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly to transmit the present resolution to the United Nations Secretary-General, the President of the UN Security Council, the Director General of the IAEA, and the Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation;



Standing Committee on Budget & Planning

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain
27 January 2026

Final Report

The Meeting of Standing Committee on Budget and Planning was held on 27 January 2026, and chaired by H.E. Mr. Ahmad bin Hitmi AL-Hitmi in the capacity of APA Vice-President.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The Member Parliaments unanimously adopted the Agenda.

([Attachment I](#))

2. Opening Remarks by the Chairperson:

The chairperson stated that the meeting of the Standing Committee on Budget and Planning was held on 23-24 December 2025 in Doha, the State of Qatar. At this meeting the draft resolution on Budget & Planning was debated with all proposed amendments and adopted by consensus. The Secretariat presented a symbolic APA Budget Estimate for 2025 and stated that inflation rate for 2026 must be applied. The Chair ruled that a 10% increase in budget items should also be applied.

The meeting requested the APA Secretariat to provide all items of Budget Estimate in Euro currency as stated by Article 5 of APA Financial and Staff Regulations.

3. Report of the Secretariat:

The Representative of Secretariat expressed hope that member parliaments start paying their assessed contributions as soon as possible.

4. Consideration of the Draft Resolution recommended by the Executive Council:

Several member parliaments expressed their full support for the agreed amount of assessed contribution and emphasized on the urgency of addressing this issue.¹⁰

Few exchanges of views took place on the amount of assessed contribution as well as the currency and monitoring system of budget expenses. The importance of opening a bank account for the budget of the Secretariat was raised by the participants. The representative of Secretariat emphasized that base don Article 5 of the Staff and Financial Regulations, the Euro is set for the currency for the budget of the Secretariat. It was also stated that APA has its own auditing system in place, which will be operationalized as soon as the assessed contribution is deposited. Furthermore, the amount of assessed contribution was reminded to be US\$ 22,000 or its equivalent in Euro.

The Committee adopted the draft resolution on Budget & Planning.

([Attachment III](#))

5. Any other matters:

No issue was raised

¹⁰ Statement of the Head of Delegation of Azerbaijan is [attached](#).

Asian Parliamentary Assembly



Standing Committee on Budget & Planning

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain

24-28 January 2026



Agenda

- 1- Adoption of the Agenda
- 2- Opening Remarks by Chairperson
- 3- Report of the Secretariat
- 4- Consideration of Draft Resolution recommended by Executive Council
- 5- Any other matters.

Attachment II
Asian Parliamentary Assembly
Opening session of the Committee on Budget and Planning
Manama, 27 January 2026

Speech of the Head of the delegation of Azerbaijan to the APA,
Dr. Rizvan Nabihev

Distinguished APA Secretary General, His Excellency Dr. Majidi,

Distinguished Vice-President of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly His Excellency Mr. Ahmad bin Hitmi Al-Hitmi,

Honorable Ladies and Gentlemen,

As colleagues are well aware, the question of the APA budget has been a recurring and substantive item on our agenda. In this regard, I would like to recall that during its meeting in Doha in November 2024, the Standing Committee on Budget and Planning undertook a constructive review of this matter and unanimously adopted the Resolution on APA Budget and Planning.

Subsequently, the proposed model of an equal assessed contribution in the amount of USD 22,000 was agreed upon and “equal payment and equal voting rights” formally endorsed by the Executive Council at its meeting in Baku last year.

Furthermore, the APA Plenary, convened in Baku in February 2025, reaffirmed these key decisions, including the principles of equal financial contributions and equal voting rights, while acknowledging the indispensable role of the APA budget in ensuring the effective functioning of the Assembly. In this context, the Plenary encouraged all Member States to take the appropriate steps to secure the necessary budgetary allocations.

The timely and full implementation of the Assembly’s budget is essential to guaranteeing the uninterrupted and efficient conduct of our activities. I therefore invite all members to give due consideration to the importance of establishing a stable and predictable budgetary framework, which will significantly enhance the

institutional capacity of our Assembly. The budget will serve as a vital instrument for strengthening our collective action and advancing cooperation among Member States.

In addition, I am of the view that the development of a comprehensive framework document, such as the APA Secretariat Regulations, clearly defining the Secretariat's structure, staffing, and responsibilities, would considerably facilitate our work and contribute to greater clarity and efficiency.

The APA budget remains a matter of paramount importance. It is a cornerstone for the success of our Organization and for the effective implementation of its mandates and programs. Ensuring the smooth functioning of the Assembly requires our shared commitment to mobilizing and securing the necessary resources.

Achieving a common understanding on these issues is both a collective responsibility and a shared objective. Our success will ultimately depend on our unity of purpose, our commitment, and our determination to move forward together.

Thank you.

Resolution of the Standing Committee on Budget and Planning



Resolution on Planning APA Budget

We, the Members of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Recalling APA/Res/2008/04 and APA/ Res/2014/09 and other relevant APA documents;

Determined to enhance the efficiency and organizational capacity of the APA to achieve its goals and objectives enshrined in its Charter;

Underscoring the importance of participation by all Member Parliaments in equitably sharing the financial needs of the APA and its Secretariat on the agreed amount of annual contribution of 22,000 USD;

Emphasizing the principles of transparency, integrity, accountability, and efficient management of financial resources in APA budgeting and spending;

We therefore,

1. **Request** all APA Member Parliaments to operationalize and effectively fulfill their commitments regarding the payment of their annual assessed contributions to the APA budget, in accordance with their respective internal budgetary procedures, and encourage them to provide voluntary financial contributions in order to enhance the sustainability of the APA budget and its decisions;
2. **Expresses** its appreciation to the Islamic Parliament of Iran for its generous financial contributions to the APA budget since its establishment; requests the APA Secretariat to expedite the implementation of the approved assessed contributions; and strongly urges all Member Parliaments to fulfill their financial obligations without further delay, thereby enabling the Secretariat to effectively discharge its mandated functions and to ensure the timely payment of staff remuneration in full compliance with the Financial and Staff Regulations;
3. **Acknowledge** the generosity of the APA President and Vice-Presidents in contributing to the APA expenses by hosting activities and meetings based on commitment to the APA Decision on Modalities for Effective Organization of the APA Meetings adopted by the 7th Plenary on 10 December 2013 through

supporting APA Secretariat expenses;

4. **Request** the Secretary General to prepare, while taking into consideration the annual assessed contributions of member Parliaments, the Draft APA Annual Budget based on the (Program & Performance Budget model), that requires programs, projects and expenses estimation based on the Assembly objectives, and on the policies and plans approved by consensus of the standing committee, and then to be presented to the APA Executive Council for final approval by consensus by the Plenary Session;
5. **Request** the APA Secretary General to provide proposals to be considered in the next meeting of the Standing Committee, based on the views expressed by the APA President during the 13th Plenary on Revitalization for the enhancement of organizational capacity and its effectiveness;
6. **Allocate** the APA Budget through the following three Items:
 - I. Operational and Strategic Budget Item: expenses allocated initially upon the Budget approval and attestation.
 - II. Additional Budget Item: amounts decided to be added to cover APA new projects and programs.
 - III. Emergency Budget Item: which shall be determined by a decision of the APA Executive Council, to cover emergency events or incidents.
7. The Secretary General is responsible for the implementation of the APA Budget and the management of its assets, determining the principles, objectives and rules for preparing the budget, to be submitted to the Standing Committee for budget and Planning;
8. **Recommend** to exempt the Parliament of Palestine from the assessed contribution until the end of occupation, and the establishment of its independent state. Any other member parliaments wishing to exempted from payment of annual contribution must submit an official request to the Secretariat
9. **Emphasizing** the importance of establishing mechanisms to monitor the disbursement of funds to ensure that they are used for the purposes for which they were allocated, which enhances transparency and accountability.
10. **Request** APA Secretariat to provide all items of Budget Estimates in Euro currency as stated by Article 5 of APA Financial and Staff Regulations;



Draft APA Budget Estimate – 2026

Restricted to APA Members

12/29/2025 by APA Secretariat

No.	Description	Expenses/year
1	Basic budget	629,034€
2	Additional budget	261,800€
3	Emergency budget	29,920€
Total		920,754€ ¹¹

Remarks:

- 1) This Draft Budget is modified based on the discussions and proposals of the Standing Committee on Budget and Planning in Abu-Dhabi 22-23 May 2017 and was offered for consideration of the same Committee in Baghdad 2019 (but was not addressed in detail by participants in the meeting). The average infalation rates of 8% upto 2024 are applied. (Inflation note: 2022= 4.4% 2023=3.6%)
- 2) Although the figures shown in the tables above are to our best of estimates, but the document, in its entirety, is a symbolic one and should be revisited once the “ Assessed Contribution “ scheme is adopted at the APA Plenary level.
- 3) APA Budget will be valid and applied whenever the Member Parliaments pay their assessed contributions one year before.

¹¹ Article 5 of the APA Finantial Regulation: Rep/Ad-hoc/2014/04

“The budget and the Secretariat accounts shall be drawn up and kept in Euro and Iranian Rials.”

4) The monitoring and inspection system will be applied to the budget based on items 16 & 17 of the Financial & Staff Regulations, which was adopted in the Plenary of 2014.

The Construction of the Budget:

APA Budget is divided into three categories:

1. Basic Budget Items: 68.3%
2. Additional Budget Items: 28.4%
3. Emergency Budget Item: 3.28%

Basic Budget Items

NO	Description	Expenses/year
1	Salaries (Table 1)	538,629
2	Office Expenses (Table 2)	54230
3	Operational Expenses (Table 3)	36372
Total		629,231

Table 1- Salaries

	Nature of expenses	Secretary General	DSG	ASG	Expert	Admin Staff	Support service	Total
	Number of Personnel	1	1	3	4	4	5	18
	Salary	6564	5049	4040	2020	1010	606	
2	Benefits (health care ...)	1010	707	505	303	202	152	
3	Monthly Payment	7574	5756	13633	9291	4848	3787	
4	Annual Payment	90882	69071	163588	111482	58165	45441	538629

Table 2 - Office Expenses

No	Nature of expenses	Per Year
1	Vehicle (for the first year)	29920
2	Office supplies(for the first year)	24310
Total		54230

Table 3 - Operational expenses

No	Nature of Expenses		Per Month	Per Year
1	Building Maintenance	Utilities(water- power-gas- telephone)	1515	18180
		Repair and Renovation	1515	18180
2	APA Headquarters Rent(€ 1/per month)			12
3	Secretary-General's Residence & other staff's housing allowance			-
Total				36372

Additional Budget Items

1 - Travel Average Expenses (36 / Persons / Trip/Year)	Round Trip Air Ticket (3 tickets/ month)	6059	72710
	Hotel Fare (3 Persons / five nights/ €234 per night)	3787	45815
	Meals (3 Persons /six days/ €94 per day)	1818	21505
	Per-diem (3 persons/€328 per day)	6362	76670
2- Receptions	3 Receptions for 50 guests (€94 Per Person)		14960
	One Reception for 200 guests (€141 Per Person)		29920
Total			261,800

Emergency Budget Item

Unforeseen Expenditures	29920
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Attachment IX

الكلمة الختامية لسعادة النائب أحمد صباح السلوم في أعمال الجلسة العامة السادسة عشرة للجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية - المنامة، مملكة البحرين.

أصحاب المعالي والسعادة،

السيدات والساسة،

الحضور الكريم،

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته،

في ختام أعمال جلستنا العامة السادسة عشرة للجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية، ونحن نطوي صفحات أيام حافلة بالحوار المسؤول، والنقاش العميق، والرؤى المتقطعة حول قضايا إنسانية وحضارية مشتركة، يحدونا شعور صادق بأن ما جمعنا في المنامة كان أكبر من اجتماع برلماني، وأعمق من مداولاتٍ رسمية؛ لقد كان لقاء إراداتٍ آسيوية مؤمنة بقيمة الحوار، وبقدرة البرلمانيات على أن تكون جسوراً تواصلٍ تقارب بين الرؤى وتوحد المواقف.

لقد أثبتت هذه الجلسة، بما شهدته من نقاشات ثرية وتبادلٍ صريحٍ للأفكار، أن البرلمانيات الآسيوية تمتلك من الحكمة، والتنوع، والخبرة، ما يؤهلها للاضطلاع بدورٍ متقدم في ترسیخ ثقافة الحوار بين الحضارات، وتعزيز التفاهم بين الشعوب، وتحصين

مجتمعاتها من خطابات الإقصاء والتطرف والانقسام، ليس بالشعارات، بل بالتشريع الرشيد، والسياسات المتوازنة، والدبلوماسية البرلمانية الوعية.

زميلاتي وزملائي الأعزاء،

إن ما نغادر به هذه القاعة اليوم ليس توصياتٍ مدوّنة فحسب، بل مسؤوليةً أخلاقية وسياسية مضاعفة، تضع على عاتقنا واجب تحويل ما توافقنا عليه إلى ممارسات عملية، ومبادرات قابلة للتنفيذ، وموافق برلمانية متسقة، تعكس تطلعات شعوبنا إلى الأمان، والاستقرار، والتنمية، والعيش الكريم.

وإذ تشرفت مملكة البحرين برئاسة الجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية للعام الحالي، فإنها تجدد التزامها بأن تكون هذه الرئاسة منصةً جامعة، وصوتاً متوازناً، ومساراً مفتوحاً أمام كل ما من شأنه تطوير عمل الجمعية، وتعزيز فاعلية لجانها، وتكرис نهج التشاور، والتكامل، والعمل الجماعي، انطلاقاً من إيمانٍ راسخ بأن قوة آسيا تكمن في تنوعها، وأن وحدتها تُبنى بالحوار، وبالتفاهم، وبالتكامل.

أصحاب المعالي والسعادة،

إن التاريخ لا يُسجل كثرة الاجتماعات، بل يخلد صدق المواقف، وعمق الأثر، وقدرة القادة والمؤسسات على تحويل التحديات إلى فرص. وإننا على يقين بأن

الجمعية البرلمانية الآسيوية، بما تمثله من ثقلٍ سياسي وبرلماني، قادرة على أن تكون فاعلاً مؤثراً في صياغة مستقبلٍ أكثر توازناً وإنسانية لقارتنا، إذا ما توحدت الرؤى، وتكاملت الجهود، وتقدّمت المصلحة المشتركة على ما سواها.

ختاماً، أتوجّه إليكم جميعاً بجزيل الشكر والتقدير على مشاركتكم الفاعلة، وعلى ما أبديتموه من حرصٍ صادق على إنجاح أعمال هذه الجلسة، على أمل أن تبقى المنامة محطةً مضيئة في مسار العمل البرلماني الآسيوي، ومنطلقاً لحوارٍ مستدام، وتعاونٍ بناءً، ومستقبلٍ يسوده السلام، والتفاهم، والازدهار لشعوب آسيا كافة. ونحن نختتم أعمال هذه الجلسة، نؤكد أن ثقتنا بقدرة مؤسّساتنا البرلمانية على التأثير قد ازدادت، وتعزّز إيماناً بأن الحوار بين الحضارات ليس ترفاً فكريّاً، بل التزامً تارّيخي، ومسارً ملزّم لا يحتمل التأجّيل.

وفقنا الله جميعاً لما فيه خير شعوبنا، والسلام، والتفاهم، والازدهار لآسيا والعالم أجمع.

والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته.

APA SG Statement H.E. Dr. Mohammad Reza MAJIDI
at the closing session of the 16th Plenary

Mr. Chairman,

Esteemed Delegates,

Dear Colleagues,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As we conclude the 16th Session of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, I wish to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all those who contributed to the success of this gathering.

I would like to sincerely thank the officials of the Government and the Council of Representatives of the Kingdom of Bahrain for their kind invitation, warm hospitality, and the outstanding organization and execution of the program.

My gratitude also goes to the Honorable Secretary-General of the Bahraini Council of Representatives and his dedicated colleagues across various departments for their unwavering cooperation with the APA Secretariat in organizing this session.

I would also like to acknowledge the APA groups in the two Bahraini chambers and their associates for their close and continuous collaboration with the Secretariat over the years.

I extend my thanks to all the executive staff, with special appreciation for the interpreters, whose efforts are vital for the smooth running of the Assembly.

Finally, I would like to commend my hardworking colleagues in the APA Secretariat, who devoted countless hours over the past weeks to ensure that this session was conducted with the highest standards of excellence.

Thank you all for your dedication and support.