Report on the Results of the ICAPP Mission to Russia
(February 24-27, 2014)

The ICAPP Mission, composed of Hon. Chung Eui-yong, Co-Chairman of the Standing Committee and Secretary General, and Hon. Dr. Asaf Hajiyev, Member of Parliament and Head of the International Department of the Yeni Azerbaijan Party, visited Russia during February 24-26, 2014. They met with the leaders of the United Russia Party (URP), the Communist Party of the Russian Federation (CPRF) and A Just Russia Party (JRP), and discussed how to further promote cooperation between the ICAPP and the leading political parties in Russia. The program of the ICAPP Mission and the list of items for discussion are attached as ***Appendixes I and II.***

At the meetings, the Mission and the leaders of the political parties in Russia exchanged views on how to further promote ICAPP activities and cooperation between the ICAPP and the political parties in Russia.

In particular, the Mission emphasized that the active participation and strong support of political parties in Russia are essential for the future success of the ICAPP. The Russian leaders expressed their appreciation of the ICAPP's role in achieving peace, reconciliation and prosperity in the region, and confirmed their commitment to continuous support for the ICAPP activities.

The Russian leaders also agreed to send high-level delegations to the 8th General Assembly (GA) to be held in Sri Lanka in September 2014. In this regard, they expressed their hope that the GA will be held in late September in consideration of local elections to be held in Russia on September 14.

The following is a brief report on the outcome of the meetings between the Mission and the leaders of political parties in Russia.

1. Meeting with Hon. Dr. Andrey A. Klimov, Deputy Chairman of the Committee on International Affairs of the Council of Federation (Senate), and Chairman of the International Affairs Committee of the United Russia Party (URP) and Mr. Anton Pashkov, Advisor at the International Relations Department

The URP confirmed its offer to host the 22nd Meeting of the ICAPP Standing Meeting (SC) in Vladivostok during the first half of 2014. The dates of the meeting could not have been decided yet, however, due to other important diplomatic agenda, including G-8 summit and the recent unexpected developments in international situation. The URP informed the Mission that it would be able to confirm the dates within the next two weeks, after the completion of the process within the URP of evaluating the recent international situation and checking necessary logistic arrangements at the URP Presidium meeting. In this regard, the URP agreed to provide local accommodations for SC members for three nights in accordance with the ICAPP tradition.

The Mission expressed its gratitude to URP's kind offer to host the 22nd SC Meeting in Vladivostok and reminded that the meeting should be held not later than mid June in consideration of the need to prepare for the 8th General Assembly to be held in Sri Lanka in the forthcoming September. The Mission emphasized that the dates for the 22nd SC Meeting

should be confirmed not later than mid March.

The URP proposed to consider the possibility of including the issue of “color revolutions” in the agenda of the next SC meeting. The Mission agreed that the issue may be relevant to the future activities of the ICAPP. In this regard, the Mission also confirmed that promoting democracy based on multi-party system is one of the main objectives of the ICAPP, and said, however, the issues relating to “color revolutions” may be politically too sensitive to some SC Members. The Mission further suggested that an informal “retreat” type of meeting, separate from the formal SC Meeting, may be considered to provide an opportunity to SC Members to have informal exchange of views on the topic on the margin of the SC Meeting. The URP agreed to consider this suggestion in close consultation with the Secretariat.

The Mission agreed to send to the URP an official ICAPP letter formally requesting to host the 22nd SC meeting in Russia together with a list of items that would be included in the agenda of the meeting.

In this regard, the URP and the MIssion agreed to continue close consultation through the ICAPP Secretariat to make necessary arrangements to hold the 22nd SC meeting, including issuance of entry visas for the participants.

The Mission also requested the URP to recommend the government of the Russian Federation to sign the inter-governmental “MOU on cooperation to provide assistance for the ICAPP activities” and to support the ICAPP's bid to obtain observer status in the U.N. General Assembly. The URP mentioned that it supports such initiatives, but the government might have other priorities in its foreign policies. The URP confirmed, however, its willingness to further discuss the ICAPP's requests with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and requested the ICAPP Secretariat to prepare a brief memo for the URP on the current state of deliberations at the U.N. on the ICAPP's application for observer status.

In addition, the Mission requested the URP to consider the possibility to invite another political party in Russia to send its representative to SC meetings as an alternate member. In this regard, the URP responded that, although the URP is the dominant political force in Russia, it would consider various ways to involve other political parties in Russia in SC activities, such as inviting them as observers to the meetings.

2. Meeting with Hon. Leonid Ivanovich Kalashnikov, First Deputy Chairman of the Committee on International Affairs of the State Duma and Member of the Leadership of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation (CPRF) and Ms. Tatiana I. Desyatova, Co-Chairperson of All Russian Women's Union

The Mission expressed its appreciation for CPRF's active participation in ICAPP meetings by leaders of CPRF, especially by Hon. Chairman Zuganov, and requested their continuous support for ICAPP activities.

CPRF said that it attaches great importance to the ICAPP's geopolitical role in the region and confirmed that it will continue to actively participate in, and support for, the ICAPP activities.

In particular, CPRF expressed its willingness to provide assistance for the ICAPP's bid to obtain observer status in the U.N. General Assembly, especially through its close network of

cooperation with leading political parties in Latin America, including Venezuela and Cuba, and other regions of the world, including Europe and Africa.

CPRF also expressed its willingness to more actively participate in the activities of the ICAPP Women's Wing and Youth Wing.

3. Meeting with Hon. Nikolay V. Levichev, Deputy Speaker of the State Duma, and Deputy Chairman of A Just Russia Party (JRP) and Mr. Boris P. Guseletov, Advisor to Chairman of JRP

The Mission expressed its appreciation for the active participation of the JRP in recent activities of the ICAPP.

JRP said it has maintained keen interest in the ICAPP activities since its inception and will continue to actively participate in the ICAPP activities.

JRP further requested to provide more information on future activities of the ICAPP. In particular, JRP expressed its willingness to more actively participate in ICAPP programs which are more focused on specific issues, such as poverty alleviation, political corruption, climate change and human trafficking.

JRP also said it would closely coordinate with other political parties in Russia to provide necessary support for ICAPP initiatives, including its bid to obtain U.N. observer status.

Appendixes:

I. Program of the ICAPP Mission to Russia

II. List of Items to be discussed between the URP and the ICAPP