Draft Conclusions
for the 25th Meeting of the ICAPP Standing Committee
(Beijing, China, October 15, 2015)

The 25th Standing Committee Meeting (hereinafter referred to as "the Meeting") of the Standing Committee (hereinafter referred to as "the SC") of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties (hereinafter referred to as "the ICAPP") was held in the Beijing Hall of The Beijing Hotel in Beijing, China on October 15 on the sidelines of the Asian Political Parties' Special Conference on the Silk Road which was held under the auspices of the Communist Party of China (CPC) during October 15-16, 2015.

The program, the list of participants and the annotated agenda of the Meeting are attached as ***Appendices I-1, I-2 and I-3.***

The Meeting was co-chaired by Hon. Jose de Venecia, Jr., Chairman of the SC and Hon. Chung Eui-yong, Co-Chairman of the SC and Secretary General of the ICAPP.

Preparations for the Special Conference on the Silk Road

Hon. Chen Fengxiang, Vice Minister of the International Department of the Central Committee, Communist Party of China (CPC), made a report on preparations of the Asian Political Parties' Special Conference on the Silk Road which was being held in Beijing under the auspices of the CPC.

The Special Conference was opened by H.E. Wang Jiarui, Vice Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and Minister of the International Department of the Central Committee of the CPC. H.E. Liu Yunshan, Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau and Secretariat of the Central Committee of the CPC, delivered a keynote speech at the Opening Ceremony. And H.E. Li Yuanchao, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the CPC and Vice President of the People's Republic of China delivered closing remarks at the Closing Ceremony.

In particular, H.E. Xi Jinping, General Secretary of the CPC and President of the People's Republic of China, had a meeting with Heads of Delegations on October 15 and shared his insights on the main purposes and principles in reviving the Silk Road. President Xi particularly emphasized that the new Silk Road should be constructed to deliver concrete benefits to all peoples along the way and beyond, on the principles of openness, inclusiveness and mutual learning.

The Special Conference was attended by high-level representative of 63 political parties from 33 countries, including H.E. Nicos Anastasiades, President of the Republic of Cyprus, and H.E. Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia. Three observer delegations, including the delegations from the Permanent Conference of Political Parties of Latin

America and the Caribbean (*COPPPAL*) and the Council of African Political Parties (CAPP), also attended the conference. The program and the list of participants of the special conference are attached as ***Appendices II-1 and II-2.***

The Beijing Initiative on the Silk Road, which had been drafted by the Organizing Committee of the Special Conference and circulated among SC Members in advance, was reviewed and agreed by SC Members to be submitted to the Special Conference for adoption at the Closing Ceremony on October 16. (See ***Appendix II-3***)

Issues relating to the ICAPP Standing Committee

New Members of the SC

The Secretariat reported that there have been four changes in the SC membership since the 24th SC Meeting held in Kuala Lumpur in March 2015.

First, Hon. Jhalanath Khanal, Former Prime Minister of Nepal and Senior Leaders of the Communist Party of Nepal (CPN-UML), had replaced Hon. K.P. Sharma Oli, as the Member of the ICAPP Standing Committee representing the CPN-UML as of March 29, 2015. In this regard, SC Members welcomed the news that Hon. K.P. Sharma Oli was elected Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal on October 11, 2015, and expressed their warm congratulations to the new Prime Minister of Nepal.

Second, SC Members welcomed Hon. Dilan Perera, State Minister of Highways, Member of Parliament and Assistant Secretary of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) as a new SC Member.

Third, the Secretariat informed that Hon. Mevlut Cavusoğlu, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Vice Chairman in Charge of Foreign Affairs of the Justice and Development Party (*AK Parti*) of Turkey, will represent *AK Parti* in the future SC Meetings.

Fourth, the Secretariat also reported that H.E. Megawati Sukarnoputri, Former President of Indonesia and President of the Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle (*PDI-P: Partai Demokrasi Indonesia Perjuangan*), has nominated Hon. Andreas Pareira, Member of Parliament, Head of Human Development Board and former Chairman of the International Cooperation Board, as her representative to the ICAPP Standing Committee.

Future Meetings of the SC

As was informed by ICAPP Update 15-22 of May 27, 2015, it was confirmed to hold the 26th SC Meeting in Jakarta, Indonesia during April 22-24, 2016. The Meeting will be co-hosted by the GOLKAR Party of Indonesia and the *PDI-P*. It was also confirmed that the 1st Trilateral Meeting among the ICAPP, the COPPPAL and the CAPP will be held back-to-back with the 26th SC Meeting.

In this regard, Hon. Theo L. Sambuaga, Vice President of the GOLKAR Party, made a presentation on the plan to co-host the meeting with the *PDI-P*, including the program. Attached is the tentative program of the 26th SC Meeting and the 1st Trilateral Meeting. (see ***Appendix III***)

It was also confirmed that, in accordance with the tradition of the ICAPP, the 27th SC Meeting will be held on the sidelines of the 9th General Assembly which will be held in Kuala Lumpur under the auspices of the United Malay National Organization (UMNO) in September 2016.

Hon. Hassan Ghafouri Fard, former Vice President of Iran, Chairman of the Central Committee of the House of Political Parties and Member of the Central Committee of the Islamic *Motalefeh* Party of Iran, offered to host the 28th SC Meeting in Tehran during the first half of 2017.

Hon. Baigal Luvsanchultem, Chairman of General Control Committee of the Democratic Party of Mongolia, also offered to co-host the 29th SC Meeting with the Mongolian People's Party in Ulan Bator during the second half of 2017.

SC Members welcomed the offers made by the SC Members from Iran and Mongolia and agreed to hold the 27th and 28th SC Meetings respectively in Tehran and Ulan Bator in 2017 as proposed.

Preparations for the 9th ICAPP General Assembly

Hon. Dato Seri Shahidan Bin Kassim, Minister in the Office of Prime Minister and Member of Supreme Council of the UMNO, confirmed the offer by the UMNO to host the 9th General Assembly in Kuala Lumpur in September 2016, and reported that the UMNO would make a more detailed report on the plan through the Secretariat in due course.

Review of the ICAPP Activities since 24th SC Meeting

2nd ICAPP Workshop on Human Trafficking (Phnom Penh, April 28-30)

The Secretariat reported that the 2nd ICAPP Workshop on Human Trafficking was held in Phnom Penh during April 28-30, 2015. The workshop was co-hosted by the Cambodian People's Party and the *Funcinpec* Party, and co-sponsored by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (*TIKA*).

The workshop was participated by representatives of 16 political parties from 12 countries and 8 international organizations as observers, including U.N. Development Program (UNDP), U.N. Action for Cooperation Against Trafficking in Persons (UN-ACT), U.N. Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), U.N. Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (UN OHCHR), International Justice Mission (IJM)

and Legal Support for Children and Women (LSCW).

The Phnom Penh Statement on Human Trafficking which was adopted at the workshop is attached as ***Appendix IV-1.*** The program and the list of participants of the workshop are also attached as ***Appendixes IV-2 and IV-3.***

Special Conference on Regional Economic Cooperation: Russia for Asia, New Business Opportunities (Vladivostok, May 21-23)

The Secretariat reported that the ICAPP Special Conference on Regional Economic Cooperation, with special focus on "Russia for Asia: New Business Opportunities" was held in Vladivostok during May 21-23, 2015 under the auspices of the United Russia Party. The conference was attended by representatives of 18 political parties from 14 countries and 26 business leaders from 8 countries.

The Vladivostok Statement on Regional Economic Cooperation which was adopted at the conference is attached as ***Appendix V-1***. Also attached are the program and the list of participants. (***Appendices V-2*** and ***V-3***)

3rd Meeting of the ICAPP Women's Wing (Baku, September 1-3)

The Secretariat reported that the 3rd Meeting of the ICAPP Women's Wing was held in Baku during September 1-3, 2015 under the auspices of the *Yeni* (New) Azerbaijan Party. The meeting was attended by representatives of 18 political parties from 16 countries and 2 observer delegations from the COPPPAL and the CAPP.

The meeting elected Hon. Sujata Koirala of the Nepali Congress Party and Hon. Meryem Goka of the Justice and Development Party (*AK Parti*) of Turekey as new Co-Chairpersons for the term of 2 years, replacing Hon. Dr. Malahat Ibrahimqizi of *Yeni* (New) Azerbaijan Party and Hon. Dr. Park In-sook of *Saenuri* Party of the Republic of Korea. The meeting also elected 6 Vice Chairpersons.

The Baku Statement on Women in Asia which was adopted at the meeting is attached as ***Appendix VI-1***. Also attached are the program, the list of participants and the list of the new Bureau of the ICAPP Women's Wing. (***Appendices VI-2, VI-3, and VI-4)***

1st Meeting of the ICAPP Media Forum (Seoul, September 16-18)

The Secretariat reported that the 1st Meeting of the ICAPP Media Forum was held in Seoul during September 16-18, 2015 under the auspices of the ICAPP Secretariat. The meeting was attended by representatives of 8 political parties from 7 countries, and 19 journalists from 12 countries who have been nominated by SC Members.

The meeting adopted the Terms of Reference (TOR) for future activities of the ICAPP Media Forum and elected Hon. Hwang Jin-ha, Secretary General of the *Saenuri* Party of the Republic of Korea and Hon. Ms. Carmen Pedrosa, Senior Columnist of the Philippine Star of

the Philippines, as Co-Chairpersons of the Media Forum in accordance with the TOR. The meeting also elected 4 Vice Chairpersons.

The Meeting also recommended having the 2nd Meeting of the ICAPP Media Forum on the sidelines of the 9th GA to be held in Kuala Lumpur in September 2016.

The Seoul Statement on the ICAPP Media Forum which was adopted at the meeting is attached as ***Appendix VII-1***. Also attached are the program, the list of participants, the TOR and the list of the Bureau. (***Appendices VII-2, VII-3, VII-4 and VII-5***)

Other Activities of the ICAPP

Signing of the Inter-Governmental MOU to Support ICAPP Activities

The Secretariat reported that H.E. Mr. Kaman Singh Lama, Ambassador of Nepal in Seoul, signed the inter-governmental Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to provide support for the activities of the ICAPP on July 24, 2015 on behalf of his government. The MOU, which was first signed on July 26, 2013, has now ten signatories, i.e. the governments of Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Iran, Kazakhstan, Nepal, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. Attached is a copy of the signed MOU. (***Appendix VIII***)

In this regard, SC Members from the countries whose governments have not yet signed the MOU were requested to recommend their respective governments to sign the MOU in the near future.

ICAPP's Bid for Observer Status in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)

The Secretariat reported on the results of the visit of Mr. Chung Eui-yong, Co-Chairman of the Standing Committee and Secretary General, to the United Nations during June 10-12, 2015. During his visit, Mr. Chung had meetings with representatives of 17 Member States and discussed the ICAPP's initiative to obtain observer status in the U.N. General Assembly. The report of Mr. Chung's visit to the U.N. is attached as ***Appendix IX.***

It was also reported that, after close consultations among several countries represented in the ICAPP Standing Committee, the governments of seven countries, i.e. Australia, Cambodia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Nepal, Philippines and Sri Lanka, agreed to co-sponsor a draft resolution to invite the ICAPP to the work of the UNGA in the capacity of observer. On August 12, 2015, the Permanent Representatives of the seven countries to the U.N. submitted a formal letter to the U.N. Secretary General requesting to include the item on the provisional agenda of the 70th session of the UNGA which started on September 15, 2015. On August 18, 2015, the letter was circulated, together with an explanatory memorandum and the draft resolution, by the U.N. Secretariat as Document No. A/70/194. The U.N. document is attached as ***Appendix X.***

In this regard, the governments of three more Member States, i.e. Azerbaijan, Indonesia and

the Netherlands, have later confirmed their decision to join as co-sponsors of the draft resolution.

According to the program of work of the 70th session of the UNGA, the Sixth Committee of the UNGA was scheduled to consider the item on granting observer status to the ICAPP in the UNGA on Monday, October 19, 2015. The Secretariat proposed to send an ICAPP mission to attend the meeting of the Sixth Committee, and invited SC Members to join the mission. The SC Member from the New Azerbaijan Party confirmed his decision to send his representative to join the mission.

Establishing Regular Contacts with Political Parties in the European Parliament

The Secretariat also reported on the results of the visit of Mr. Chung Eui-yong to the European Parliament (EP) during September 22-23, 2015. The full report on the results of Mr. Chung's visit is attached as ***Appendix XI.***

During the visit, Mr. Chung had meetings with representatives of the following four principal groups of political parties in the EP.
- The European People's Party (EPP, 217/751 seats)
- The Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats (S&D, 190/751 seats)
- The European Conservatives and Reformists Group (ECR, 74/751 seats)
- The Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE, 70/751 seats)

It was reported that, during the meetings, an idea was emerged to establish an "ICAPP-EU Political Forum (IEPF)" and hold the meeting of the IEPF on a regular and rotational basis between Asia and Europe. And the representatives of the all four groups in the EP responded positively to the idea, and agreed to have more detailed discussions on the idea with the ICAPP Secretariat.

In this regard, SC Members welcomed and endorsed the initiative to establish contacts with the principal groups of political parties in the EP, and, in particular, agreed to the Secretariat's proposal to have more detailed discussions with the European political parties to hold the meeting of the IEPF in the near future.

Future Work Programs of the ICAPP

ICAPP Mission to Monitor Parliamentary Election in Azerbaijan to be held on November 1

The Secretariat reported that the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan has sent an official invitation to the ICAPP to send a mission to observe the elections of the *Milli Majlis* (Parliament) of Azerbaijan to be held on November 1, 2015. The copy of the invitation is attached as ***Appendix XII-1.***

The Secretariat also reported, six SC Members had so far confirmed their participation in the mission, and had been registered accordingly at the Central Election Commission of

Azerbaijan as international observers. The list of the SC Members is attached as ***Appendix XII-2.***

ICAPP Observer Mission to the 33rd Plenary Meeting of the COPPPAL in November

The Secretariat also reported that SC Members are invited to attend the 33rd Plenary Meeting of the *COPPPAL* to be held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic during November 12-13 2015. The main theme of the meeting will be "Political Parties and Civil Societies."

SC Members who wish to participate in the meeting are requested to confirm their participation at their earliest convenience. More detailed information on the meeting will be provided in due course.

1st ICAPP-APA Joint Session in Phnom Penh

SC Members confirmed to hold the 1st Joint Session between the ICAPP Standing Committee and the Executive Council of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) on the sidelines of the 8th Plenary Meeting of the APA to be held in Phnom Penh under the auspices of the Cambodian People's Party (CPP), as agreed at the 24th SC Meeting held in Kuala Lumpur in March 2015.

In this regard, Hon. Sok An, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister in charge of the Office of the Council of Ministers, Member of the Standing Committee of the CPP, and Vice Chairman of the ICAPP Standing Committee, reported that the APA Plenary Meeting was originally planned to be held in Phnom Penh in early December 2015. However, due to the need for more coordination with the APA Secretariat, the dates for the APA Plenary Meeting have not been confirmed yet. It was reported that the CPP will continue to consult with the APA Secretariat with a view to holding the 1st ICAPP-APA Joint Session in early part of 2016.

The main agenda for the joint session will be to explore ways to promote cooperation between the ICAPP and the APA, and more detailed information on the meeting will be provided through the Secretariat in due course.

Future Meetings of the ICAPP Youth Wing

Hon. Vijay Jolly, Senior Leader, Advisor of Global Political Affairs, GOPIO International, and President of Delhi Study Group of *Bharatiya Janata* Party (BJP) of India, and Hon. Anil K. Shastri, Senior Leader of the Indian National Congress, offered to host the 4th Meeting of the ICAPP Youth Wing in New Delhi in early 2016. SC Members welcomed the offer.

The Secretariat reported that an offer was made by the Democratic Party of Mongolia (DPM) to host a future meeting of the ICAPP Youth Wing in Ulan Bator preferably during the first half of 2016. In this regard, SC Members welcomed the offer, and agreed to propose both the DPM and the Mongolian People's Party (MPP) to co-host the 5th Meeting of the ICAPP Youth Wing back-to-back with the 29th SC Meeting they agreed to have in Ulan Bator during the second half of 2017. Later, it was confirmed that both the DPM and the MPP agreed to

this proposal.

1st Trilateral Meeting among the ICAPP, the COPPPAL and the CAPP

As was agreed at the 24th SC Meeting held in Kula Lumpur in March 2015, SC Members confirmed the plan to convene the 1st Trilateral Meeting among representatives of the ICAPP Standing Committee, the *COPPPAL* Coordinating Body and the CAPP Executive Council on the sidelines of the 26th SC Meeting to be held in Indonesia during April 22-24, 2016. The main objective of the meeting was agreed to identify common challenges among the three continents and prepare an agenda for the launching of a tri-continental conference among political parties in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

In this regard, SC Members were referred to the presentation made by Hon. Theo L. Sambuaga, Vice President of the GOLKAR Party, on the plan to co-host with the *PDI-P* the 26th SC Meeting and the 1st Trilateral Meeting. (see ***Appendix II***) "Role of Political Parties in Implementing SDGs" was suggested as the main theme for the meeting by the Indonesian hosts.

SC Members were also reminded that some SC Members had expressed their view that the *COPPPAL* and the CAPP need to be more inclusive with region-wide participation of principal political parties. They had also stressed the need to start planning specific joint efforts in areas of common interest and to gradually work together for further institutionalization of the trilateral cooperation. Some SC Members were also of the view that the ICAPP activities need to be more focused on interactions amongst political parties within the region, emphasizing that their primary interest in participating in ICAPP activities is Asia-specific with the main objective of increasing interconnectivity with other Asian partners.

ICAPP Special Conference on Migration or Refugee Issues

Hon. Abdulkadir Emin Onen, former Member of Parliament and Deputy Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Department, who attended on behalf of Hon. Mevlut Cavusoglu, former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Vice Chairman in Charge of Foreign Affairs of the Justice and Development Party (*AK Parti*) of Turkey, offered to host ICAPP Special Conference on the topic of migration or refugee issues in Turkey during the first half of 2016. In this regard, he particularly expressed serious concern on the current situation surrounding Syria and the influx of a large number of refugees into Turkey which has already reached 2 million.

SC Members shared the concern and welcomed the offer to host the Special Conference on the refugee issues.

2nd ICAPP Special Conference on the Silk Road

Hon. Hassan Ghafouri Fard, Chairman of the Central Committee of the House of Political Parties and Member of the Central Committee of the Islamic *Motalefeh* Party of Iran, offered to host the 2nd ICAPP Special Conference on the Silk Road in Tehran in the near future, in order to follow up discussions at the Asian Political Parties' Special Conference on the Silk

Road during October 15-16.

In this regard, SC Members welcomed the offer and agreed to hold the 2nd Special Conference on the Silk Road back-to-back with the 28th SC Meeting they agreed to have in Tehran during the first half of 2017.

Appendices:

- ***I. The 25th SC Meeting***
  1. ***Program***
  2. ***List of Participants***
  3. ***Annotated Agenda***
- ***II. Asian Political Parties' Special Conference on the Silk Road***
  1. ***Program***
  2. ***List of Participants***
  3. ***Beijing Initiative on the Silk Road***
- ***III. Tentative Program of the 26th SC Meeting***
- ***IV. The 2nd ICAPP Workshop on Human Trafficking***
  1. ***Phnom Penh Statement***
  2. ***Program***
  3. ***List of Participants***
- ***V. Special Conference on Regional Economic Cooperation***
  1. ***Vladivostok Statement***
  2. ***Program***
  3. ***List of Participants***
- ***VI. The 3rd Meeting of the ICAPP Women's Wing***
  1. ***Baku Statement***
  2. ***Program***
  3. ***List of Participants***
  4. ***List of the Bureau***
- ***VII. The 1st Meeting of the ICAPP Media Forum***
  1. ***Seoul Statement***
  2. ***Program***
  3. ***List of Participants***
  4. ***Terms of Reference***
  5. ***List of the Bureau***
- ***VIII. Signed Copy of the Inter-governmental MOU***
- ***IX. Report on the Results of the ICAPP Mission to the U.N.***
- ***X. U.N. Document No. A/70/194 of August 18, 2015***
- ***XI. Report on the Results of the ICAPP Mission to the European Parliament***
- ***XII. ICAPP Mission to Monitor Parliamentary Election in Azerbaijan***
  1. ***Invitation Letter from the Central Election Commission of Azerbaijan***
  2. ***List of the ICAPP Mission***