Report of the ICAPP Mission to Australia and New Zealand

(June 14-20, 2023)

An ICAPP delegation visited visited Canberra, Australia and Wellington, New Zealand during June 14-20, 2023 from June 14 to 20, 2023, to meet with the representatives of political parties in Australia and New Zealand to further promote cooperation between the ICAPP and the parties in Australia and New Zealand. The ICAPP delegation was as follows:

- Hon. Cho Jeong-sik, Member of the ICAPP Standing Committee (SC) representing the *Minjoo* (Democratic) Party, Member of the National Assembly
- Hon. Ha Tae-keung, Member of the ICAPP SC representing People Power Party and Member of the National Assembly
- Hon. Kang Hoon-sik, Co-Chairperson of the ICAPP Media Forum, Member of the National Assembly from the *Minjoo* (Democratic) Party
- Hon. Ahn Myung-soo, Secretary-General of the ICAPP Secretariat

In Australia, the ICAPP delegation had meetings as follows:

- Hon. Joanne Ryan, MP of the Australian Labor Party (ALP) and Chief Government Whip, and Hon. Bert Van Manen, MP of the Liberal Party and Chief Opposition Whip on June 15 at National Assembly Building
- Hon. Jennifer Light, National Assistant Secretary of ALP on June 15 at ALP Headquarters
- Hon. Simon Birmingham, Leader of Opposition in the Senate, Liberal Party, and former Minister of Finance and Trade, on June 16 at National Assembly Building

In New Zealand, the ICAPP delegation had meetings as follows:

- Hon. Hon. Greg O'Connor, MP of Labor Party on June 19 at National Assembly Building
- Hon. Gerry Brownlee, MP of National Party on June 19 at National Assembly Building

Meetings with representatives of both governing and opposition parties in Australia and New Zealand were conducted in a very amicable and productive atmosphere. They all welcomed the ICAPP delegation and expressed their appreciation of the contributions made by the ICAPP to further promoting understanding among the political leaders in the region.

At the meeting with both Chief Government Whip and Chief Opposition Whip of the Australian Parliament, the ICAPP delegation invited both governing and opposition parties, the ALP and the Liberal Party, to participate in the ICAPP SC activities as members. The Chief Whips of both parties appreciated the efforts of the ICAPP to reestablish contact with political parties in Australia. They stressed that the two parties in Australia were closely cooperating with each other on external relations, and said that they would relay the ICAPP's suggestions to the senior leadership of their respective parties. In particular, at the separate meeting with Hon. Simon Birmingham of the Liberal Party, the ICAPP delegation reminded that the Liberal Party had been represented by two former Federal Presidents of the party at the ICAPP SC during 2007-2019, and requested to resume its activities as SC member. Mr. Birmingham said that he would follow up on the ICAPP's suggestions as well.

At the meetings with representatives of the governing Labor Party and the opposition National Party in New Zealand, the ICAPP delegation briefed the history and current activities of the ICAPP, and invited both parties to participate in the future ICAPP activities. Representatives of both parties expressed keen interest in participating in the future ICAPP activities, but it would be difficult for them to do so until the general elections to be held on October 14 this year.