Brief Report on the ICAPP Mission to the U.S. in September 2019

As of 8 October 2019

Hon. Park Ro-byug, Secretary General of the ICAPP visited Washington, D.C. on 23-28 September 2019 to meet with the U.S. Congress Members with a view to arranging the upcoming Group Meeting between the ICAPP Standing Committee Members and the U.S. Congress.

During his stay in Washington, D.C., he met with six U.S. Congressmen/women and several staff members of the House of Representatives and the Senate as well as the leaders of the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress (FMC), affiliated with the Democratic/Republican parties and reached a common understanding on the Group Meeting as follows:

Plan on Group Meeting

The U.S. Congress people and the FMC all expressed their warm support for the holding of the Group Meeting with ICAPP Standing Committee Members and welcomed the Secretary General's visit. The six Congressmen/women committed to their participation, though for a limited time, **in the Group Meeting in the morning of 14 November 2019** to be held in the conference room in Congress (Capitol Hill).

Participants from the U.S. (Alternating the seats at their preferred session)

a) U.S. Congress (Democratic)

1) Honorable **Mark Takano** from California's 41st District
2) Honorable **Ed Case** from Hawaii's 1st District
3) Honorable **David Price** from North Carolina's 4th District
4) Honorable **Hank Johnson** from Georgia's 4th District
5) Honorable **Dina Titus** from Nevada's 1st District

b) U.S. Congress (Republican)

1) Honorable **French Hill** from Arkansas's 2nd District
2) Honorable **Brian Mast** from Florida's 18th District

c) FMC

1) Honorable Martin Frost (President of the FMC)

2) Honorable Charles Boustany (Vice President of the FMC)

3) Honorable L.F. Payne (Treasurer of the FMC)

4) Honorable Tom Davis

5) Honorable Philip English

Basic Program

1) U.S. experts on international trade and energy will be invited for a Pre-Discussion to be held on Wednesday, 13 November 2019 from 15:00 to 17:00 in The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation conference room, followed by a Welcoming Dinner with the FMC Leadership.

2) The Main Sessions will be held on Thursday, 14 November 2019 from 10:00 to 12:00 in the conference room of the Congress (Capitol Hill) and will be followed by a Working Luncheon.

Purpose of Group Meeting

1) To develop a network with the U.S. Congress for exchanging views on mutually beneficial issues for cooperation

2) To expand regular channels for dialogue in North America with the ICAPP

Topics

1) **Role of Political Parties and Legislatures for Cooperation on International Trade**

2) **Role of Political Parties and Legislatures for Cooperation on Energy Transformation and/or Action on Climate Change**

Pre-Discussion with U.S. Experts

A Pre-Discussion with U.S. experts on international trade and energy will be arranged to provide the ICAPP participants with information on International Trade, and Energy Transformation and/or Action on Climate Change in advance.

Visas

1) An invitation letter is to be prepared by the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation and will be sent to participants.

2) As informed earlier, Standing Committee Members who wish to participate in the meeting on a voluntary basis are encouraged to inform the ICAPP

Secretariat by Friday, 11 October 2019.

Preparations by Participants

a) Preparation of Position Papers for Participation in Dialogue-Style Discussion

1) The U.S. Congressmen/women would like to listen to and exchange views with ICAPP participants on the above-mentioned topics as well as on current issues and trends, and on the promotion of democracy in general.

2) Participants are encouraged to prepare their position papers on the above-mentioned topics as well as their views to be presented during the dialogue-style discussion.

b) Order of Presentation

The order of presentation will be informed as soon as the participants are determined.

Annex:

1. Program Outline
2. Brief Report on the ICAPP Mission to the U.S. in July and August 2019

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1. Program Outline

Tuesday, 12 November 2019

Arrival of Participants (transportation has to be arranged individually)

Check-In at (hotel to be confirmed)

Wednesday, 13 November 2019

15:00-17:00 Pre-Discussions with U.S. Experts on **International Trade and Energy Transformation and/or Action on Climate Change**

- Venue: Conference Room, The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation
- Participants: ICAPP Delegation

18:30 **Welcoming Dinner**

- Venue: Restaurant (to be confirmed)
- Participants:

1) Honorable Martin Frost, President of Former Members of Congress (FMC) and Mrs. Frost, and other FMC Members
2) ICAPP Delegation

Thursday, 14 November 2019

10:00-10:10 **Opening Session**

- Venue: Conference Room, Congress (Capitol Hill)
- **Opening Remarks**

10:10-10:15 **Photo Session**

10:15-11:00 **Session I**

- Topic: Role of Political Parties and Legislatures for Cooperation on **International Trade**

11:00-11:10 **Coffee Break**

11:10-11:50 **Session II**

- Topic: Role of Political Parties and Legislatures for Cooperation on **Energy Transformation and/or Action on Climate Change**

11:50-12:00 **Closing Session**

12:00 **Lunch**

- Venue: Conference Room, Congress (Capitol Hill)
- Topic: (U.S. Congressional View on Asia and Future of ICAPP-U.S. Group Meeting)
- Participants:

1) U.S. Congress and/or FMC
2) ICAPP Delegation

14:00-16:00 **Visit to Capitol Building/Office Call**

2. Brief Report on the ICAPP Mission to the U.S. in July and August 2019

Hon. Park Ro-byug, Secretary General of the ICAPP visited Washington, D.C. on 22-27 July 2019 as well as New York on 5-8 August 2019 in order to sound out the position of the U.S. Congress Members concerning a Group Meeting between the ICAPP and the U.S. Congress. In addition, the Secretary General attended the Trilateral (U.S.-Korea-Japan) Parliamentary Dialogues on 25-26 July 2019.

During his stay in Washington, D.C., he met with four U.S. Members of the House of Representatives (Hon. Mark Takano, Hon. Judy Chu, Hon. Andy Kim, and Hon. Grace Meng), staffs of the House of Representatives, leaders of the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress (FMC), President of the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), and President of the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation.

During this preliminary visit, the U.S. Congress and U.S. think-tanks expressed their positive assessments on and strong support for a proposal to hold a Group Meeting between the ICAPP Members and the U.S. Congress in November as follows:

Tentative Schedule

1) Wednesday, 13 November 2019: Welcoming Dinner with U.S. leaders of political parties or FMC

2) Thursday, 14 November 2019: Group Meeting between the ICAPP and the U.S. Congress and a Working Luncheon

Key Points in the Discussion with the U.S. Congress and FMC

The U.S. Congress side welcomed the visit by Secretary General Park Ro-byug and told the Secretary General that given the importance of the Group Meeting, they were willing to consider their participation very seriously and would do their best to participate in the proposed meeting, depending on the available timetable.

The U.S. side suggested that it would be necessary to select bipartisan topics of mutual interest to make the first Group Meeting attractive to the U.S. Congress people. The FMC and The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation expressed their willingness to cooperate with the ICAPP Secretariat for the holding of this meeting.

After persuading the U.S. Congress side on the importance of launching the first Group Meeting with Asian political leaders, the U.S. Congress side and the Secretary General tentatively agreed on the following topics for the Group Meeting and

developed a dialogue-style format for the exchange of views. And the U.S. side asked the Secretary General to visit Washington, D.C. again during the working month of September to discuss the Group Meeting in more detail based on a list of ICAPP participants and further concrete steps to hold the Group Meeting.

Tentatively Agreed Topics

1) Role of Political Parties and Legislatures for Cooperation on International Trade

2) Role of Political Parties and Legislatures for Cooperation on Energy Transformation and/or Action on Climate Change

During his visit to New York, the Secretary General discussed with experts within the U.N. such as the U.N. Legal Counsel and the ROK Mission to the U.N. on how to address the issue of heightening the status of the ICAPP in the context of the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). They strongly recommended that it would be more effective for the ICAPP to pursue a consultative status with the U.N. Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) next year, and noted that it would take more time to obtain observer status.