Annotated Agenda
for the 34th Meeting of the ICAPP Standing Committee
(Video Conference, 25 November 2020)

I. Issues relating to the ICAPP Standing Committee (SC)

New Members of the SC

As was informed by the ICAPP Update 20-18 of 30 October 2020, after the results of the legislative elections held on 15 April 2020, SC members from the Republic of Korea have been replaced as follows as of 1 June 2020: Hon. Cho Jeong-sik, Member of the National Assembly from the *Minjoo* Party (Democratic Party) and Chairperson of the ICAPP Parliamentarians Union, has replaced Hon. Park Young-sun. Also, Hon. Ha Tae-Keung, Member of the National Assembly from the People Power Party and Vice Chairperson of the ICAPP Parliamentarians Union, has replaced Hon. Dr. Lee Hye-hoon.

As was informed by the ICAPP Update 20-21 of 13 November 2020, Hon. Charles Honoris, Deputy Chairman of Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation Body of Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle (PDI-P), Member of Parliament in Commission 1 (Foreign Affairs, Security and Defense), has replaced Hon. Andreas Pareira as the representative to the ICAPP Standing Committee.

As was informed by the ICAPP Update 20-22 of 18 November 2020, Hon. Efkan Ala, Deputy Chairman and Chairman of Foreign Affairs of the *AK Parti* (Justice and Development Party), Member of Parliament for Bursa, Former Minister of the Interior of the Republic of Turkey, has replaced Hon. Cevet Yimaz as the representative to the ICAPP Standing Committee.

As was informed by the ICAPP Update 20-24 of 20 November 2020, Hon. Rahgir Al-Mahe Ershad, Member of the Standing Committee on Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in Bangladesh National Parliament, Joint Secretary of the Central Committee of the *Jatiya* Party, has been nominated as the new representative to the ICAPP Standing Committee.

On 13 May 2020, Hon. Anil Shastri, Chairman of Hindi Department in the All India Congress Committee of the Indian National Congress party, communicated to the ICAPP Secretariat that Hon. Karan Singh would be replaced by Hon. Anand Sharma, Chairman of Foreign Affairs Department of the Indian National Congress party, as the new representative to the ICAPP Standing Committee. Since 17 June 2020, the Secretariat has sent a number of requests to the Indian National Congress party for an official confirmation, but has yet to hear back. As such, on 30 October 2020, the ICAPP Secretariat asked Hon. Anil Kumar Shastri, who has participated in SC meetings on behalf of Hon. Karan Singh in the past, to participate in the 34th Meeting of the ICAPP Standing Committee as an Acting SC member until the Indian National Congress party officially confirms the new appointment.

The updated list of SC Members is attached as ***Appendix I***.

Appointment of the New Secretary General

In accordance with the ICAPP Updates 20-13 and 20-14, Ambassador Cho Byung-jae, Former Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Malaysia and to Myanmar, and former Chancellor for the Korea National Diplomatic Academy (KNDA), has been appointed by the Standing Committee as the new Secretary General of the ICAPP.

The ICAPP Updates 20-13 and 20-14 are attached as ***Appendixes II-1 and II-2.***

Next Meeting of the SC

Plans for the 35th SC meeting during the first half of 2021 will be decided depending on future developments of the COVID-19 Pandemic and travel restrictions. If the global situation does not improve, the ICAPP Secretariat deems it appropriate to organize the next SC Meeting via an online platform during the first quarter of 2021.

II. Review of the ICAPP Activities Since the 33rd SC Meeting in December 2019

1st Meeting of Tourism Promotion and Inter-City (TOPIC) Council

The 1st Meeting of Tourism Promotion and Inter-City (TOPIC) Council was successfully co-hosted in Terengganu, Malaysia by *Parti Islam Se-Malaysia* (*PAS*), the United Malays National Organization (UMNO), and the State of Terengganu during 13-16 December 2019. The meeting was attended by representatives of 28 political parties from 20 countries and 2 observers, Council of African Political Parties (CAPP) and International Ecological Safety Cooperative Organization (IESCO).

During the meeting, the ICAPP Members exchanged their views on the following themes:

- The roles of political parties for promoting close cooperation for sustainable and dynamic tourism;
- Cooperation in the tourism sector to generate human resources, job opportunities, and a spillover effect in education and healthcare;
- Supporting smart inter-city technology for an innovative tourism community;
- Facilitating the development of niche tourism "The 7-Summit Mountaineering Expedition Initiative for Peace and Integration."

The ICAPP Members expressed their gratitude to the people and the Government of Malaysia for their strong commitment to the promotion of sustainable tourism. They also gave special thanks to Hon. Dato' Seri Dr. Shahidan, Member of Parliament (UMNO), Hon. Dato' Seri Dr. Ahmad Samsuri bin Mokhtar, Chief Minister of Terengganu, the Terengganu State Government, *Parti Islam Se Malaysia* (*PAS*) and UMNO for their hospitality and excellent preparations for the 1st Meeting of TOPIC Council.

The program, list of participants and the Terengganu Statement are attached as ***Appendixes III-1, III-2 and III-3***.

1st Special Video Conference on the COVID-19 Pandemic

On 22 May 2020, the ICAPP Secretariat hosted the 1st Special Video Conference on the

COVID-19 Pandemic, which focused on "the Impact of the COVID-19 and the Role of Asian Political Parties." 19 Members of the Standing Committee and 2 observers, Permanent Conference of Political Parties in Latin America and Caribbean (*COPPPAL*) and Council of African Political Parties (CAPP), participated in the conference.

During the conference, attendees discussed the responsibility of policy makers in leading the effort against the COVID-19 Pandemic and pledged their commitment to facilitating regional and global cooperation. They also acknowledged the need to hold additional conferences on the COVID-19 Pandemic until the situation globally returned to normal.

Please find the "Statement for the Special Video Conference on COVID-19 Pandemic (1)" attached as ***Appendix IV***.

III. ICAPP Work Program for 2021

The COVID-19 Pandemic has restrained all activities of the ICAPP in 2020. While several important meetings of the ICAPP such as the Asia-Europe Political Forum (AEPF) and Youth Wing and Women's Wing meetings have been rescheduled, the SC still needs to decide on future plans for other activities that were scheduled for 2020 but postponed thereafter.

Following is the ICAPP's tentative work program for 2021:

a. *35th and 36th Meetings of the ICAPP Standing Committee*
b. *11th General Assembly, 4th Trilateral Meeting among the ICAPP-COPPPAL-CAPP, 5th Meeting of the ICAPP Media Forum (Istanbul, Turkey, [previously scheduled for October or November of 2020])*
c. *4th Asia-Europe Political Forum (AEPF) (Prague, Czech Republic, 21-23 May 2021)*
d. *6th Meeting of the ICAPP Youth Wing and 7th Meeting of the ICAPP Women's Wing (Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, [previously scheduled for 20-22 April 2020])*
e. *2nd Meeting of the ICAPP Tourism Promotion and Inter-City Cooperation (TOPIC) Council (Tunis, Tunisia, [previously scheduled for 13-15 November 2020])*
f. *2nd Meeting of the Asian Cultural Council (ACC)*
g. *2nd Special Video Conference on the COVID-19 Pandemic (online, [January 2021])*

Please find ICAPP's tentative work program for 2021 attached as ***Appendix V***.

IV. Preparations for the 11th General Assembly (GA) and Reminder of the 20th Founding Anniversary of the ICAPP

Proposal from the AK Parti

In January of 2020, the *AK Parti* (Justice and Development Party) of Turkey expressed their willingness to host the 11th GA in conjunction with the Standing Committee meeting, the ICAPP Media Forum and the Trilateral Meeting of the ICAPP-*COPPPAL*-CAPP. Initially, the *AK Parti* suggested that these meetings take place in October or November of 2020.

However, since then, all communications on this item have been suspended due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. In this regard, the Secretariat is open to further suggestions from the SC, including the *AK Parti*, on rescheduling the 11th GA next year.

In addition, the idea of hosting an event back-to-back with the 11th GA to commemorate the ICAPP's 20th Founding Anniversary, which falls on this year, was suggested during the previous SC meeting. Therefore, the Secretariat also asks SC Members to share their thoughts in this regard.

The letter from the *AK Parti* to host the 11th GA is attached as ***Appendix VI***.

V. Activities of the ICAPP-affiliated Bodies

The 4th Meeting of the Asia-Europe Political Forum (AEPF)

As was informed in the ICAPP Update 20-11 on 16 June 2020, the 4th Meeting of the Asia-Europe Political Forum was postponed to be held during 21-23 May 2021 in Prague, Czech Republic after consulting SC members on the possible dates suggested by Hon. Jan Zahradil, Member of the European Parliament and Member of the Bureau of the European Conservatives and Reformists Group (ECR).

The ICAPP Update 20-11 is attached as ***Appendix VII***.

The 6th Meeting of the ICAPP Youth Wing and the 7th Meeting of the ICAPP Women's Wing

In December 2019, the Mongolian People's Party offered to host the 6th Meeting of the ICAPP Youth Wing and the 7th Meeting of the Women's Wing in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, during 20-22 April 2020. Since then, the meetings have been postponed due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The ICAPP Secretariat has requested that the Mongolian People's Party propose new dates, which are yet to be confirmed.

The previous invitation from the Mongolian People's Party is attached as ***Appendix VIII***.

The 2nd Meeting of the ICAPP Tourism Promotion and Inter-City Cooperation (TOPIC) Council

As aforementioned, the 1st ICAPP TOPIC Council Meeting took place during 13-16 December 2019 in Terengganu, Malaysia. According to the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the ICAPP TOPIC Council, meetings will be held once a year and the ICAPP member who hosts the meeting may serve one term as Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson after the meeting.

At the 1st ICAPP TOPIC Council Meeting, Mr. Mohamed Yousif Abdalla Mohamed, Deputy Secretary General of Council of African Political Parties (CAPP), proposed that the ICAPP and CAPP organize a joint Africa-Asia tourism promotion cooperation in 2020. He added that the Economic Council of CAPP will coordinate with the ICAPP Secretariat to determine the date and venue of the conference. In this regard, Mr. Amor Belkhiria, President of the Economic Council of CAPP, invited the ICAPP to co-organize a meeting between Africa and Asia in Tunisia.

In the follow-up correspondences between the ICAPP Secretariat and the Economic Council of CAPP, the timing of the meeting was tentatively scheduled for 13-15 November 2020. Since then, the ICAPP Secretariat has followed up with CAPP for updates on the meeting and

is waiting to hear back. As the next meeting is not yet confirmed, any proposals or suggestions from SC Members for future TOPIC Council meetings would be appreciated.

The 2nd Asian Cultural Council (ACC) Meeting

The 1st ACC Meeting took place during 14-16 January 2019 in Siem Reap, Cambodia with the participation of 28 political parties from 19 countries and 1 observer, Council of African Political Parties (CAPP).

According Rules 5-1 and 5-2 in the Rules and Working Modalities of the ACC (***Appendix IX***), the ACC Secretariat shall work closely with the ICAPP Secretariat in terms of coordination and activity implementation. Also, it shall inform the ICAPP Secretariat about its plan and activities. As such, the ACC Secretariat is to submit a report on its activities since the 1st ACC meeting to SC Members through the ICAPP Secretariat.

In this regard, it was mentioned during the 33rd SC Meeting, held on 13 December 2019, that the ACC had received support from the Cambodian Prime Minister and Government. Also, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) had contributed three million dollars for its cultural heritage programs and the ACC had signed an MOU with a Korean province.

In addition, according to Rule 6-1 in the Rules and Working Modalities of the ACC, meetings will be held once a year or biannually via rotation among Asian countries. The ACC Secretariat is to share future plans for the 2nd ACC Meeting in due course.

ICAPP Program for Disasters Assistance (IPDA) Activities

The last meeting of the ICAPP Program for Disaster Assistance (IPDA) Steering Committee took place on 2 September 2016 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Since then, numerous natural disasters have occurred in Asia, including the devastating floods in Jakarta and the eruption of the Taal Volcano, which resulted in mass evacuations of over 300,000 people, in the Philippines this year. As such, the Secretariat suggests the continuation and reinvigoration of IPDA activities and asks for suggestions from SC Members in this regard.

VI. ICAPP Special Conferences

The 2nd Special Video Conference on the COVID-19 Pandemic

As aforementioned, the 1st Special Video Conference on the COVID-19 Pandemic took place on 22 May 2020. Given the pandemic's ongoing spread, which has resulted in global social and economic disruptions, the SC previously acknowledged the need to keep holding special conferences on this topic.

As such, the Secretariat deems it appropriate to hold the 2nd Special Video Conference on the COVID-19 Pandemic sometime in January 2021 in the same format as last time over an online platform. The Secretariat plans to invite members of the ICAPP and observers to the conference. Representatives of governments agencies and international organizations as well as experts from the private sector may also be invited to share best practices, case studies and technical advice. In this regard, any suggestions or feedback from SC Members would be appreciated.

The Secretariat has prepared a concept paper for the 2nd Special Video Conference on the COVID-19 Pandemic, which is attached as ***Appendix X***.

VII. Other Issues

Cooperation with Political Parties Outside of Asia

During the 33rd Meeting of the ICAPP SC, a SC Member proposed to expand the ICAPP's outreach to political parties outside of Asia such as those in North America. SC Members commented that it would be desirable to open a channel for dialogue, and potentially invite political parties in North America as observers to the ICAPP meetings such as the AEPF.

Improvements on the ICAPP Secretariat Website

The ICAPP Secretariat is pleased to inform SC Members that the ICAPP website has been upgraded with a new design and website integration management system. The existing website domain (*www.theicapp.org*) was moved to the newly designed page on 10 July 2020. The Secretariat is open to comments and feedback on the website from SC Members in an effort to continue developing and maintaining the system.

Appendixes

- ***I. Updated List of SC Members***
- ***II. ICAPP Updates regarding Appointment of New Secretary General***
  1. *ICAPP Update 20-13*
  2. *ICAPP Update 20-14*
- ***III. 1st Meeting of the ICAPP TOPIC Council***
  1. *The Program*
  2. *List of Participants*
  3. *Terengganu Statement*
- ***IV. 1st Special Video Conference on COVID-19 Pandemic (1)***
  1. *List of Participants*
  2. *Statement*
- ***V. Work Program of the ICAPP for 2021***
- ***VI. Letter from the AK Parti to Host the 11th General Assembly***
- ***VII. ICAPP Update 20-11 regarding the 4th Meeting of the AEPF***
- ***VIII. Invitation from the Mongolian People's Party***
- ***IX. Rules and Working Modalities of the ACC***
- ***X. Concept Paper for the 2nd Special Video Conference on the COVID-19 Pandemic***