Draft Annotated Agenda for the 12th Meeting of the ICAPP Standing Committee

(Kathmandu, Nepal, February 27, 2010)

I. Preparations for the 6th General Assembly

1. Report from the Organizing Committee of the 6th General Assembly

At the 11th Standing Committee(SC) Meeting held in Astana during September 24-26, 2009, it was agreed to hold the 6th General Assembly(GA) of the ICAPP in Karachi, Pakistan during November 5-7, 2010. The agreement was reached, despite the ICAPP tradition to convene the General Assembly in every two other years, in consideration of the fact that this year marks the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the ICAPP and also the fact that the 5th GA was originally scheduled to be held in Islamabad, Pakistan in October 2008, but postponed to September 2009 due to the unfortunate incident occurred in Islamabad in September 2008.

It is expected that there will be a report by Hon. Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Secretary General of the Pakistan Muslim League and Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the 6th GA of the ICAPP, on the current state of preparations of the GA, including its theme (and sub-themes) and provisional itinerary.

2. List of Political Parties to be Invited to the 6th GA

According to the survey by the Secretariat, there are 263 political parties in 51 countries and 1 territory in the region as of the end of January 2010 which met the criteria for eligibility to be invited to the ICAPP activities including the GA. The list of the political parties is attached as ***Appendix I.***

In this regard, Article 2 of the ICAPP Charter stipulates that "The ICAPP shall be open to political parties in Asia with democratically elected members in the parliaments of their respective countries, which are Member States of the United Nations." The ICAPP Standing Committee has, however, made two exceptions to this article in consideration of political reality and logistic constraints in organizing ICAPP activities as follows:

- At the 5th SC Meeting held in Seoul during June 1-3, 2006, it was agreed to extend invitations to political parties in the Palestinian National Authority in an effort to render the ICAPP activities more inclusive and representative of the diversities existing in the region; and
- At the 8th SC Meeting held in Tehran during November 22-23, 2008, it was further agreed that the following two criteria would be applied to the political parties in Asia to be eligible for invitation to the future ICAPP activities, including the General Assemblies; (1) Political parties which have more than one percent of elected seats in their national parliaments; or (2) Political parties which have won more than one percent of popular votes in their latest national parliamentary elections, as certified and recognized by their national election commissions.

3. Finalization of the Astana Declaration

The Astana Declaration was adopted at the end of the 5th GA held in Astana, Kazakhstan during September 25-26, 2009, which is attached as ***Appendix II.*** There have, however, been several political parties which later claimed that they did not fully participate in the consensus to adopt the declaration and requested for minor changes in the text. In view of this circumstance, the SC members are requested to consider this issue and make the decision on what action could be taken with regard to such requests on the declaration.

II. Issues relating to the Standing Committee

1. Composition of the new Standing Committee

According to Article 9 of the ICAPP Charter, and in accordance with the agreement reached at the 11th SC meeting held in Astana on September 24-26, 2009, the new members of the SC have been nominated who will serve until the end of the 6th GA. The list is attached as ***Appendix III***.

2. Time and venue for future Standing Committee meetings

At the 10th SC Meeting held in Astana during March 27-28, 2009, the United Russia Party indicated that it would positively consider hosting the 13th SC Meeting in Moscow during the latter part of 2010. However, in accordance with the ICAPP tradition and for practical reasons, it is proposed to hold the 13th SC Meeting on the sidelines of the 6th GA to be held in Karachi during November 5-7, 2010.

In this regard, SC members are invited to make proposals for the times and venues of, or offers to host, the 14th and 15th SC Meetings to be held in 2011.

3 New Joint Initiative by ICAPP and COPPPAL to Reach Out to Africa

At the first joint session between the SC of the ICAPP and the Coordinating Body(CB) of the Permanent Conference of Political Parties in Latin America and the Caribbean (COPPPAL) held in Buenos Aires during July 30-31, 2009, it was agreed that the two institutions would jointly reach out to the political parties in Africa and to launch an initiative to have contacts with political leaders in Africa with a view to holding a joint session among political leaders of the three continents and explore ways to meet the global challenges jointly and more effectively.

In accordance with this agreement and after consultation with Hon. Dr. Antonio Cafiero, Chairman of the COPPPAL, Hon. Jose de Venecia, Jr., Founding Chairman and Co-Chairman of the ICAPP Standing Committee, discussed with the political leaders of Libya, which was holding the rotating Presidency of the African Union, during his recent visits to Tripoli and agreed to convene the inaugural meeting of more than 100 ruling and opposition political parties in Africa under the auspices of the General People's Congress of Libya during January 18-19, 2010 and establish both the Organization of African Political Parties and its Executive Committee. The General People's Congress of Libya would then host the first trilateral meeting in Tripoli on January 20, 2010 among the ICAPP SC, the COPPPAL CB and the Executive Committee of the Organization of the African Political Parties. The General People's Congress of Libya had invited members of the ICAPP SC and the COPPPAL CB to attend the inaugural meeting among African political parties as observers and the first trilateral meeting as delegates of their respective institutions. And about half of the ICAPP SC members and five COPPPAL CB members had confirmed their willingness to attend both the inaugural meeting and the trilateral meeting. The list is attached as ***Appendix IV.*** The plan to convene both meetings has, however, been postponed to either April or June 2010 due to an unexpected political development in Libya. In this regard, Chairman Jose de Venecia, Jr. will brief the SC members on the results of follow-up discussions with African leaders on this initiative.

4. Second Joint Session with the COPPPAL CB

At the first joint session between the ICAPP SC and the COPPPAL CB held in Buenos Aires during July 30-31, 2009, it was also agreed to have the joint session between the two institutions on a regular basis in the future and to hold the second session during the first half

of 2011 at a venue in Asia to be decided later through consultation.

In this regard, Hon. Jose de Venecia, Jr., President Emeritus of the Lakas-CMD Party of the Philippines, offered to positively consider hosting the meeting in Manila depending on the outcome of the elections to be held in May 2010. Seoul, the seat of the ICAPP Secretariat, was also mentioned as an alternative venue for the meeting. There was also a suggestion to hold the meeting on the sidelines of the 6th GA of the ICAPP to be held in Karachi in November 5-7, 2010 in consideration of budgetary and time constraints of the members of both the ICAPP SC and the COPPPAL CB. This issue can be further considered in conjunction with the next agenda item, regarding the other programs to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the ICAPP.

It should also be noted that Hon. Dr. Antonio Cafiero, Chairman of the COPPPAL had sent formal invitations to all ICAPP SC members to participate in the annual Plenary Session of the COPPPAL which was held in Santo Domingo, the Dominican Republic during October 10-12, 2009 on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the COPPPAL. Due to budgetary and other constraints, however, no member of the ICAPP SC could have attended the meeting, while the COPPPAL had sent their delegations, headed by Hon. Gustavo Carvajal Moreno, Associate Chairman of the COPPPAL, to both the 4th and 5th GA of the ICAPP respectively. The COPPPAL has also been sending its observers to the SC Meetings since its 10th Meeting held in Astana.

5. First Joint Session with the Executive Council of the APA

At the 11th SC meeting, the SC Members welcomed Hon. M.H. Nejad Hosseinian, Secretary General of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) who had participated in the 5th GA of the ICAPP held in Astana in September 2009 as an observer, and requested Secretary Generals of the ICAPP and the APA to coordinate and make recommendations as for the time, venue and agenda of the first session between the ICAPP Standing Committee and the APA Executive Council.

At the 11th SC meeting, it was further noted that, if the General Assembly of the APA would be held in Moscow in November 2010 as originally planned, the United Russia Party would positively consider hosting the first Joint Session between the ICAPP Standing Committee and the APA Executive Council during the General Assembly of the APA, since many members of the ICAPP SC would attend the APA General Assembly as their parliamentary representatives.

In this regard, Hon. M.H. Nejad Hosseinian, Secretary General of the APA, has agreed to attend the 12th SC Meeting to further discuss ways to promote cooperation and coordinate activities between the ICAPP and the APA.

III. Other ICAPP Activities

1. Special Workshops

It is expected that Hon. Liu Jieyi, Vice Minister of the International Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, will inform the SC members about the details of the Special ICAPP Workshop to be held in China in early June 2010 on the theme of “Poverty Reduction and Alleviation under Globalization” under the auspices of the CPC. The original proposal was to have one and a half day session in Beijing and a brief excursion to one of the provinces in western China for a site visit.

In this regard, SC members are invited to make proposals for the themes, times and venues of, or offers to host, future Special ICAPP Workshops.

2. Other Programs to Celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the ICAPP

Since year 2010 marks the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the ICAPP, SC members are invited to consider if there should be other programs suitable for the occasion.

IV. Other Issues

1. Support for Peace Process in Nepal

The SC Members will be briefed by the representatives of the CPN (UML) on the current state of peace process in Nepal and may exchange views on how to support the efforts of the people and government of Nepal to achieve permanent peace, political stability and economic development through democratic process.

2. Others

The SC Members can raise any other relevant issues under this item.

Appendixes:

I. List of Political Parties Eligible for Participation in ICAPP Activities
II. Astana Declaration
III. List of the New ICAPP Standing Committee
IV. List of SC Members who had confirmed their participation in the 1st Trilateral Meeting among Asia, Latin America and Africa