

Report on the Results of the ICAPP Mission to Sri Lanka (March 11-13, 2014)

Hon. Chung Eui-yong, Co-Chairman of the Standing Committee and Secretary General of the ICAPP, visited Colombo, Sri Lanka during March 11-13, 2014.

During the visit, Co-Chairman Chung had a meeting with H.E. Mahinda Rajapaksa, President of the Socialist Democratic Republic of Sri Lanka and Chairman of the governing Freedom Party (SLFP) at the Temple Tree, the official residence of the president. The meeting was also attended by H.E. Maithripala Sirisena, Minister of Health and Secretary General of the SLFP, Hon. Lalith Weeratunga, Secretary to the President, Hon. Kshenuka Senewirathne, Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs, and other high-level officials of the SLFP and the Ministry of External Affairs.

At the meeting, Co-Chairman Chung expressed his gratitude, on behalf of the ICAPP, for the strong support of the government of Sri Lanka for ICAPP activities, in particular its bid for observer status in the U.N. General Assembly. He also thanked President Rajapaksa's initiative to host the 8th General Assembly in Colombo in September 2014.

President Rajapaksa reaffirmed his strong support for ICAPP activities and reconfirmed his earlier commitment to host the 8th General Assembly (GA) of the ICAPP in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Following understandings were reached with regard to the 8th GA.

- The 8th GA will be held in Colombo during September 18-21, 2014. The tentative program of the GA was agreed as in **Appendix I**.
- The SLFP will invite the United National Party (UNP), the main opposition party in Sri Lanka, to co-host the 8th GA and invite all other political parties in Sri Lanka that have seats in the parliament to attend the 8th GA.
- "Building an Asian Community" will be the main theme of the 8th GA.
- The SLFP will provide local accommodation and transportation for up to two representatives of each participating political party and observer delegation.
- The SLFP will also follow the ICAPP tradition with regard to other conference procedures as suggested in **Appendix II**.

It was also agreed that the official invitations, to be co-signed by the two Co-Chairmen of the ICAPP Standing Committee and the Secretary General of the SLFP, would be prepared and sent out in due course by the ICAPP Secretariat to all political parties, eligible to be invited to ICAPP activities in accordance with the ICAPP criteria.

The SLFP welcomed and accepted the ICAPP's invitation to join the Standing Committee (SC) as a new member on the occasion of the 8th GA and agreed to inviting the UNP as an alternate member of the SC in accordance with the ICAPP understanding reached at the 18th Meeting of the ICAPP Standing Committee held in Baku in November 2011. The SLFP also agreed to attend the 22nd SC Meeting to be held in Vladivostok in mid June and make the presentation on the preparations for the 8th GA.

The SLFP invited Co-Chairman Chung to visit Colombo before the 22nd SC Meeting to

confirm other arrangements for the 8th GA, including logistics and conference facilities.

Co-Chairman Chung also had a meeting with H.E. Ranil Wickremasinghe, Chairman of the main opposition United National Party. The meeting was also attended by Hon. Daya Gamage, National Organizer, and Hon. Anoma Gamage, Member of Parliament. Hon. Chung first expressed his gratitude for active participation of UNP representatives in ICAPP activities.

The UNP leaders welcomed and highly appreciated the decision by the SLFP to host the 8th GA. They also said that the UNP would closely coordinate and cooperate with the SLFP as the co-host to make the 8th GA a most successful event.

They also welcomed and appreciated the invitation to join the Standing Committee as an alternate member and expressed its hope to attend the 22nd SC meeting as a special participant.

Appendixes:

- I. Tentative Program of the 8th General Assembly of the ICAPP***
- II. Conference Procedures for the 8th GA of the ICAPP***