



Special Conference on
“Asia’s Political Development through Political Parties”
(Seoul, Korea, 28-30 September 2022)



ICAPP/15CON/003

Seoul Statement

We, the leaders and representatives of 22 political parties from 13 countries, gathered in Seoul, Republic of Korea for the ICAPP Special Conference on “Asia’s Political Development through Political Parties” during 28-30 September 2022. At the conference, we focused on two topics, i.e. “Roles of Political Parties in Advancing Democracy” and “Public Election System and Development of Political Parties,” and reaffirmed as follows:

1. Political parties are the driving force to advance democracy. It is, therefore, essential that political parties remain open, accessible, inclusive and efficient, connected with and responsive to the people they represent, and vigilant against corruption and injustice in their societies;
2. The roles of political parties have become even more important in this increasingly intertwined world to jointly face common challenges, such as pandemic, extreme weather conditions and returning geopolitical tensions, and to ensure more equitable and sustainable development within and between our countries; and
3. Public elections are the cornerstone of the democratic process, and impartial oversight and credible management of elections is the key to legitimate and democratic governments. In this regard, the elements for a model legislation which were recommended at the “1st Special ICAPP Workshop on State Subsidies for Mainstream Political Parties as a Means to Prevent Political Corruption,” held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, on 24 May 2008, still remain relevant.

We expressed our profound gratitude to our co-hosts, the People Power Party and the *Minjoo* (Democratic) Party of the Republic of Korea, for their warm hospitality and excellent arrangements of the conference. Our special thanks goes to the Korean National Election Commission for its briefing on the public election management system in Korea. We also expressed our appreciation to the ICAPP Secretariat for its cooperation for the success of the conference.

Adopted on 29 September 2022 in Seoul, Republic of Korea

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