



PHNOM PENH DECLARATION

CULTURAL COOPERATION AND INNOVATION FOR SHARED PROSPERITY DURING COVID-19 AND BEYOND

We, the members of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP), convened the 2nd ACC Meeting on 19 March 2021 via video conferencing. The meeting was co-hosted by the ICAPP and ACC Secretariats. We recalled the spirit of the Siem Reap Declaration for Culture of Peace, Sustainable Development, Human Connectivity, and Innovation, which was adopted unanimously at the launch of the ACC on 15 January 2019.

We highly appreciate the visionary leadership of Samdech Techo Hun Sen, Honorary Founding Chairman of the ACC; Hon. Muhammad Jusuf Kalla, Former Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia; Hon. Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli, Prime Minister of the Republic of Nepal; Hon. Jose de Venecia Jr., Founder of the ICAPP and Co-Chairman of the ICAPP Standing Committee; Hon. Chung Eui-yong, Co-Chairman of the ICAPP Standing Committee and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, and other prominent political leaders from Asia for their tireless efforts and commitments to the ACC.

We acknowledge and applaud the significant contributions of the Bureau Members of ICAPP and ACC in leading and facilitating the important works of the ACC. We also express our appreciation to the Asian Development Bank, the Civil Society Alliance Forum, the Asian Vision Institute and all other stakeholders for their support and partnership to deliver on ACC projects. Moreover, we appreciate the keynote speakers from UNESCO, UNOPS, and the Asian Vision Institute for sharing their insights at today's meeting.

We reiterate our commitment to upholding the people's rights and dignity and placing people's interests at the front and centre of national development and international cooperation. In light of the post-COVID-19 recovery, we stress the importance of promoting culture-based development and culture-innovation nexus.

We reiterate our determination, as was expressed in the 2019 Siem Reap Declaration, to uphold the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter, the UNESCO Constitution, the Charter of ICAPP, the Cooperation Agreement between UNESCO and ICAPP, and the spirit of international cooperation based on the principles of mutual respect, mutual understanding and mutual interest (3M4PEACE) in order to achieve peaceful coexistence, equal sovereignty, non-interference in internal affairs, advancement of technology and innovation, constructive dialogue and economic prosperity.

We pledge to further advance our joint efforts and collaboration in promoting unity within the context of diversity, interfaith and religious harmony, as well as advancing inclusive social progress through socialising and promoting cooperative norms, cultural identity, and the values of humanity.

To realise the goals of achieving peaceful, sustainable, inclusive and resilient societies in Asia and to pursue collectively cultural cooperation and innovation for shared prosperity during COVID-19 and beyond, we thereby declare:

Global Cooperation

1. We commit to mobilising our strengths and resources to leverage our cultural richness and diversity to rebuild our economies more robustly and resiliently following the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. We encourage multi-stakeholder dialogues and partnerships to foster creativity and innovation in culture and creative industries so as to create job opportunities for local people and to promote their communities and neighbourhoods.
3. We underscore the importance of international cooperation and partnership under both bilateral and multilateral frameworks in promoting culture-based development, culture-innovation nexus, and people-centred development.
4. We emphasise a whole-of-society approach in responding to societal needs and supporting social adaptation and resilience during times of crises such as social and technological disruptions and restriction on people's mobility caused by the pandemic.

Innovation, Technology, and Creative Industries for Shared Prosperity

5. We acknowledge the need to promote more investments in culture-driven innovation and development. We encourage international collaboration to advance innovation in culture and in the creative industries for shared prosperity.
6. We stress the need for public-private-people partnerships in developing culture and creative industries so as to connect cultures and civilisations, especially to seize the opportunities stemming from the Fourth Industrial Revolution.
7. We recommend active participation of all actors in cultural preservation and development by way of their investments in cultural heritage will generate stronger bonds of friendship, relationship, and connectivity between and among cultures and civilisations.
8. We call upon all political parties, governments, public and private sectors and civil society organisations to promote research and innovation in culture and in the creative industries, so as to establish standards and practices that facilitate and enable social inclusion and inclusive growth.
9. We recognise the urgency of integrating and diffusing technologies in arts and cultures so as to uplift people's livelihoods through cultural and social innovations during COVID-19 and beyond.

Practical Cooperation

10. We encourage the mobilisation of financial resources in the form of trust funds or sustainable development funds through the support of international organizations, private foundations, international development agencies as well as bilateral and multilateral schemes for cultural projects that respond to current and future needs of societies.
11. We foster cooperation in holding public events of cultural significance via virtual or physical platforms, with the emphasis on cultural initiatives including the Cultural Marathon, the Belt and Road Initiative, the UNESCO Silk Roads Programme, and other cultural networks and projects among member countries to promote lasting peace, harmony, and international cooperation.
12. We express our appreciation to the ICAPP and ACC Secretariats for the successful organization of the 2nd ACC Meeting. We also encourage the ACC to work closely with the think tanks, international organisations, civil society organisations, and private corporations to carry out the aforementioned commitments and explore innovative programmes such as the TECHO 100 Village Project to achieve sustainable growth, inclusive development, and shared prosperity for humanity.

Adopted on 19 March 2021.