Statement of the ICAPP Standing Committee
on the Situation in Thailand
(May 20, 2014)

The International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP), representing the political parties of Asia both governing and in opposition, expresses its strong concern at the unfortunate turn of events in Thailand with the sudden declaration of Martial Law by the Royal Thai Army.

We sincerely hope this is merely a stop-gap arrangement for a brief 'cooling-off' period before a firm date is announced for free and fair elections in Thailand in which all Thai people can fully participate without any hindrance. We feel it imperative that, under any circumstances, Martial Law should not be allowed to undermine efforts for democratic and peaceful solution through dialogue among all stakeholders.

As always, ICAPP is ready to play a role to serve as a bridge between the political parties of Thailand with a view to providing much-needed healing to the divisions that have fractured the unity of the Thai people, hurting the economy, and endangering democracy and the rule of law.