Conclusions of the Informal Meeting of the ICAPP Standing Committee
(Istanbul, November 4, 2016)

The informal meeting of the ICAPP Standing Committee was held between 21:00-22:00 on November 4, 2016 at Le Meridien Istanbul Etiler Hotel on the eve of the ICAPP Special Conference on Migration and Refugees which was held in Istanbul during November 4-6, 2016.

The list of participants and the topics for the meeting are attached as ***Appendix I and II.***

The meeting was chaired by Hon. Chung Eui-yong, Co-Chairman of the Standing Committee and Secretary General of the ICAPP.

Preparations for the ICAPP Special Conference on Migration and Refugees

Hon. Afif Demirkiran, Deputy Chairman of Foreign Affairs of the Justice and Development Party (*AK Parti*) of Turkey, who attended on behalf of Hon. Dr. Mehmet Medhi Eker, Vice Chairman of the *AK Parti* in charge of Foreign Affairs, made a brief report on the state of preparations for the ICAPP Special Conference on Migration and Refugees.

A total of 39 political parties from 22 countries have sent their delegations to the conference. Observers from the CAPP (Council of African Political Parties) and the ACRE (Alliance for Conservatives and Reformist in Europe) have also sent their delegations as observers. Representatives from the U.N. High commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) have also sent their senior representatives to the conference. Several other relevant government agencies and civil societies from Turkey will also participate in the conference.

The list of participants in the special conference is attached as ***Appendix III.***

Mr. Demirikiran particularly reported that H.E. Binali Yildirim, Prime Minister and Chairman of the *AK Parti*, together with senior members in the Turkish government, including two Deputy Prime Ministers in charge of Economic Affairs and Social Affairs respectively, will also participate in the opening session.

SC Members reviewed the draft Istanbul Statement on Migration and Refugees, which had been prepared by the Secretariat in cooperation with the Organizing Committee of the special conference, and agreed to submit it to the special session for adoption. The draft statement is attached as **Appendix IV.**

Review of Activities since the 27th SC Meeting

Results of Deliberations on ICAPP's Bid for Observer Status at the U.N. General Assembly

Hon. Chung Eui-yong made a brief report on the results of deliberations on the ICAPP's bid for observer status in the U.N. General Assembly (UNGA), which was conducted at the Sixth

Committee of the 71st session of the UNGA as follows:

The draft resolution to invite the ICAPP to the U.N. General Assembly as an observer was co-sponsored by 13 member states, i.e. Australia, Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, the Netherlands, the Philippines and Sri Lanka, and was deliberated at the Sixth Committee meeting of the 71st session of the U.N. General Assembly on October 11, 2016.

At the meeting, in addition to the co-sponsors, three more member states, i.e. Bangladesh, Iran and Turkey, made statements supporting the draft resolution. Consensus was not reached, however, due to reservations expressed by three member states, i.e. Russia, Syria and Venezuela, on the ground that the ICAPP is not an inter-governmental organization, thus does not meet one of the criteria set by the General Assembly for granting observer status.

In the absence of consensus, the Chairman of the Sixth Committee concluded discussions on the item by recommending member states to continue consultation among them and to revert to it at later stage.

The ICAPP mission to the U.N. on this occasion was also joined by three other SC Members, i.e. Hon. Mushahid Hussain Sayed of Pakistan, Hon. Theo Sambuaga of Indonesia and Hon. Youssef Awad of Lebanon.

The representatives of several co-sponsoring member states have advised the ICAPP Secretariat later that the co-sponsors announce their decision not to pursue the request for observer status at the current session of the UNGA, while reserving the right to present it at a future session.

They also proposed to recommend the Sixth Committee to conclude its consideration of the item on the ICAPP without taking action at its meeting in late October or November, as was the decision taken on the same agenda item at the Sixth Committee meeting on November 19, 2013. It was their view that, under the circumstances, it seems difficult to expect to win the consensus in the foreseeable future, and it may be the best way to defer consideration on the item to a future session as they did at the 68th session in November 2013.

In this regard, the Secretariat requested SC Members to their opinion on the above suggestion by ICAPP Update 16-61 of October 14, 2016, and there have been no objection to this so far.

To this report, SC Members who attended the informal meeting agreed to continue discussions as to what action the ICAPP will take on this matter at future SC meetings.

Proposal to postpone the 1st Joint Session between the ICAPP Standing Committee and the APA Executive Committee

Mr. Chung also reported that, regarding the proposal made by the Cambodian People's Party and the APA (Asian Parliamentary Assembly) Secretariat to hold the 1st Joint Session between the ICAPP Standing Committee and the APA Executive Committee in Siem Reap, Cambodia on the sidelines of the APA Plenary Meeting during November 26-28, 2016, it was tentatively decided to postpone the meeting to early part of 2017 because there might be a low turnout among SC Members due to the successive ICAPP meetings and conferences which have been

held this year. Mr. Chung reported that the CPP agreed to this decision.

SC Members who attended the informal meeting also endorsed the decision. In this regard, the Secretariat will continue to have consultations with the CPP and the APA Secretariat on the dates, venue and topics of the 1st Joint Session, and will inform the SC Members of the results of such consultations in due course.

Work Programs for 2017

SC Members agreed to the following tentative work programs of the ICAPP for 2017, which were presented by the Secretariat.

Trilateral Consultation among ICAPP, COPPPAL and CAPP on future trilateral cooperation (February, Khartoum)

Hon. Dr. Nafie Ali Nafie, Secretary General of the CAPP, who attended the Special Conference offered to host a small group meeting among representatives of the ICAPP, COPPPAL and CAPP, perhaps around five from each organization, in Khartoum, Sudan in February 2017. He proposed to discuss at the meeting how to further promote trilateral cooperation and to proceed to establish the "global forum of political parties" which was agreed upon at the 1st Trilateral Meeting in Jakarta in April 2016.

More detailed information, including how to form the ICAPP delegation, will be provided in due course.

28th SC Meeting (May, Ulaanbaatar)

28th SC Meeting will be held in Ulaanbaatar in May 2017 as planned. The meeting will be co-hosted by the Mongolian People's Party and the Mongolian Democratic Party. More information, including the dates and agenda, will be provided in due course.

Special Session, or the 3rd Meeting, of the ICAPP Media Forum (June, Seoul)

The group of journalist who attended the 2nd Meeting of the ICAPP Media Forum proposed to hold a special session, or the 3rd Meeting of the ICAPP Media Forum, in Seoul in June 2017. They also mentioned about the possibility of providing economy-class airfare and local accommodation for one journalist each from the countries which are represented in the ICAPP Standing Committee.

They also said they would welcome SC Members who wish to attend the meeting and provide local accommodation for them as well. More information, including the dates and agenda, will be provided in due course.

4th Meeting of the ICAPP Youth Wing (July, Mongolia)

As agreed before, the Mongolian People's Party and the Mongolian Democratic Party will co-host the 4th Meeting of the ICAPP Youth Wing in Mongolia in July 2017. More information, including the dates, venue and agenda, will be provided in due course.

5th Meeting of the ICAPP Women's Meeting (July or September, Beirut)

The Bureau Members of the ICAPP Women's Wing and the representatives of the Future Movement and the Free Patriotic Movement of Lebanon, who attended the special conference, agreed to hold the 5th Meeting of the ICAPP Women's Wing in Beirut, Lebanon in July or September 2017. More information, including the dates and agenda, will be provided in due course.

29th SC Meeting and Special Conference on the Silk Road (October, Tehran)

The representatives of the Islamic *Motalefeh* Party of Iran who attended the special conference confirmed its offer to host the 29th SC Meeting and the ICAPP Special Conference on the Silk Road in Tehran in October 2017.

They also informed the Secretariat of their intention to invite another principal political party in Iran to the ICAPP Standing Committee and to inform the Secretariat in due course.

More information, including the dates and agenda of the meeting and the name of the new political party to be invited to the SC from Iran, will be provided in due course.

1st Meeting of the Asia Europe Political Forum (AEPF) (_____, Istanbul or Ankara)

The AK Parti of Turkey offered to host the 1st Meeting of the Asia Europe Political Forum in either Istanbul or Ankara in 2017. In this regard, the Secretariat plans to conduct consultations with the four groups of principal political parties in Europe, including the Alliance of Conservatives and Reformists in Europe (ACRE) which attended the special conference as observers.

1st Joint Session between the ICAPP Standing Committee and the APA Executive Committee

The Secretariat will continue to coordinate with the APA Secretariat and other SC Members on the dates, venue and topics for the 1st Joint Session between the ICAPP Standing Committee and the APA Executive Committee, and inform SC Members the results in due course.

Appendixes:

- ***I. List of Participants in the Informal SC Meeting***
- ***II. Topics of the Meeting for the Informal SC Meeting***
- ***III. List of Participants in the ICAPP Special Conference***
- ***IV. Istanbul Statement on Migration and Refugees***