Brief Introduction of Asian Cultural Council

(December 2018)

1. In September 2016, in Kuala Lumpur, following the suggestion of Hon. Andrey Klimov, representing United Russia Party, at 27th Standing Committee Meeting, an idea was approved, which is to establish “Cultural Council” within ICAPP.

2. Subsequently, a ToR of the Council was drafted by Cambodia in consultation with the members of Standing Committee from China, Nepal and Russia. In July 2017, in Seoul, the draft ToR of the Council was unanimously approved by all standing committee members at the 28th session of ICAPP. The members have also unanimously agreed on naming the cultural council as “Asian Cultural Council - ACC”.

3. The Standing Committee, at its 30th session of ICAPP took place in May 2018 in London, agreed to establish the ACC's Secretariat in the Kingdom of Cambodia. **Samdech HUN Sen**, Prime Minister of Cambodia, was nominated as honorary founding chairman of ACC.

4. Honorable **KHUON Sudary** from the Cambodian People's Party (CPP) has been elected as chairperson and three vice-chairpersons were also elected, namely **Hon. Xiaosong ZHENG**, succeeded from now on by **Hon. GUO Yezhou**, from China, **Hon. Sujata KOIRALA** from Nepal, and Hon. Andrey KLIMOV from Russia. In addition, Hon. SUOS Yara was appointed as Director-General of ACC.

5. The following documents are so far available: (1) ACC Charter, (2) Draft ACC Rules and Working Modalities, and (3) Agreement between UNESCO and ICAPP/ACC.

6. Regarding the partnership with UNESCO, at its 205th Session, on 11 October 2018 in Paris, the UNESCO Executive Board has adopted a decision authorizing the UNESCO Director-General to sign the proposed agreement for cooperation, which is available at the ICAPP Secretariat as well as at the ACC Secretariat.

7. The Signing Ceremony on Cooperation Agreement between UNESCO and ICAPP/ACC was held on 04 December 2018 during the 25th Anniversary of ICC-Angkor in Siem Reap. The ACC was represented by **H.E. Khuon Sudary**, Vice-Chairperson of the ICAPP Standing Committee and Chairperson of the ACC. The ICAPP was represented by **Hon. Park Ro-byug,** Secretary General, while UNESCO was represented by Hon. **Audrey Azoulay**, Director-General. The ceremony was presided over by Samdech **Hun Sen**, President of the Cambodian People's Party and Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

8. As an affiliated body of ICAPP, the main objective of ACC is to enhance ICAPP's international cooperation in the field of cultural governance and sustainable development. The ACC commits to concretizing UNESCO’s objectives as well as UN Sustainable

Development Goals. In addition, ACC aims to promote its member identity, knowledge sharing, and religious harmony.