ICAPP/37SCM/003

Conclusions of the 37th Meeting of the ICAPP Standing Committee
(Prague, Czech Republic, 11 June 2022)

The 37th Meeting (hereinafter referred to as "the Meeting") of the ICAPP Standing Committee (hereinafter referred to as "the SC") of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties (hereinafter referred to as "ICAPP") was held prior to the 4th Meeting of the Asia Europe Political Forum (hereinafter referred to as " AEPF"), hosted by the European Conservative and Reformists (hereinafter referred to "ECR") Group in Prague, Czech Republic during 10-12 June 2022. The Meeting was attended by 21 SC Members in Room Palmovka of the Hilton Hotel Prague from 08:00 to 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, 11 June 2022.

The Meeting was chaired by Hon. Chung Eui-yong, Co-Chairman of the ICAPP Standing Committee. Hon. Chung expressed his appreciation to the Members for their continued efforts to promote the ICAPP causes and active participation in the ICAPP work programs during his five-year absence to carry out official duties as Director of the Office of National Security and as Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea during 2017-2022. He also conveyed the best wishes to the SC Members from Hon. Jose de Venecia, Jr., Founder of the ICAPP and Co-Chairman of the ICAPP Standing Committee, who was not able to attend the Meeting. Hon. Chung also extended deep gratitude on behalf of the ICAPP to the ECR Group for the excellent preparations of the 4th Meeting of the AEPF. The SC Members congratulated Hon. Chung on his successful completion of government duties and warmly welcomed his return to the ICAPP.

The List of Participants and the Annotated Agenda of the Meeting are attached as ***Appendixes I and II.***

Before the Meeting started, the SC Members had a moment of silence for the late His Royal Highness Samdech Krom Preah Norodom Ranariddh, Chairperson of the Supreme Council for the King, Chairperson of the Standing Committee of *FUNCINPEC* Party, First Prime Minister, and former President of the National Assembly of Cambodia, one of the founding Members of the ICAPP and Member of the ICAPP SC, who passed away in November 2021. The Members of the SC expressed their respect to the late prince for his great contributions not only to establishing the ICAPP, but also to further promoting and expanding the ICAPP activities.

Issues Relating to the ICAPP Standing Committee

New Members of the ICAPP SC

The SC Members welcomed the two new Members of the ICAPP SC, including Hon. Ngo Le Van, Vice Chairman of the Central Commission for External Relation of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV), who replaced Hon. Nguyen Thi Hoang Van as the representative of the CPV, as informed by the ICAPP Update 22-02 on 16 May 2022, and Hon. Tselmuun Manlaijav, Head of the International Relations Department of the Mongolian People's Party (MPP), who replaced Hon. Saikhansanaa Khurelbaatar as the representative of the MPP in the ICAPP SC, as informed by the ICAPP Update 21-22 on 17 November 2021. Each new Member made brief remarks introducing themselves to the Members.

Hon. Nguyen Thi Hoang Van, then Vice-Chairperson of the Commission for External Relations of the CPV had replaced Hon. Nguyen Manh Cuong as the representative of the CPV in the ICAPP SC, as informed by the ICAPP Update 21-21 on 28 October 2021.

The SC Members also extended their appreciation and gratitude for the excellent contributions to the ICAPP made by the departing Members of the SC from CPV and MPP.

The updated list of SC Members is attached as ***Appendix III***. The official letters that notify the appointments of the SC Members are attached as ***Appendixes IV 1-3.***

Future Work Program of the ICAPP

Hon. Cho Byung-jae, ICAPP Secretary-General, provided an update on the future work program for the remainder of 2022 and the tentative work program for 2023 and beyond. The SC Members have reviewed the update in detail and agreed as follows:

11th Meeting of the ICAPP General Assembly (GA)

Hon. Afif Demirkıran, Deputy Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Department of *AK Parti* of Türkiye, who attended the Meeting on behalf of Hon. Efkan Ala, Member of the ICAPP SC, Deputy Chairman of *AK Parti*, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Department of *AK Parti*, Member of Parliament, reaffirmed the *AK Parti*'s offer to host the 11th Meeting of the ICAPP General Assembly (hereinafter referred to as "GA") in Istanbul, Türkiye during 3-6 November 2022. He stated that since the 11th GA will be held with the 38th Meeting of the SC, 5th Meeting of the ICAPP Media Forum, 4th Meeting of the Trilateral Meeting among the ICAPP-*COPPPAL*-CAPP, and the 2nd Meeting of the ICAPP Tourism Promotion and Inter-City Cooperation Council (TOPIC), it is important to reorganize and reactivate the ICAPP affiliated bodies in a way that the mission and goals of individual affiliated bodies of the ICAPP would be more clearly defined. He also added that H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of Türkiye, will be invited to the opening ceremony to deliver a welcoming speech, and the President will be accompanied by H.E. Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and H.E. Mehmet Nuri Ersoy, Minister of Culture and Tourism.
As for the program of the 11th GA, Hon. Demirkıran proposed to have a welcoming dinner on Thursday 3 November, plenary sessions from Friday, 4 November to Saturday, 5 November, and a cultural program in the afternoon of 5 November. He indicated that a dinner on a cruise boat in Bosporus Strait will be considered either as a welcoming dinner on Thursday or as part of the cultural program on Friday.

The SC Members expressed their gratitude to the *AK Parti* for its offer to host the 11th GA in Istanbul, Türkiye during 3-6 November 2022, and also for its commitment to providing local accommodation for at least three Members from each participating political party according to the ICAPP tradition. They all agreed that the participation of H.E. Presiden Recep Tayyip Erdoğan at the opening ceremony of the 11th GA will greatly contribute not only to the success of the GA but also to the promotion of ICAPP causes. They also added that the ICAPP will welcome and find proper roles for Hon. Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu and Hon. Mehmet Nuri Ersoy, should they join the GA as well.

Some SC Members, including Hon. Datuk Chong Sin Woon, Member of the ICAPP SC and Secretary-General of the Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA), and Hon. Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Vice-Chairperson and Special Rapporteur of the ICAPP SC, Chairman of Senate Committee on Defense, Pakistan Muslim League-*Nawaz* (PML-*N*), suggested the need to reactivate the affiliated bodies of the ICAPP, so that they can fully function in accordance with their stated goals and visions. The SC Members emphasized, in particular, the importance of promoting the tourism industry and bringing it into the core of the ICAPP's future deliberations as most countries in the region are reopening their borders and taking away COVID-19-related travel restrictions.

The SC Members endorsed the idea of reactivating the affiliated bodies and also agreed that since the meetings of several ICAPP affiliated bodies will be held during the GA, extra efforts are needed to publicize their activities as a premium voice of political parties in Asia through both the local and international media. In this regard, Hon. Afif Demirkıran proposed that other SC Members invite at least one journalist from their countries to the 11th GA.

Previously in January 2020, the *AK Parti* had expressed their willingness to host the 11th GA in Türkiye in late 2020. However, the GA was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and was rescheduled for October 2021. On 19 August 2021, through an official letter addressed to the Secretary-General of the ICAPP, the *AK Parti* has reconfirmed its willingness to host the 11th GA along with the 38th Meeting of the ICAPP SC, the 5th Meeting of the ICAPP Media Forum, the 4th Meeting of the Trilateral Meeting among the ICAPP-*COPPPAL*-CAPP, and the 2nd Meeting of the ICAPP Tourism Promotion and Inter-City Cooperation Council (TOPIC) in Istanbul, Türkiye in 2022 when the risk of pandemic recedes.

The letter from the *AK Parti* dated 19 August 2021 is attached as ***Appendix V.***

Future Meetings of the ICAPP SC

The 38th Meeting of the ICAPP SC will be held back-to-back with the 11th GA in Istanbul, on the morning of 4 November 2022.

Hon. Ha Tae-keung, Member of the ICAPP SC and Member of the National Assembly representing the People Power Party of the Republic of Korea, and Hon. Cho Jeong-sik, Member of the ICAPP SC and Member of the National Assembly representing the *Minjoo* (Democratic) Party, expressed their willingness to co-host the 39th Meeting of the ICAPP SC in April 2023 in Busan, the second-largest city of Korea. The SC Members welcomed this offer with appreciation.

Hon. Dr. Rajan Bhattarai, Member of the ICAPP SC and Chief of the International Department and Member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Nepal (CPN-UML), proposed to host the 40th Meeting of the ICAPP SC in Kathmandu, Nepal in October 2023. The SC Members also welcomed this offer with appreciation.

12th and 13th Meetings of the ICAPP GA

Hon. Suos Yara, Chairman of the Commission of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, Media and Information of the National Assembly, Vice-Chairman of External Relations Commission of Cambodian People's Party (CPP), attending on behalf of Hon. Khuon Sudary,

Vice-Chairperson of the ICAPP SC, Chairperson of the Asian Cultural Council (ACC), Member of the CPP Standing Committee and Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Cambodia, proposed to host the 12th GA in Phnom Penh, Cambodia in November 2024.

Hon. Ha Tae-keung, ICAPP SC Member representing the People Power Party of the Republic of Korea, and Hon. Cho Jeong-sik, ICAPP SC Member representing the *Minjoo* (Democratic) Party, indicated their intention to co-host the 13th GA during the second half of 2026 in Seoul, Korea. Hon. Cho stated that it would be meaningful for the Korean delegation to host the GA again after the 4th GA held in Seoul in 2006.

The SC Members welcomed with appreciation the offers made by the SC Members from Cambodia and the Republic of Korea to host the 12th GA in 2024 and the 13th GA in 2026 respectively in Phnom Penh and Seoul.

Activities of the ICAPP Affiliated Bodies

4th Meeting of the AEPF

Hon. Dr. Rajan Bhattarai, Member of the ICAPP SC, representing the CPN-UML of Nepal, proposed to host the 5th Meeting of the AEPF in conjunction with the 40th Meeting of the ICAPP SC to be held in Kathmandu, Nepal in October 2023. The SC Members welcomed the offer with appreciation.

In this regard, Hon. Cho Byung-jae, ICAPP Secretary-General briefed the SC Members that through a letter dated 2 June 2022, the ECR Group has informed the ICAPP Secretariat that the Group has nominated Hon. Jan Zahradil, Co-Chairperson of the AEPF, Vice-Chairperson of the International Trade Committee, Member of European Parliament, to continue as the Co-Chairperson of the AEPF representing the European side.

The letter from the ECR Group dated 2 June 2022 is attached as ***Appendix VI***.

At the recommendation of the ICAPP Secretariat and in accordance with the Terms of Reference of the AEPF, the SC Members elected Hon. Dr. Rajan Bhattarai as the Co-Chairperson, and Hon. Daya Gamage, Member of the ICAPP SC and Senior Deputy Chairperson of the United National Party (UNP) of Sri Lanka, Member of Parliament and former Minister of Primary Industries and Social Empowerment, as the Vice-Chairperson representing the ICAPP in the AEPF.

Secretary-General Cho also reported to the SC Members that after close consultations among some SC Members on 10 June, the Secretariat prepared an amendment to the paragraph regarding the current situation in Ukraine in the draft Prague Statement to be adopted at the end of the 4th Meeting of the AEPF as follows to reflect the comments received from some SC Members:

> "We expressed grave concern at the military conflict in Ukraine caused by Russia. We urged for early resolution of the situation through diplomatic dialogue to prevent further humanitarian catastrophe, including innocent victims caused by the war. We affirmed the

commitment to abiding by the Charter of the United Nations and the rules-based international order, which are the main foundations for world peace and security."

Some SC Members expressed their reservations about the new paragraph prepared by the Secretariat, but agreed not to block the consensus.

The final draft of the Prague Statement is attached as ***Appendix VII.***

6th Meeting of the ICAPP Youth Wing and 7th Meeting of the ICAPP Women's Wing

The SC Members agreed to hold the 6th Meeting of the ICAPP Youth Wing and the 7th Meeting of the ICAPP Women's Wing in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia in August 2023, as proposed by Hon. Tselmuun Manlaijav, Member of the ICAPP SC and Head of Foreign Relations Department of MPP, through a letter addressed to the ICAPP Secretary-General on 9 March 2022.

Previously, the MPP had offered to host the 6th Meeting of the ICAPP Youth Wing and the 7th Meeting of the ICAPP Women's Wing in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia during the 33rd Meeting of the SC in December 2019. However, the two Meetings were postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the 36th Meeting of the SC in September 2021, the MPP reconfirmed its offer to host the two Meetings in March 2022. However, due to the pandemic and the limited flight options, the two Meetings were put off again to the summer of 2023.

The official letter from the MPP on 9 March 2022 regarding the postponement of the 6th Meeting of the Youth Wing and the 7th Meeting of the Women's Wing to 2023 is attached as ***Appendix VIII.***

3rd Meeting of the Asian Cultural Council (ACC)

Hon. Suos Yara, representing the Cambodian People's Party (CPP) and in his capacity of Director-General of the Asian Cultural Council (ACC), reaffirmed the CPP's willingness to host the 3rd Meeting of the ACC in the summer of 2023. After discussions among the SC Members regarding the overall ICAPP work program, and with the consent of Hon. Yara, it was agreed to hold the 3rd Meeting of the ACC during the 12th GA, which is to be held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia in November 2024.

At the 36th Meeting of the ICAPP SC, the CPP had proposed to host the 3rd Meeting of the ACC in Cambodia in 2022. However, the meeting had been delayed due to the pandemic.

ICAPP Business Council (IBC)

Hon. Cho Byung-jae, ICAPP Secretary-General, briefed the SC Members regarding the requests from some SC Members to establish a separate ICAPP Business Council (hereinafter referred to as "IBC") as an affiliated body of the ICAPP. In consideration of the strong interest and recommendation expressed by some SC Members, the Secretariat prepared and presented draft Terms of Reference (TOR) of the IBC to be considered by the Members. The draft TOR is attached as ***Appendix IX.***

The SC Members welcomed the initiative and agreed to the TOR as proposed by the Secretariat. Accordingly, they elected the Members of the IBC Bureau as follows:

Co-Chairperson: Hon. Dr. Nalinee Taveesin, Member of the ICAPP SC and Chairperson of Foreign Affairs Committee of *Pheu Thai* Party, former Thailand Trade Representative and former Minister Attached to the Prime Minister's Office, Thailand
Vice-Chairpersons: Hon. Fadi Fawaz, Member of the ICAPP SC and Advisor for Development Affairs to H.E. Saad Hariri, Prime Minister and Chairman of Future Movement Party of Lebanon, and Hon. Ha Tae-keung, Member of the ICAPP SC and Member of the National Assembly representing the People Power Party of the Republic of Korea

It was agreed that the members of the IBC Bureau from the business side will be elected through consultation among the newly elected Members of the Bureau. The SC Members also agreed that the ICAPP Secretariat will play the role of the IBC Secretariat.

In this regard, Hon. Ha Tae-keung, one of the newly elected Vice-Chairpersons of the IBC, offered to host the 1st Meeting of the IBC, back-to-back with the 39th Meeting of the SC in Busan, Korea in April 2023. The SC Members welcomed the offer. Some SC Members also offered to provide necessary information by coordinating with the think tanks in their countries to support the 1st Meeting of the IBC in Korea.

ICAPP Special Conferences

Special Conference on "Asia's Political Development through Political Parties" (Seoul, Republic of Korea, September 2022)

Hon. Cho Jeong-sik, Member of the ICAPP SC representing the *Minjoo* (Democratic) Party of the Republic of Korea, reaffirmed the offer to co-host, with the People Power Party of the Republic of Korea, the ICAPP Special Conference on "Asia's Political Development through Political Parties" in Seoul, Korea in late September 2022. The SC Members welcomed the offer with appreciation. The exact dates and the program of the conference will be notified by the ICAPP Secretariat in due course.

Special Conference on "Security and Cooperation: Role of Political Parties"

Hon. Dr. Rashad Mahmudov, Member of the Board of the New Azerbaijan Party (*YAP*), Deputy Chairman of the Health Committee of the *Milli Majlis* (Parliament) of Azerbaijan, Chairman of the Board of the Azerbaijan Heart and Health Association Public Union, attending on behalf of Hon. Ali Javad Ahmadov, Member of the ICAPP SC and Deputy Prime Minister, Deputy Chairman of *YAP*, reconfirmed his Party's willingness to host the Special Conference on "Security and Cooperation: Role of Political Parties" in Baku, Azerbaijan by the end of November 2022.

The SC Members welcomed the proposal, but some Members suggested readjusting the dates for the Special Conference closer to the 11th GA to be held in Istanbul during 3-6 November. Due to the geographic proximity of the two venues, it may secure wider participation of Members, should the Special Conference is held back-to-back with the 11th GA. Hon. Dr. Rashad Mahmudov responded that although the proposed time is linked with the anniversary

of the foundation of *YAP* on 21 November, he will have internal discussions on the possibility of changing the dates and inform the SC Members soon upon his return.

YAP had initially offered to host a Special Conference on "Peace and Cooperation" during 3-5 December 2021. On 31 August 2021, however, due to the pandemic, the conference was postponed to the latter part of 2022. Through a letter dated 21 February 2022, *YAP* reaffirmed its offer to host the Special Conference on "Security and Cooperation: Role of Political Parties" in Baku, Azerbaijan in the 4th week of November 2022.

The letter from *YAP* dated 21 February 2022 is attached as ***Appendix X***.

The future work programs in 2022, 2023 and beyond that the SC Members agreed to at the Meeting are attached as ***Appendixes XI 1 -2.***

Other Issues

ICAPP Charter and Terms of Reference of its Affiliated Bodies

During the Meeting, the ICAPP Secretariat circulated the newly compiled *ICAPP Charter and Terms of Reference of its Affiliated Bodies* as follows:

- **ICAPP Charter**, as amended.
- **TORs of the Affiliated Bodies**, including ICAPP Youth Wing, ICAPP Women's Wing, ICAPP Program for Disasters Assistance (IPDA), ICAPP-*COPPPAL* Business Council, ICAPP Media Forum, Asia-Europe Political Forum (AEPF), Asian Cultural Council (ACC), and Tourism Promotion and Inter-City Cooperation Council (TOPIC).
- **TORs** of the ICAPP Youth Wing, ICAPP Women's Wing, and ICAPP TOPIC incorporated related decisions and documents that have been previously approved.

The compiled list of *ICAPP Charter and Terms of Reference of its Affiliated Bodies* is attached as ***Appendix XII.***

Appendixes

- ***I. List of participants in the 37th Meeting of the SC***
- ***II. Annotated Agenda of the 37th Meeting of the SC***
- ***III. Updated List of SC Members***
- ***IV. Official Letters of Appointment of New SC Members***
  1. *Letter of Appointment from Communist Party of Vietnam, Vietnam*
  2. *Letter of Appointment from Mongolian People's Party, Mongolia*
  3. *Letter of Appointment from Communist Party of Vietnam, Vietnam*
- ***V. Letter from the* AK Parti**
- ***VI. Letter from the ECR Group***
- ***VII. Final Draft Prague Statement***
- ***VIII. Letter from the Mongolian People's Party***
- ***IX. Draft Terms of Reference of the ICAPP Business Council***
- ***X. Letter from the New Azerbaijan Party***
- ***XI. ICAPP Work Programs***
  1. *ICAPP Work Program for 2022*
  2. *ICAPP Work Program for 2023 and Beyond*
- ***XII. ICAPP Charter and Terms of Reference of its Affiliated Bodies***