Annotated Agenda
for the 40th Meeting of the ICAPP Standing Committee
(Kathmandu, Nepal, 13 October 2023)

As of October 6, 2023

I. Issues Relating to the ICAPP SC

New Members of the SC

As was informed by the ICAPP Update 23-34 of July 11, 2023, the Justice and Development Party (*AK Parti*) of Türkiye nominated Hon. Zafer Sırakaya, Member of Parliament for Istanbul, the Deputy Chairman of the *AK Parti* in charge of Foreign Affairs, as its representative in the ICAPP SC, replacing Hon. Efkan Ala, who was appointed as the Vice Chairman of the *AK Parti.*

As was informed by the ICAPP Update 23-37 of July 14, 2023, the Islamic *Mo'talefeh* Party (IMP) of the Islamic Republic of Iran nominated Hon. Dr. Prof. Hossein Niknam, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Health of Iran and Member of Central Committee of Islamic *Mo'talefeh* Party, as its representative in the ICAPP SC, replacing the late Hon. Dr. Hassan Ghafourifard, former Vice President of Iran.

As was informed by the ICAPP Update 23-49 of August 29, 2023, the Democratic Party of Mongolia nominated Hon. Narantuya Zagdkhuu, Director of the Policy and Strategy Institute of the Democratic Party of Mongolia, as its representative in the ICAPP SC, following the institutional and administrative changes with regard to the change in the party leadership, and replacing Hon. Erdenesuvd Derem.

As was informed by the ICAPP Update 23-51 of September 11, 2023, the New (*Yeni*) Azerbaijan Party (YAP) of Azerbaijan nominated Hon. Tahir Budagov, Deputy Chairperson and the Head of the Central Office of the YAP, as its representative in the ICAPP SC, replacing Hon. Dr. Ali Ahmadov, who decided to devote to his heavy workload as Deputy Prime Minister of Azerbaijan.

The updated list of SC Members is attached as ***Appendix I.***

Appointment of the New Secretary-General

As was informed by the ICAPP Update 23-41 of July 28, 2023, Hon. Kwon Hee-seog, who had served as ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Italy and ASEAN (Jakarta), was appointed as the new Secretary-General of the ICAPP Secretariat with the consent of the SC Members as of August 1, 2023. In accordance with Para 1, Article 13 of the ICAPP Charter, the appointment of the new Secretary-General shall be subjected to confirmation at the 12th General Assembly to be held in 2024. Ambassador Kwon will be in charge of the general management of the Secretariat.

The curriculum vitae of Secretary General Kwon is attached as ***Appendix II.***

Preferment of ICAPP SC Members

As was informed by the ICAPP Update 23-53 of September 22, 2023, Hon. Khuon Sudary, Vice Chairperson of the ICAPP Standing Committee, was elected as the President of Cambodia's National Assembly on August 22, 2023.

Hon. Dr. Nalinee Taveesin, Member of the ICAPP Standing Committee representing the Pheu Thai Party of Thailand and Co-Chairperson of the ICAPP Business Council, has also been appointed as an Advisor to the Prime Minister and Trade Representative of Thailand on September 14, 2023.

Future Meetings of the SC

At the 39th SC Meeting in Busan on May 1, 2023, Hon. Jan Zahradil, Co-Chairperson of the Asia-Europe Political Forum (AEPF), Member of the European Parliament representing the Czech Republic and Bureau Member of the European Conservatives and Reformists Group (ECR) in the European Parliament, proposed to host the 6th Meeting of the Asia-Europe Political Forum, in Brussels, Belgium in April 2024.

In this regard, some SC Members suggested to hold the 41st SC Meeting of the ICAPP, back-to-back with the 6th AEPF meeting in Brussels. Some SC Members also expressed their difficulty for the suggested time, due to the already confirmed political agenda in their countries in mid-April next year.

The venue and exact dates of the 41th SC Meeting need to be further discussed by SC Members.

At the 38th SC Meeting in Istanbul on November 17, 2022, SC Members also agreed to hold the 42nd SC Meeting on the sidelines of the *12th* General Assembly (GA) to be held in Phonom Penh, Cambodia in November 2024, following the tradition of the ICAPP.

II. Review of the ICAPP Activities since the 39th SC Meeting

Report of the ICAPP Delegation to Japan

As a part of the ICAPP's reach-out efforts, an ICAPP delegation was sent to Japan during April 10-11, 2023. The delegation was composed of Hon. Ha Tae-keung, Member of the ICAPP Standing Committee and Member of the National Assembly from the People Power Party; Hon. Lee Dong-ju, Member of the National Assembly from the *Minjoo* (Democratic) Party of the Republic of Korea; and Hon. Ahn Myung-soo, Secretary-General of the ICAPP Secretariat.

The ICAPP delegation had meetings with the following political leaders of Japan

- Hon. Masaharu Nakagawa, Member of the House of Representatives, and Chairperson of Constitutional Research Committee of Constitutional Democratic Party
- Hon. Yoichiro Aoyagi, Member of the House of Representatives and Executive Deputy Director of the International Department of the Constitutional Democratic Party

- Hon. Hideshi Futori, Member of the House of Representatives, Constitutional Democratic Party
- Hon. Shintaro Ito, Member of the House of Representatives, Director-General of the International Bureau of the Liberal Democratic Party
- Hon. Ryuji Koizumi, Member of the House of Representatives, Liberal Democratic Party

The political leaders in Japan expressed their appreciation for the contributions made by the ICAPP to promote cooperation and understanding among political parties in the region. They also agreed to maintain close contact and communication with the ICAPP Secretariat as to further explore various avenues to promote cooperation between the ICAPP and the political parties in Japan.

The report of the ICAPP delegation's visit to Japan is attached as ***Appendix III.***

Report of the ICAPP Delegation to Australia and New Zealand

As a part of the ICAPP's reach-out efforts, an ICAPP delegation was also sent to Australia and New Zealand during June 14-20, 2023. The ICAPP delegation was composed of Hon. Cho Jeong-sik and Hon. Ha Tae-kyung, both Members of the ICAPP SC and Members of the National Assembly, Hon. Kang Hoon-sik, Co-Chairperson of the ICAPP Media Forum and Member of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea, and Hon. Ahn Myung-soo, Secretary General of the ICAPP Secretariat.

The ICAPP delegation had meetings with the following political leaders of Australia.

- Hon. Joanne Ryan, Member of Parliament and Chief Government Whip, Australian Labor Party
- Hon. Jennifer Light, National Assistant Secretary of Australian Labor Party
- Hon. Bert Van Manen, Member of Parliament and Chief Opposition Whip, Liberal Party
- Hon. Simon Birmingham, Leader of Opposition in the Senate, Liberal Party

The ICAPP Mission also met with the following political leaders of New Zealand.

- Hon. Greg O'Connor, Leader of Opposition in the Senate, Liberal Party
- Hon. Gerry Brownlee, MP of National Party

The discussions in both countries were conducted in a constructive, amicable, and forward-looking way. The participants focused on the current activities and the future plans of the ICAPP and how to enhance the cooperation and coordination between the ICAPP and the political parties in both countries. They agreed to continue to further explore possible and practical ways for collaboration in this regard.

The report of ICAPP delegation to Australia and New Zealand is attached as ***Appendix IV.***

Report of the ICAPP Electoral Observer Mission to Cambodia

An ICAPP Mission was dispatched to Cambodia during July 20-24, 2023, at the invitation of the National Election Committee of Cambodia, to observe the general elections held on July 23, 2013. The ICAPP Mission was composed of representatives of thirteen political parties from ten countries in the region, i.e. Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Iran, Lebanon, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, and Vietnam, and headed by Hon. Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Co-chairperson and Special Rapporteur of the ICAPP SC. Hon Ahn Myung-soo, Secreatry General of the ICAPP Secretariat and a Member of the ICAPP Business Council from Indonesia also joined the mission.

The ICAPP Mission held meetings with the following political leaders of Cambodia during their visit.

- H.E. Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of Cambodia, President of Cambodian People's Party
- HRH Prince Norodom Chakravuth, President and Chairperson of the Standing Committee of the *FUNCINPEC* Party
- Representatives of the Grassroots Democratic Party

Upon arrival in Phnom Penh, the members of the ICAPP delegation were given orientation by the NEC, the Civil Society Alliance Forum (CSAF) and the Ministry of Interior of the Cambodian government on the procedures of the general elections and the code of conduct for electoral observers. While in Cambodia, the delegation paid a courtesy call to His Excellency Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, the Prime Minister of Cambodia. They also met with Hon. Annie Sok An, spouse of the late H.E Samdech Vibol Panha Sok An, former Deputy Prime Minister and Member of the ICAPP SC. Afterwards, they met other leaders of the ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP). The delegation also had meetings with the *Funcinpec* Party, the Grassroots Democratic Party (GDP), and H.E. Prak Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister of Cambodia.

On election day, the ICAPP delegation visited four polling stations, including the one in Santhormok High School and Baktuk High School, and observed as the NEC staff were carrying out their task with the assistance of volunteers. The ICAPP mission was also invited to witness the vote counting process immediately after the conclusion of voting. The mission issued the statement on the results of their observations on the elections on July 23, 2023.

The statement, report, and program of the ICAPP electoral observer mission to Cambodia are attached as ***Appendixes V-1, V-2, and V-3***

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

The 6th Meeting of the ICAPP Youth Wing and the 7th Meeting of the ICAPP Women's Wing were hosted by the Mongolian People's Party (MPP) in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia between August 4 to 7, 2023. The two meetings were participated by representatives of 20 political parties from 18 countries. The two meetings commenced with opening statements by H.E. Amarbayasgalan Dashzegve, Minister of Mongolia, Chief Cabinet Secretary, and Secretary General of the MPP,

and Hon. Chung Eui-yong, Chairman of the ICAPP Standing Committee and former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea.

The Youth Wing meeting focused on the main question of "Engaging Young People in Social and Political Dialogue for Post-Pandemic Socio-Economic Progress," and the Women's Wing meeting on "Promoting Women's Leadership to Achieve a Gender-Responsive Post-Pandemic Recovery."

Hon. Uchral Nyam-Osor, Minister of Digital Development and Communications of Mongolia and President of Social Democratic Youth of the MPP, and Hon. Mrs. Nomin Chinbat, Minister of Culture of Mongolia and Vice President of Social Democratic Women of the MPP, were elected as Chairpersons of the Youth Wing and the Women's Wing respectively, and mandated to serve in their capacity until the next meetings of both affiliated bodies are held.

The Ulaanbaatar Statements for both meetings were adopted at the closing session respectively.

The program, list of participants, and the Ulaanbaatar Statements are attached as ***Appendixes VI-1, VI-2, VI-3, and VI-4.***

III. ICAPP Work Programs for 2023 and 2024

6th Meeting of the ICAPP Media Forum

The ICAPP Secretariat is proposing to hold the 6th Meeting of the ICAPP Media Forum in Seoul, Republic of Korea during November 17-19, 2013.

The invitation letter, tentative program, and concept paper of the meeting are attached as ***Appendixes VII-1, VII-2, and VII-3.***

6th Meeting of the Asia-Europe Political Forum

At the 39th SC Meeting held in Busan on May 1, 2023, Hon. Jan Zahradil, Co-Chairperson of the Asia-Europe Political Forum (AEPF), Member of the European Parliament, Bureau Member of the European Conservatives and Reformists Group (ECR) of the Czech Republic, confirmed his offer to host the 6th Meeting of the Asia-Europe Political Forum in Brussels next spring, preferably in April.

The exact dates of the AEPF Meeting need to be further discussed among SC Members in view of some Members' difficulty with regard to the time due to pre-confirmed political agenda in mid-April in their countries.

12th and 13th General Assemblies (GA) of the ICAPP

At the 38th SC Meeting in Istanbul on November 17, 2022, SC Members welcomed with gratitude the offer by the representatives of the Cambodian People's Party to host the *12th* General Assembly (GA) in Phonom Penh, Cambodia in November 2024. It was also agreed that the 42nd SC Meeting and the 3rd Meeting of the Asian Cultural Council (ACC) of the ICAPP would be held on the sidelines of the 12th GA.

At the 38th SC Meeting, the SC Members also welomed the offer made by the representatives of the *Minjoo* (Democratic) Party and People Power Party of the Republic of Korea to co-host the 13th GA in Seoul, Republic of Korea during the second half of 2026.

The exact dates of the future GAs will be notified in due course.

Proposal for ICAPP Special Conference or Workshop

At the 39th SC Meeting in Busan on May 1, 2023, SC Members shared the view that the ICAPP should consider holding another ICAPP Special Conference or Workshop on specific topics in the near future. In this regard, SC Members suggested a number of possible topics for such an event, i.e. climate change, ESG (Environmental, Social and Governace), people's behavior in an enviromentally responsive way, ICAPP's role in the post-Covid era, economic and social challenges facing Asia in the wake of COVID-19 and ICAPP's role in addressing them.

In this regard, SC Members are invited to offer to host such an event and share more thoughts for possible topics.

IV. Other Issues

Streamlining of the Terms of Reference of the ICAPP Affiliated Groups

At the meetings of the ICAPP affiliated groups held in 2023, including the meeting of the ICAPP Business Council held in Busan, Republic of Korea on May 1, and ICAPP Youth Wing and Women's Wing Meetings held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia on August 4, the Terms of Reference (TORs) of the groups were revised reflecting the current working environment.

The revised TORs of the ICAPP Business Council, Youth Wing, and Women's Wing are attached as ***Appendixes VIII-1, VIII-2,*** **and** ***VIII-3.***

In this regard, SC Members are invited to review the TORs of other affiliated groups of the ICAPP, i.e. Tourism Promotion and Inter-City Cooperation Council (TOPIC), Asian Cultural Council (ACC), ICAPP Program for Disasters Assistance (IPDA), and ICAPP Media Forum. SC Members are also requested to make suggestions to the ICAPP Secretariat with a view to considering practical and appropriate changes at the 41th SC Meeting to be held during the first half of 2024.

The TORs of the TOPIC, ACC, IPDA, and Media Forum are attached as ***Appendixes VIII-4,5,6, and 7.***

Extension of the Cooperation Agreement between the ICAPP and the UNESCO

On December 4, 2018, the ICAPP concluded a Cooperation Agreement with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to "update, consolidate and strengthen their cooperation in a program-oriented manner for the purpose of achieving their common aims within the context of the U.N. charter, the Constitution of the UNESCO and the Charter of the ICAPP and Terms of Reference of its affiliated bodies, including the Asian

Cultural Council (ACC), values and objective." The agreement was signed in Siem Reap, Cambodia by Secretary General of the ICAPP Secretariat, Director General of the UNESCO and Chairperson of the ACC.

In accordance with Article 6 of the ICAPP-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement, the agreement will "remain effective for a period of five years from the date of signature," and "may be extended by the mutual written agreement of both Parties, in accordance with their respective rules, regulations, and procedures."

In this regard, as the end of the duration of the agreement approaches, and as mandated by the SC Members after the circulation of ICAPP Update 23-52, dated September 15, 2023, the Secretary General of the ICAPP Secretariat and the Chairperson of the ACC have sent an official letter to the Director-General of the UNESCO on October 5, 2023, proposing to take necessary measures to extend the Cooperation Agreement between ICAPP and UNESCO for a period of five years in accordance with Article 6 of the Agreement.

The Letter to the Director-General of the UNESCO is attached as ***Appendix IX.***

Cooperation with COPPPAL and CAPP

The meetings between the ICAPP and *COPPPAL*, Conference of Political Parties in Latin America and the Caribbean, have been held at the Standing Committee level in Buenos Aires in 2009, Phnom Penh in 2010, Mexico City in 2012, Baku in 2013, Mexico City in 2014. Following these meetings, the bilateral cooperation between the ICAPP and *COPPPAL* has developed and expanded into a trilateral meeting involving CAPP, Council of African Political Parties, since 2016. The Secretariats of ICAPP-COPPPAL-CAPP had collaborated to hold three trilateral meetings thus far at the Standing Committee level, in Jakarta (2016), in Tegusicalpa (2017), and in Moscow (2018).

Since the CAPP Secretariat based in Khartoum, Sudan, had become incapable of functioning properly due to the continuous political turmoil in the country, it now appears to be difficult to continue trilateral cooperation among the ICAPP, the *COPPPAL*, and the CAPP. that the CAPP Secretariat and its Members function properly for the time being,

Under the circumstances, it is recommended that the ICAPP Secretariat continues to its bilateral collaboration with the *COPPPAL* Secretariat to resume the regular ICAPP-*COPPPAL* bilateral meetings at Standing Committee level, and also continues to reach out to political parties in Africa to explore ways to further promote cooperation among political parties in Asia and Africa with the help of political parties represented in the ICAPP Standing Committee.

Other Issues

The SC Members may raise any other issue of their interest under this item.

Appendixes:

I. ***The Updated List of SC Members***
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VII. ***6th Meeting of the ICAPP Media Forum***
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VIII. ***TORs of the ICAPP Affiliated Groups***
    1. *TOR of the ICAPP Business Council*
    2. *TOR of the ICAPP Youth Wing*
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    7. *TOR of the Media Forum*
IX. ***Letter to the Director-General of the UNESCO***