ICAPP NEWS

International Conference of Asian Political Parties

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ICAPP Meetings

- 40th Meeting of the Standing Committee at Kathmandu, Nepal [Oct. 13, 2023]
- 5th Asia Europe Political Forum at Kathmandu, Nepal [Oct. 13-16, 2023]
- 6th Meeting of ICAPP Media Forum at Seoul, Republic of Korea [Nov. 17-19, 2023]
- The ICAPP Special Workshop at Jeju Island, Republic of Korea [Dec. 8-10, 2023]

Activities of ICAPP Secretariat

- Meeting with Azerbaijani Parliament Speaker
- Meeting with Mongolian Minister of Digital Development
- Visit of Chairperson to the Kingdom of Cambodia

ICAPP SC Members

- Hon. Mushahid Hussain Sayed Writes an Article Celebrating Legacy of Jose de Venecia
- Hon. Khuon Sudary, elected as the President of Cambodia's National Assembly
- Hon. Dr. Nalinee Taveesin, appointed as Advisor to the Prime Minister and Trade Representative
- Hon. Mushahid Hussain Sayed, honored with the "Special Contribution Award", Beijing, People's Republic of China

The 40th MEETING OF ICAPP STANDING COMMITTEE

The 40th Meeting of the Standing Committee (SC) of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP) was held in Kathmandu, Nepal, on October 13, 2023.

The meeting, chaired by Hon. Chung Eui-yong, Chairperson of the ICAPP Standing Committee and Hon. Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Co-Chairperson of the ICAPP Standing Committee, discussed various issues on ICAPP activities.

Key points included the introduction of new SC members, the promotion of SC members on their newly assigned positions, and plans for future meetings.

The meeting reviewed ICAPP activities, including reports on the ICAPP Mission to Japan, Australia, and New Zealand, as well as an electoral observer mission to Cambodia. The 6th Meeting of the ICAPP Youth Wing and the 7th Meeting of the ICAPP Women's Wing held in Mongolia last August were also discussed.

Future work programs, such as the 6th Meeting of the ICAPP Media Forum to be held in Seoul in November 17-19, 2023, and the 6th Meeting of the Asia-Europe Political Forum to be held tomorrow in Kathmandu were reviewed.

The meeting addressed the streamlining of the Terms of Reference for ICAPP affiliated groups, the extension of the cooperation agreement with UNESCO, and the continued cooperation with the COPPPAL and the CAPP.

The 40th Meeting of the Standing Committee were attended by 14 representatives from 12 parties.

Key Agenda of 40th SC

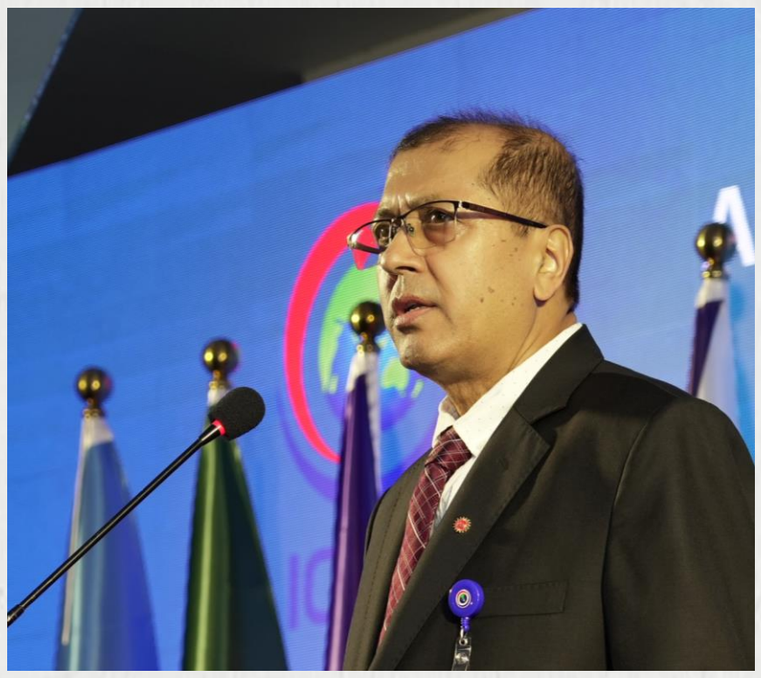
I. Statements Issued by the ICAPP Standing Committee (SC)
- *Earthquake in Afghanistan*

II. Issues Relating to the ICAPP SC
- *New Members of the SC*
- *Appointment of the New Secretary-General*
- *Preferment of ICAPP SC Members*
- *Future Meeting of the SC*

III. Review of the ICAPP Activities Since the 39th SC Meeting
- *Report of the ICAPP Delegation to Japan*
- *Report of the ICAPP Delegation to Australia and New Zealand*
- *Report of the ICAPP Electoral Observer Mission to Cambodia*
- *6th Meeting of the ICAPP Youth Wing and 7th Meeting of the ICAPP Women*
- *S Wing*

IV. ICAPP Work Program for 2023 and 2024

The 5th Asia-Europe Political Forum Unites Leaders in Kathmandu



Leaders and representatives from 20 political parties across Asia and Europe convened in Kathmandu for the 5th Asia-Europe Political Forum (AEPF).

The forum focused on "Promoting Sustainable Tourism" and "Safeguarding Financial Stability in the Post-Pandemic Era."

The 1st Session addressed the theme of “Promoting Sustainable Tourism”, under the moderation of Hon. Jan Zahradil, Co-Chairman of the Asia-Europe Political Forum, Member of the European Parliament, European Conservatives and Reformists Group (ECR), Czech Republic.

The speakers recognized the need for sustainable tourism practices in respective countries, emphasizing the need for government strategies, community engagement, and responsible travel etiquette. Hon. Mushahid Hussain Sayed, as a lead speaker, underscored in his speech nation’s commitment to minimizing negative impacts on local communities, preserving cultural heritage, and fostering long-term economic benefits while safeguarding the natural environment for future generations.

Shifting attention to the socioeconomic and financial challenges, the 2nd session, moderated by Hon. Dr. Rajan Bhattarai, focused on the theme of “Safeguarding Financial Stability in the Post-Pandemic Era”.

Participants expressed serious concerns about inflation and economic downturns. The speakers of this session collectively discussed the importance of safeguarding financial stability in the post-pandemic era.

Hon. Robert Roos, in his speech as a lead speaker, acknowledged the recent banking failures, thereby emphasizing the need for improvement on global implementation of regulations, preparation for interest rate changes, and reevaluation of liquidity requirements.

The Kathmandu Statement, adopted unanimously on the closing of the 5th AEPF, expressed gratitude to the Communist Party of Nepal (UML) for their warm hospitality and efficient arrangements. This collective commitment by Asia and Europe signals a united front in navigating post-pandemic challenges and fostering sustainable growth.

Representatives and Journalists Across Asia Convene in Seoul for ICAPP Media Forum

Representatives from 18 political parties and journalists representing 21 media outlets convened in Seoul, Republic of Korea for the 6th Meeting of the ICAPP Media Forum from November 17-19, 2023.

The forum centered around the Media Forum's theme of the "Role of the Media in Building an Asian Community and Political Democratization."

Speakers highlighted the mission to foster collaboration among diverse political parties and media outlets, emphasizing the ICAPP's uniqueness as a political platform with over 370 participating parties.

Discussions addressed the evolving role of media in global collaboration on issues like climate change and called for a more citizen-centric approach in journalism, advocating for a stronger voice for citizens in political discourse.

"We reiterate that no terrorist attack can be either justified or tolerated. But we also strongly oppose and condemn any attempt to punish collectively and militarily the innocent civilians, including children, for the crimes they didn't commit. "

Congratulatory Remarks by Hon. Chung Eui-yong, Chairman of the ICAPP Standing Committee

The unanimous adoption of the Seoul Statement at the closing session on November 18th underscored the critical role of independent and strong media in sustaining democracy. The statement emphasized the evolving role of media as a mediator in society, committed to providing accurate, fair, and objective information.

Additionally, the members collectively agreed to establish the ICAPP media network, open to all political parties and media outlets, and announced plans to publish a quarterly newsletter titled "ICAPP NEWS" to enhance regional understanding.

During the meeting, a proposal to revise the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Forum, initially adopted in 2015, was endorsed to align with the current state of activities.

ICAPP Special Workshop in Korea: Building a Robust Network Among Political Parties of ICAPP

Representatives of the ICAPP Standing Committee (SC) and Ambassadors from Asian countries accredited to Korea convened at the ICAPP special Workshop in Korea, held from December 8-11, 2023.

Representatives engaged in discussions at the scenic *Wooridul* Resort in *Seogwipo, Jeju-do*, focused on collaborative efforts to advance regional unity and cooperation. Participants exchanged views on the organization's goals and strategizing for the year ahead.

As part of the workshop agenda, attendees were invited to a comprehensive tour of *Jeju* Province, featuring visits to cultural and natural landmarks, including *Saebyeol Oreum*, the *Jeju* Peace Institute, and the *Haenyeo* (Women Divers) Museum.

In the opening remarks, Chairperson Hon. Chung Eui-yong emphasized the workshop's pivotal role in building a robust network among political parties of ICAPP and political party workers across Asia. This gathering serves not only to strategize for the year ahead but also to express gratitude to those who have made significant contributions to the ICAPP cause.

Insights from the Workshop: Building Bridges and Strengthening Ties

During the workshop, Chairperson Hon. Chung Eui-yong underscored the organization's unique characteristic, emphasizing its openness to all political parties, regardless of their ideological stance or whether they are in a ruling or opposition position. Secretary-General Hon. Kwon Hee-seog presented an overview of ICAPP's objectives and activities.

Chairperson Hon. Chung Eui-yong's comment on ICAPP's inclusivity prompted further discussion on the organization's strength. H.E. Murat Tamer, Ambassador of Türkiye to Korea, expressed his optimism, stating that he had "found hope in ICAPP's mission." He highlighted the potential of ICAPP to transcend political rivalries and work collaboratively for the greater good.

H.E. Chring Botumrangsay, Ambassador of Cambodia to Korea, echoed the sentiment, emphasizing the significance of networking in minimizing conflicts between nations. She stressed the importance of understanding differences between countries to fulfill the political duty of serving the people.

The workshop concluded with Chairperson Chung's closing remarks, where he acknowledged the comments made by delegates and reaffirmed the importance of mutual respect and collaboration.

ICAPP Explores Observer Collaboration with NAM PN at the Meeting with Azerbaijani Parliament Speaker Hon. Sahiba Gafarova

Hon. Sahiba Gafarova suggested holding an ICAPP General Assembly Meeting in Baku, Azerbaijan in 2024, and discussed the possibility of the ICAPP attending future meetings of NAM PN as an observer.

Hon. Chung-Eui Yong, Chairman of ICAPP SC met with Hon. Sahiba Gafarova, Speaker of Azerbaijan's Parliament and Chair of the Non-Aligned Movement Parliamentary Network (NAM PN).

During the meeting, Hon. Sahiba Gafarova proposed mutual observer attendance at future NAM PN and ICAPP meetings.

The ICAPP Secretariat actively considered and explored the possibility of signing an MOU in this regard, and asked ICAPP Standing Committee for their opinion and agreement by November 30, 2023.

With the agreement from the ICAPP Standing Committee, the ICAPP Secretariat proceeded to consult with Azerbaijan.

ICAPP Chairperson Meeting with Mongolian Minister of Digital Development

Hon. Chung Eui-yong met with Hon. Uchral Nyam-Osor in November 23 at Plaza Hotel, Seoul, Korea.

Hon. Chung Eui-yong warmly welcomed Hon. Uchral Nyam-Osor, congratulating him on the successful organization of the 6th ICAPP Youth Wing and 7th ICAPP Women's Wing held in Mongolia on August 4-7.

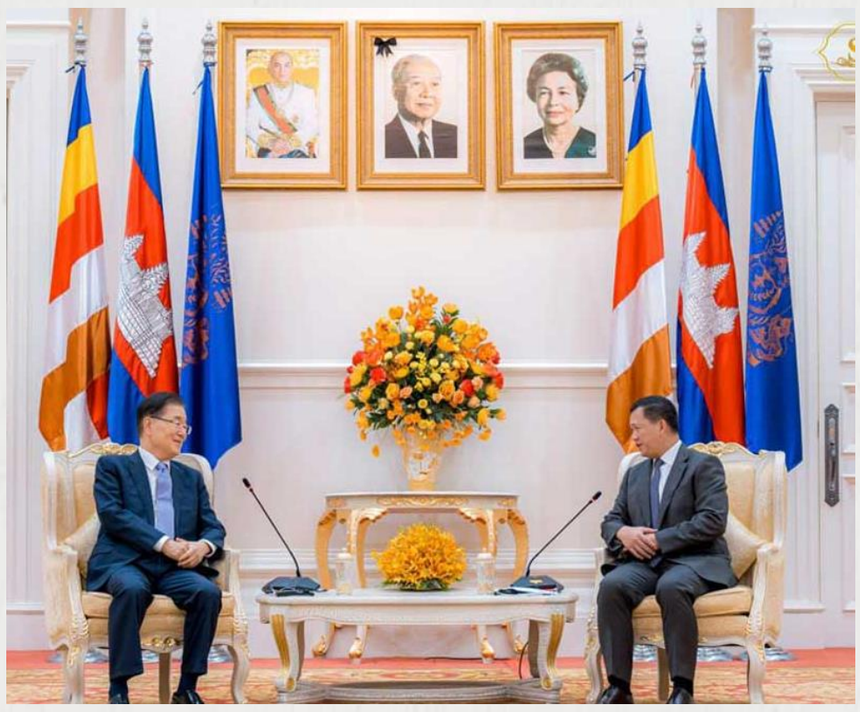
Hon. Chung Eui-yong also congratulated Hon. Uchral Nyam-Osor on his nomination as the candidate for the important political center in Mongolia.

Hon. Uchral Nyam-Osor expressed gratitude for the opportunity to host the two meetings, and expressed his passion regarding future ICAPP meetings.

At the end of the meeting, Hon. Chung Eui-yong and Hon. Uchral Nyam-Osor agreed to continue close collaboration and anticipated their next encounter at the upcoming meeting in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

Hon. Chung Eui-yong, Chairperson of ICAPP Standing Committee and Hon. Uchral Nyam-Osor, Mongolia's Minister of Digital Development and Communications discussed future collaborations at the Plaza Hotel in Seoul on November 23.

Visit of Hon. Chung Eui-Yong, Chairperson of the ICAPP Standing Committee to the Kingdom of Cambodia



Hon. Chung Eui-yong, Chairperson of the ICAPP Standing Committee visited Cambodia to discuss the preparation for the 12th ICAPP General Assembly

The program prepared by Cambodian People's Party (CPP) included Working Group Meeting with Hon. Suos Yara, and Courtesy Calls with H.E. Hun Sen, H.E. Hun Manet, and Hon. Khuon Sudary.

During the Working Group Meeting, key elements of the 12th General Assembly of the ICAPP, planned to be held in Cambodia during November 2024, were discussed.

The elements discussed were the dates and program during the General Assembly, with proposals on the main theme.

The Chairperson and Hon. Suos Yara agreed to discuss further details at the Standing Committee Meeting next year.

Hon. Mushahid Hussain Sayed Writes an Article Celebrating Legacy of Jose de Venecia

Hon. Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Co-Chairperson of the ICAPP Standing Committee penned an article under the title "ICAPP and the 'Asian Guru': The one and only JDV"article on *Manila Bulletin*

The article written by Senator Hon. Mushahid Hussain Sayed celebrates the coinciding birthdays of Jose de Venecia, Jr., a prominent Asian statesman and co-founder of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP), with the 23rd anniversary of ICAPP's establishment.

Emphasizing JDV's diverse contributions as a lawmaker, businessman, peacemaker, and visionary, the article highlights his role in shaping ICAPP at the turn of the 21st century. It traces JDV's impactful diplomatic career, resilience in the face of challenges, and his pivotal role in historic moments.

The inclusive nature of ICAPP, bringing together government and opposition, left and right, is underscored, along with the positive outcomes experienced by key leaders associated with ICAPP. The article concludes with gratitude to JDV, acknowledging his friendship and contributions, while expressing wishes for his birthday and the continued success of ICAPP under the current chairperson of ICAPP Chung Eui-yong's leadership.

The below is a piece from the article

Let us not forget its amazing founding father JDV, who planted this seed 23 years ago that has blossomed into an all-inclusive Asian family that is marching forward to build a better tomorrow for the world's largest continent; a brighter, peaceful, prosperous future, with no overlords and no underdogs.

Hon. Dr. Nalinee Taveesin, appointed as Trade Representative and Advisor to the Prime Minister of Thailand on September 14

Hon. Dr. Nalinee Taveesin has received formal recognition from the Cabinet of Thailand for her appointment as the Thai Trade Representative and Advisor to the Prime Minister. Her distinguished role reflects a culmination of expertise and dedication to public service.

The ICAPP Secretariat has released [ICAPP Update 23-53] to extend congratulations to Hon. Dr. Nalinee Taveesin and inform its members of this significant appointment.

The communication conveys appreciation for the Pheu Thai Party's active involvement within the ICAPP and its steadfast commitment to advancing various ICAPP initiatives.

Hon. Mushahid Hussain Sayed, honored with the prestigious "Special Contribution Award" on October 19

Hon. Mushahid Hussain Sayed received the esteemed "Silk Road Special Contribution Award" at the 2023 Media Cooperation Forum on Belt and Road.

This recognition serves as a testament to his outstanding contributions to regional development and diplomacy, marking him as a key figure in advancing the overarching goals of the Belt and Road Initiative.

Hon. Khuon Sudary, elected as the President of Cambodia's National Assembly on August 22

Hon. Khuon Sudary, a prominent member of the Standing Committee of the Cambodian People's Party (CPP), has been elected as the President of Cambodia's National Assembly, marking her as the first woman to hold this esteemed position. Her path to the presidency of the National Assembly reflects years of dedicated political service and strategic engagement.

The ICAPP Secretariat has released [ICAPP Update 23-53] to extend congratulations and express confidence in her ability to sustain a leading role that stems from on her valuable insights and stewardship

Co-Publishers

- Hon. Chung Eui-youg, Chairperson of the ICAPP Standing Committee, former Minister of Foreign Affairs, former Director of the Office of National Security, and former Chairman of Foreign Relations Committee of the Minjoo (Democratic) Party, Republic of Korea

- Hon. Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Co-Chairperson and Special Rapporteur of the ICAPP Standing Committee, and Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Defense, Pakistan Muslim League (N) (PML-N), Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Editor-in Chief

- Hon. Kwon Hee-seog, Secretary-General, former Ambassador to Italy and Ambassador to ASEAN in Jakarta of the Republic of Korea

Editors

- Hon. Suos Yara, Vice Chairman of the Commission on External Relations, Director-General of Asian Cultural Council, Chairman of the Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, Information and Media of the National Assembly, Cambodian People's Party, Kingdom of Cambodia
- Hon. Bimal Rathnayake, Vice Chairperson of the ICAPP Media Forum, Member of Political Bureau and National Organizer of Janatha Vimukthi Peramnua (JVP), former Member of Parliament, Sri Lanka
- Mr. Thanh Tung Le, Deputy Director General of the Commission for External Relations of the Central Committee, Communist Party of Vietnam, Socialist Republic of Vietnam
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