Draft Conclusions of the 42nd Meeting of the Standing Committee of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties
(Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia, November 21, 2024)

The 42nd Meeting (hereinafter referred to as "the Meeting") of the Standing Committee (hereinafter referred to as "the SC") of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties (hereinafter referred to as "the ICAPP") was held in the evening of Thursday, November 21, 2024, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia. The Meeting was held on the occasion of the 12th General Assembly of the ICAPP (hereinafter referred to as "the GA"), which took place in Phnom Penh during November 21-24, 2024.

The list of participants and the annotated agenda of the meeting are attached as ***Appendixes I and II.***

The Meeting was co-chaired by Hon. Chung Eui-yong, Chairperson of the ICAPP SC, and Hon. Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Co-Chairperson and Special Rapporteur of the ICAPP SC.

H.E. Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, President of the Cambodian People's Party (hereinafter referred to as "the CPP"), who was to be elected as Chairman Emeritus of the 12th GA, attended the Meeting as Special Guest and delivered keynote remarks. In his keynote remarks, H.E. Hun Sen highlighted that the CPP was honored to become the first political party to host the General Assembly of ICAPP for the second time. He emphasized the importance of the theme of the 12th GA, "Quest for Peace and Reconciliation," which aligns with the slogan campaign of the Royal Government of Cambodia, led by the CPP and H.E. Hun Manet, Prime Minister, "Thank Peace! I love Peace! With peace!, there is development and everything!". He noted that the slogan embodies the firm belief of the Royal Government of Cambodia that peace and stability must be resolutely safeguarded by the united strength of the whole nation. H.E. Hun Sen expressed hope that Cambodia could share its experiences in building, maintaining, and promoting peace and reconciliation with the ICAPP. H.E. Hun Sen also praised ICAPP's growing cooperation with political party networks in Europe, Latin America, and Africa. He highlighted the significance of the inter-regional political party roundtable on the role of political parties in peacebuilding. H.E. Hun Sen further reaffirmed his and the CPP's support for the 12th GA and its affiliated meetings.

The official text of the keynote remarks by H.E. Hun Sen is attached as ***Appendix III***.

I. Issues Relating to the ICAPP Standing Committee (SC)

New Member of the SC

The SC Members welcomed the following three new SC Members:

- Hon. Sun Haiyan, Vice Minister of the International Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC), replacing Hon. Guo Yezhou as the representative of the Party in the SC as was informed by the ICAPP Update (24-55) on September 6, 2024.
- Hon. Masroor Mawla, Special Envoy for International Affairs and Presidium member of the *Jatiyo* Party, replacing Hon. Rana Mohammad Sohail as the representative of

the Party in the SC, as was informed by the ICAPP Update (24-57) on September 23, 2024.

- Hon. Shin Sung-bum, Member of the National Assembly and Chairperson of the Intelligence Committee of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea, replacing Hon. Ha Tae-keung, former Member of the National Assembly, as the representative of the People Power Party (PPP) in the SC as was informed by the ICAPP Update (24-54) on September 6, 2024.

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

Amendment of the ICAPP Charter to increase the number of countries represented in the SC

The SC Members discussed the need to recommend to the 12th GA to amend Paragraph 1 of Article 9 of the ICAPP Charter to increase the number of countries represented in the ICAPP SC. SC Members agreed to postpone the amendment until the 13th GA to be held in 2016 after hearing the report by the ICAPP Secretariat that the two political parties in Laos and Uzbekistan which had been recommended to join the SC at the previous SC Meeting failed to fully commit to becoming members of the SC.

43rd Meeting of the SC

At the 41st SC Meeting held in Bangkok, Kingdom of Thailand, on May 21, 2024, Hon. Daya Gamage, Member of the SC representing the United National Party (UNP) and former Minister of Primary Industries and Social Empowerment of Sri Lanka, offered to host the 43rd Meeting of the SC in Colombo, Sri Lanka, during the first half of 2025, back to back with the 3rd Meeting of the ICAPP Business Council (IBC). The SC Members had agreed to this proposal.

However, Hon. Daya Gamage could not attend the SC meeting in the aftermath of the recently held general elections in Sri Lanka and reconfirm his offer. In this regard, SC Members requested the ICAPP Secretariat to keep in close contact with Hon. Daya Gamage and the UNP of Sri Lanka and reconfirm their willingness to host the two meetings during the first half of 2015, and inform the SC Members accordingly in due course.

Future Meetings of the SC

The SC Members representing political parties that have not yet hosted SC Meetings in their respective countries were encouraged to consider hosting the 44th SC Meeting in the second half of 2025 and the 45th SC Meeting in the first half of 2026, aside from the 46th SC Meeting, which has already been confirmed to take place in Seoul, Republic of Korea, on the sidelines of the 13th GA in the second half of 2026.

In this regard, Mr. Alireza Ghafoori Fard, Member of the Board and CEO of the Foundation for Islamic Development, who participated in the SC meeting representing the Islamic *Motalefeh* Party of the Islamic Republic of Iran, expressed the party's willingness to host 44th ICAPP SC meeting. In this regard, SC Members agreed to continue their consideration on the offer at the 43rd SC Meeting.

Special Statements Issued by the SC Members

SC Members acknowledged that two special statements had been issued in the name of the ICAPP SC since the 41st SC Meeting, one on the passing of H.E. Nguyễn Phú Trọng, Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam on July 19, 2024, extending sincere condolences and sympathies to his bereaved family, and the people and the government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on their profound loss, as was informed by the ICAPP Update (24-44) of July 24, 2024, a another on the terrorist attack that occurred on October 23, 2024, in Ankara, Republic of Türkiye, condemning the terrorist attack and extending condolences and sympathies to the families of the victims and the people of Türkiye, as was informed by the ICAPP Update (24-60) of November 4, 2024.

The statements are attached as ***Appendix V-1 and V-2***

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II. Preparations for 12th GA of the ICAPP

Report by the Organizing Committee of the 12th GA of the ICAPP

Hon. Suos Yara, Vice Chairperson of the ICAPP SC and Vice Chairman of the Commission on External Relations of the CPP, reported to the SC Members, on behalf of the Organizing Committee, on the preparations for the 12th GA to be held in Phnom Penh from November 21 to 24, 2024.

In the report, it was confirmed that, in addition to the ICAPP GA, three other ICAPP meetings will take place during the 12th GA as previously planned, which includes the 3rd Meeting of the Asian Cultural Council (hereinafter referred to as "the ACC"), the 7th Meeting of the ICAPP Media Forum, and a Roundtable Discussion among political parties from Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Europe (hereinafter referred to as the Roundtable Discussion).

The program, list of participants and conference procedures of the 12th GA are attached as ***Appendixes VI-1, VI-2, and VI-3***.

Election of the Bureau of the 12th GA

SC Members reviewed the list of candidates for the members of the Bureau of the 12th GA, which had been prepared and recommended by the ICAPP Secretariat after consultation with the members of the Bureau of the ICAPP SC, and agreed to recommend to the 12th GA for election at the beginning of the GA, in accordance with Article 7 of the ICAPP Charter and the ICAPP tradition.

The List of Candidates for Bureau of the 12th GA is attached as ***Appendixes VI-4***

Phnom Penh Declaration

The draft Phnom Penh Declaration to be adopted at closing session of the 12th GA, which had been jointly prepared by the Organizing Committee of the GA and the ICAPP Secretariat, had been reviewed by the Drafting Committee Meeting held prior to the SC meeting, was also reviewed and agreed to by the SC Members. They also agreed to circulate the first copy of the draft to all participants after the first plenary session of the GA for their comments and

suggestions.

The draft Phnom Penh Declaration is attached as ***Appendix VI-5***.

In this regard, SC Members agreed to remind all participants in the 12th GA to adhere to the understanding reached at the 13th SC Meeting in Kunming on July 16, 2010, which called for "all representatives of the political parties at ICAPP Meetings should refrain from raising any issues directly related to bilateral conflicts or disputes among the countries in the region."

3rd Meeting of the Asian Cultural Council (ACC)

SC Members reviewed the draft list of candidates for the new members of the Bureau of the Asian Cultural Council, to be elected at its 3rd Meeting on November 23, 2024 under the theme of "Cultural Diversity for Promoting Peace and Reconciliation." The list has also been prepared by the ICAPP Secretariat in consultation with the members of the Bureaus of the ACC and the ICAPP SC to be recommended for election at the ACC Meeting in accordance with its Terms of Reference.

The draft list of candidates for the new members of Bureau of the ACC is attached as ***Appendix VII-1***.

7th Meeting of the ICAPP Media Forum

SC Members reviewed the draft list of candidates for the new members of the Bureau of the ICAPP Media Forum, to be elected at its 7th Meeting on November 23, 2024 under the theme of "Fighting Fake News in the Digital Context to Sustain Peace." The list has also been prepared by the ICAPP Secretariat in consultation with the members of the Bureaus of the ICAPP Media Forum and the ICAPP SC to be recommended for election at the ACC Meeting in accordance with its Terms of Reference.

The draft list of candidates for the new members of the Bureau of the ICAPP Media Forum is attached as ***Appendix VII-2***.

III. Review of the ICAPP activities since the 41st SC Meeting

Hon. Kwon Hee-seog, Secretary-General of the ICAPP Secretariat, had made following reports on the results of the ICAPP activities since the 41st SC Meeting.

8th Meeting of the ICAPP Women's Wing in August 2024

The 8th Meeting of the ICAPP Women's Wing was hosted by the Mongolian People's Party (MPP) in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia during August 17 - 20, 2024.

The Meeting was participated by representatives of 17 political parties from 11 countries. The main theme of the meeting was "Empowering Women in the Asia Pacific," and the participants discussed challenges faced by women, such as poverty, unemployment, limited access to education, and gender discrimination. The meeting commenced with the welcoming remarks by Hon. Sodbaatar Yangug, Secretary General of the MPP, and opening remarks of Hon. Nomin

Chinbat, Member of Parliament, Minister of Culture, Sports, Tourism and Youth of Mongolia, Chairperson of the ICAPP Women's Wing, and Hon. Chung Eui-yong, Chairperson of the ICAPP SC, former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Korea. During the session, the new Vice Chairpersons of the ICAPP Women's Wing were also elected. The Ulaanbaatar Statement for the meeting was adopted at the closing session.

The program, list of participants, list of the members of the Bureau of the ICAPP Women's Wing, and the Ulaanbaatar Statement are attached as ***Appendixes VIII-1, VIII-2, VIII-3, and VIII-4*** respectively.

ICAPP Observers to the BRICS and Partner Countries Forum

The International Inter-Party BRICS and Partner Countries Forum was held in Vladivostok, Russia, from June 16 to 19, 2024. The Forum was co-hosted by the BRICS Presidency of the Russian Federation and the United Russia Party. Representatives of political parties from 28 countries across Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Africa attended the meeting. ICAPP SC was represented by Hon. Chung Eui-yong, Hon. Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Hon. Dr. Nalinee Taveesin, and Hon. Suos Yara, in addition to Hon. Andrey Klimov.

Discussions at the forum were focused on how to further develop close ties among countries through BRICS, to promote principles for global security and peace, to expand economic and financial cooperation, and to ensure responsible behavior of major players in the digital space. Separate meetings were held among various political party groups to discuss their cooperation in the future.

On the sidelines of the forum, the ICAPP representatives, led by Chairperson Chung Eui-yong, had separate meetings with representatives of the political parties from China, Russia, Thailand, Myanmar, Laos, Tajikistan, Zimbabwe, South Africa, and Cuba, and exchanged views on future cooperation between the ICAPP and their respective parties. During the meetings, the representative of Lao People's Revolutionary Party expressed its interest in joining the ICAPP SC, and representatives of political parties from the southern Africa expressed interest in forming an organization of political parties in Africa in cooperation with the ICAPP.

The Report of the ICAPP participants in the BRICS and Partner Countries Forum is attached as ***Appendix IV.***

I***CAPP Mission to Observe the Parliamentary Elections in Azerbaijan***

The ICAPP Mission was dispatched to Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan from August 30 to September 2, 2024, to observe the parliamentary elections held on September 1, 2024 at the invitation of the *Milli Majlis* (National Assembly) of Azerbaijan. The Mission was composed of Hon. İbrahim Halil Korkmazwas, Vice Chairman for Foreign Relations of the *AK Parti*, Republic of Türkiye and Hon. Thorng Cheyveasna, Member of the ACC Secretariat in Kingdom of Cambodia. On election day, the ICAPP Mission visited a total of 16 polling stations in different constituencies and observed the election process at the seven polling stations. The Mission reported that the elections had proceeded fairly without incidents at the locations of their visits.

The Program, List of the Participants, and Baku Statement of the Observer Mission are attached as ***Appendixes X-1, X-2, and X-3*** respectively.

The signing of the MOUs on the exchange of observers between the ICAPP and IPTP, and between the ICAPP and the AIPA

As had been informed by ICAPP Update (24-34) on June 11, 2024 and ICAPP Update (24-35) on June 11, 2024 respectively, consultations have been ongoing since May 2024 to finalize two Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) on exchange of observers between the f the ICAPP and the International Parliament for Tolerance and Peace (IPTP), and between the ICAPP and the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA).

SC Members endorsed the MOU between the ICAPP and the IPTP, and the MOU between the ICAPP and AIPA.

SC Members also agreed that Hon. Chung Eui-yong, Chairman of the ICAPP SC will sign the MOU with Hon. Ahmed bin Mohammed Alijarwan, President of GCTP, and Hon. Kwon Hee-seog, Secretary-General of ICAPP Secretariat will sign the MOU with Hon. Siti Rozaimeriyanty Dato Haji Abdul Rahman, Secretary General of the AIPA, respectively on November 23, 2024.

The copies of the letters exchanged with the IPTP and the AIPA, and the MOUs are attached as ***Appendixes XI-1, XI-2, XI-3, and XI-4*** respectively.

Publications of ICAPP NEWS Volumes 3 and 4

In accordance with the agreement to publish a quarterly newsletter, reached at the 6th Meeting of the ICAPP Media Forum held in November 2023, the ICAPP Secretariat has published ICAPP NEWS Volume 3, as had been informed by ICAPP update (24-42) of July 18, 2024, covering the period of the second quarter of 2024, and Volume 4 as had been informed by ICAPP Update (24-58) of October 30, 2024, covering the third quarter of 2024.

The copies of the ICAPP NEWS Volume 3 and Volume 4 are attached as ***Appendixes XII-1 and XII-2*** respectively.

IV. ICAPP Work Programs for 2025

6th Meeting of the Asia-Europe Political Forum

At the 5th Meeting of the Asia-Europe Political Forum (AEPF) held on October 14, 2023, Hon. Jan Zahradil, Co-Chairperson of the AEPF, Member of the European Parliament (EP) representing the Czech Republic, and Bureau Member of the European Conservatives and Reformists Group (ECR) in the European Parliament (EP), proposed to pospone the 6th Meeting of the Asia-Europe Political Forum, which was scheduled to be held in April 2024 in Brussels, Belgium, to September 2024.

However, during the ICAPP Mission to the EP in Strasbourg from March 12 to14, 2024, most of the European representatives were of the view to hold the meeting in late 2024 or early 2025

for administrative and budgetary reasons. They stated that, since the new session of the EP would start in September following the EP elections in June 2024, the newly formed political party groups in the EP would need more time to prepare for the meeting.

In this regard, the ECR has been continuing internal consultations among the political party groups in the EP on the venue and date for the 6th AEPF Meeting, exploring the possibility of holding the meeting in early 2025 in one of the capital cities in Europe. The details will be confirmed and informed in due course through the ICAPP Secretariat.

3rd Meeting of the ICAPP Business Council

At the 41st Meeting of the ICAPP SC held on May 28, 2024 in Bangkok, the Kingdom of Thailand, Hon. Daya Gamage, former Minister of Primary Industries and Social Empowerment, former Vice Chairperson of the United National Party (UNP), Sri Lanka, offered to host the 3rd Meeting of the ICAPP Business Council in Colombo, Sri Lanka, back-to-back with the 43rd SC Meeting during the first half of 2025.

However, due to the unavailability of Hon. Daya Gamage to participate in the SC meeting because of post-election schedules in Sri Lanka, the hosting of the ICAPP Business Council has yet to be confirmed. The matter will be addressed in future discussions between the ICAPP Secretariat and Hon. Daya Gamage.

8th Meeting of the ICAPP Media Forum

It had been agreed that the meeting of the ICAPP Media Forum will be held regularly, and the two meetings were recently held in 2022 and 2023, respectively in Turkiye and Republic of Korea. And another meeting will be held on the sideline of the 12th GA on November 23, 2024. In this regard, SC Members agreed to consider holding the next ICAPP Media Forum alongside the SC meeting in the second half of 2025. Further consultation on this matter will be conducted through the ICAPP Secretariat.

8th Meeting of ICAPP Youth Wing and 9th Meeting of ICAPP Women's Wing

The recent Meetings of the ICAPP Youth Wing and the ICAPP Women's Wing were held in Mongolia in 2023 and 2024 consecutively. SC Members agreed to consider holding the ICAPP Youth Wing and Women's Wing meetings either separately or together in 2025. Further discussions on this matter will be conducted through the ICAPP Secretariat.

ICAPP Special Conference

During the 39th SC Meeting held in Busan on May 1, 2023, SC Members expressed the view that the ICAPP should consider organizing another Special Conference in the near future. In this regard, SC Members proposed several potential topics for consideration, including climate change, ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) issues, promoting environmentally responsible behaviors, ICAPP's role in the post-COVID era, and the economic and social challenges facing Asia in the aftermath of the pandemic.

V. Other Issues

Extension of the Cooperation Agreement between the ICAPP and the UNESCO

At the 41st Meeting of the ICAPP SC held on May 28, 2024 in Bangkok, the Kingdom of Thailand, Hon. Suos Yara, Vice Chairperson of the ICAPP SC, informed that the consultations with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) had been underway to extend the Cooperation Agreement between the ICAPP and the UNESCO.

SC Members shared the view that the extension of the Agreement would further enhance the partnership with UNESCO on matters of mutual interest and help achieve the objectives outlined in the Constitution of UNESCO and the Charter of ICAPP, as stated in Articles 1 and 2 of the Cooperation Agreement. To this end, the ICAPP Secretariat requested that UNESCO review the ICAPP's proposal on the amendment of Article 6 of the Cooperation Agreement, which was proposed to read: "This Agreement shall be automatically extended for further periods of five (5) years, unless terminated by either UNESCO or ICAPP, with six (6) months' prior written notice to the other party."

The copies of the letter to the Director-General of the UNESCO and MOU are attached as ***Appendixes XIII-1, and XIII-2*** respectively.

Cooperation with COPPPAL and CAPP

The meetings between the ICAPP and the *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 the *COPPPAL* has developed and expanded into a trilateral meeting involving the 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 Tegucigalpa (2017), and in Moscow (2018).

At the 41st SC Meeting held in Bangkok, Kingdom of Thailand, the SC members agreed to coordinate with the ICAPP Secretariat in efforts to reach out to political parties in Africa, under the circumstances that CAPP Secretariat based in Khartoum, Sudan, appears to be difficult to continue its function to promote trilateral cooperation, after becoming incapable of functioning properly due to the continuous political turmoil in the country.

In this regard, SC Members agreed to continue to coordinate their efforts to reach out to political parties in Africa and share any new development through the ICAPP Secretariat with a view to helping establish a new organization of political parties in Africa. They also took note of the participation of representatives of African political parties, including UNITA Party of Angola and United Democratic Alliance Party of Kenya, in the 12th GA as observers, and agreed to continue their outreach efforts.

Appendixes:

I. The List of Participants of the 42nd SC Meeting

II. The official text of the Keynote Remarks by H.E. Hun Sen

III. The Annotated Agenda of the 42nd SC Meeting

IV. Updated List of the ICAPP SC

V. Special Statements issued by the ICAPP SC

1. *Statement on the passing of H.E. Nguyễn Phú Trọng*
2. *Statement on the Terrorist attack in Ankara*

VI. Preparations for 12th GA of the ICAPP

1. *Program*
2. *List of Participants*
3. *Conference Procedures*
4. *Draft List of Candidates for Bureau*
5. *Draft Phnom Penh Declaration*

VII. List of Candidates of New Bureaus of Affiliated Groups of ICAPP

1. *List of Candidates of New Bureau of ACC*
2. *List of Candidates of New Bureau of Media Forum*

VIII. 8th Meeting of the ICAPP Women's Wing in August 2024

1. *Program*
2. *List of Participants*
3. *List of the members of the Bureau*
4. *Ulaanbaatar Statement*

IX. Report of the ICAPP Observers to the BRICS and Partner Countries Forum

X. ICAPP Observer Mission to Azerbaijan Parliamentary Election

1. *Program*
2. *List of the Participants*
3. *Baku Statement*

XI. Signing of MOUs on Exchange of Observers between the ICAPP and the IPTP and between the ICAPP and the AIPA

1. *Letter exchanged with the IPTP*
2. *MOU with IPTP*
3. *Letter exchanged with the AIPA*
4. *MOU with AIPA*

XII. Publications of ICAPP NEWS

1. *Volume 3 (Apr.-Jun.2024)*
2. *Volume 4 (Jul.-Sep. 2024)*

XIII. MOU with UNESCO

1. *Letter to the Director-General of the UNESCO*
2. *The Draft of the Amended MOU with UNESCO*