Draft Conclusions of the 43rd Meeting of the Standing Committee of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties
(Perm, Russian Federation, May 30, 2025)

The 43rd 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 on Friday, May 30, 2025, at the Aura Hotel in Perm, Russian Federation.

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. The list of participants and the annotated agenda of the meeting are attached as ***Appendixes I-1 and I-2.***

International Public-Political Hearing on the Formation of a United and Equal System of Security and Cooperation on the Eurasian Continent

The Meeting was held on the occasion of the International Public-Political Hearing on the Formation of a United and Equal System of Security and Cooperation on the Eurasian Continent, held in Perm during May 28- 30, 2025. The international public hearing was hosted by the government, political parties and civil societies of the Russian Federation, and attended by about 120 foreign participants from 50 countries including the ICAPP SC Members, and about 50 participants from the Russian Federation.

Prior to the opening session of the hearing, the Bureau Members of the ICAPP SC had a meeting on May 29 with H.E. Sergey Lavrov, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and other political leaders of the Russian Federation, including Hon. Vladimir Yakusev, Secretary General of the United Russia Party, Hon. Dmitry Makhonin, Governor of Perm, Hon. Konstantin Kosachev, Deputy Chairman of the Federal Council, Hon. Andrey Klimov, Deputy Secretary General of the United Russian Party on International Affairs, and Hon. Evegeny Ivanov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. At the meeting Foreign Minister Lavrov congratulated on the achievements that the ICAPP had made during the last 25 years as an important political platform for international cooperation, and expressed his support for its future contributions to world peace through promoting cooperation among political parties not only in the region but also in other regions including Africa.

The remarks delivered by Hon. Chung Eui-yong at the opening session of the international hearing on behalf of the ICAPP SC is attached as ***Appendix II.***

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

New Member of the SC

SC Members welcomed Hon. Altai Khangai, International Secretary of the Mongolian People's Party (MPP), replacing Hon. Tselmuun Manalijav, Advisor to the Chief Cabinet Secretary at the Mongolian Cabinet Secretariat, as the new representative of the MPP in the SC as was informed by the ICAPP Update (24-62) on December 10, 2024. However, he was unable to attend the SC meeting due to the domestic political situation in Mongolia.

Expansion of the SC Membership

At the 41st SC Meeting held in Bangkok in May 2024, SC Members agreed to expand the number of countries represented in the SC, which had previously been limited to twenty-three (23), to twenty-four (24) or twenty-five (25) countries in the region. In this regard, SC Members had also decided to invite the two principal political parties in Uzbekistan – i.e. the Liberal Democratic Party of Uzbekistan (*UzLiDeP*) and the National Revival Democratic Party of Uzbekistan (*Milliy Tiklanish*).

Accordingly, during a recent visit to Tashkent, Uzbekistan in April 2025, Chairman Chung Eui-yong had meetings with the leaders of four principal political parties in Uzbekistan, and they all agreed that the *UzLiDeP* and *Milliy Tiklanish* represent them in the SC. After the meetings, the *UzLiDeP* and *Milliy Tiklanish* informed the ICAPP Secretariat respectively that they had nominated Hon. Sardobek Marpov, Member of the Executive Committee of the Political Council, and Hon. Ms. Nargiza Khamidova Bakhtiyarovna, Deputy Chairperson of the Central Council and Director of the Training, Research, and Analytical Center respectively, as their representatives to the ICAPP SC.

In this regard, SC Members welcomed the two new representatives from Uzbekistan, and agreed to accept them as *de facto* members of the SC, pending a formal amendment of the Charter at the next General Assembly (hereinafter referred to as the "GA") to increase the number of countries to be represented in the SC.

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

Merger of the Central Committee's Commission for External Relations of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam

As was informed by ICAPP Update (25-07), dated March 13, 2025, the Central Committee's Commission for External Relations of the Communist Party of Vietnam was merged with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, taking effect on January 24, 2025.

As a result, from January 25, 2025, the Party Committee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam is serving as the primary point of contact for all external relations between the Communist Party of Vietnam and political parties in other countries. Additionally, the Party Committee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has confirmed that it will continue to implement the plans, programs, and cooperation agreements previously established by the Central Committee's Commission for External Relations of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

Following the reorganization, Hon. Ngo Le Van assumed the new position of Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Member of the Party Standing Committee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The official letter from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam is attached as ***Appendix IV.***

Bureau Meetings of the SC

Bureau Members of the SC have held four virtual meetings on January 8, February 5 and 26, and March 26 to discuss the ICAPP work programs for 2025, including SC Meetings and meetings of the ICAPP-affiliated groups, including the Asia-Europe Political Forum.

The brief records are attached as ***Appendix V.***

44th Meeting of the SC

The New Azerbaijan Party offered to host the 44th SC Meeting in Baku, Azerbaijan, during October 16-19, 2025, to be held back-to-back with the 4th Meeting of the Asian Cultural Council (ACC).

Future Meetings of the SC

According to Paragraph 2 of Article 10 of the ICAPP Charter, "the SC meeting shall be held at least once a year, including its meetings during the GA." It has also been the ICAPP tradition to hold two SC meetings in a year since the 4th SC Meeting in 2005. In this regard, political parties represented in the SC are requested to offer to host the 45th SC Meeting to be held during the first half of 2026.

The 46th SC Meeting will be held in Seoul, Republic of Korea on the sidelines of the 13th GA which will be co-hosted by the *Minjoo* (Democratic) Party and the People Power Party of the Republic of Korea during the second half of 2026, tentatively in early November.

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 42nd SC Meeting: one on the devastating earthquakes that occurred in Tibet, People's Republic of China, to extend condolences and sympathies to the families of the victims and the people of China, as was informed by the ICAPP Update (25-02) of January 9, 2025; and another on the devastating earthquakes that occurred in the Union of Myanmar and the Kingdom of Thailand, urging the international community to demonstrate solidarity and provide assistance to the people and governments of these nations, as was informed by the ICAPP Update (25-12) of March 31, 2025.

The statements are attached as ***Appendix VI-1 and VI-2.***

SC Members also issued a special statement regarding the recent tensions between India and Pakistan, as was informed by the ICAPP Update (25-19) of May 2, 2025. The statement is attached as ***Appendix IV-3***.

II. Review of the ICAPP activities since the 42nd SC Meeting

Hon. Chung Eui-yong, Chairperson of the ICAPP SC, had made following reports on the results of the ICAPP activities since the 42nd SC Meeting.

ICAPP Observer Mission to the 4th NAM-PN Conference

Chairman Chung Eui-yong attended the 4th Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement Parliamentary Network (NAM-PN) as an observer, which was held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan during April 5–6, 2025, in accordance with the MOU signed between the ICAPP and the NAM-PN on March 4, 2024.

The conference brought together parliamentary leaders and members from 38 NAM countries, along with observers from 10 international organizations, including ICAPP, APA, IPU, and PABSEC. Participants discussed key global challenges such as armed conflicts, inequality, climate change, and the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, while emphasizing the importance of parliamentary cooperation in promoting sustainable development, human rights, and inclusive participation of women and youth. The final statement adopted by the meeting reaffirmed NAM's founding principles of peace, sovereignty, and multilateralism.

During the visit, Chairman Chung also held bilateral meetings with Hon. Sahiba Gafarova, Speaker of the *Milli Majlis* of Azerbaijan and Chairperson of the NAM –PN, Hon. Abdulaziz Kamilov, Special Representative of the President and former Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan and Hon. Asaf Hajiyev, Secretary General of PABSEC, to discuss future cooperation with the ICAPP.

The Report of the ICAPP Observer Mission to the 4th *NAM-PN* Conference and the Chairman Chung's remarks are attached as ***Appendixes VII-1 and VII-2.***

Publications of ICAPP NEWS Volumes 5 and 6

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 5, as had been informed by ICAPP update (25-04) of February 28, 2025, covering the period of the fourth quarter of 2024, and Volume 6 as had been informed by ICAPP Update (25-18) of May 02, 2025, covering the activities during January to April, 2025 in consultation with the members of the editorial board.

The copies of the ICAPP NEWS Volume 5 and Volume 6 are attached as ***Appendixes VIII-1 and VIII-2.***

III. ICAPP Work Programs for 2025

4th Meeting of the Asian Cultural Council

As was informed in the above, the New Azerbaijan Party offered to host the 4th Meeting of the Asian Cultural Council (ACC) in Baku, Azerbaijan, back-to-back with the 44th SC Meeting during October 16-19, 2025. In this regard, SC Members agreed to elect the new bureau members of the ACC at the upcoming 4th ACC Meeting.

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. It is requested that SC members consider offering to host the 8th

Meeting of the Youth Wing and the 9th Meeting of the Women's Wing, back-to-back with other meetings or independently during 2025.

In this regard, the *Motalefeh* Party of Iran has recently expressed interest in hosting one of the meetings in Tehran during the summer of 2025, although a final decision has not yet been made.

3rd Meeting of the ICAPP Business Council

At the 41st SC Meeting held in May 2024, the United National Party (UNP) of Sri Lanka, had 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, in light of the results of the parliamentary elections held in Sri Lanka in November 2024, the UNP has not confirmed its offer so far. In this regard, the ICAPP Secretariat is currently exploring the possibility that the UNP co-host the meeting with the National People's Party (*Jathika Jana Balawegaya*).

8th Meeting of the ICAPP Media Forum

It was agreed to establish the ICAPP Media Forum to be composed of SC Members and one media representative from each country which is represented in the ICAPP SC, at the 16th SC Meeting held in Seoul in October 2011, and the meetings of the ICAPP Media Forum have been held in Seoul (2015), Kuala Lumpur (2016), Seoul (2017), Moscow (2018), Seoul (2022), Seoul (2023), and Phnom Penh (2024).

It is requested that SC members consider offering to host the 8th Meeting of the ICAPP Media Forum, back-to-back with other ICAPP meetings or independently in the near future. In this regard, some SC Members suggested that the ICAPP Media Forum be held simultaneously with other ICAPP meetings such as the Youth Wing meeting and the Women's Wing meeting. SC Members also noted the ICAPP tradition that the host of the ICAPP Media Forum pay for the round-trip economy-class airfare for one media representative from one country designated by SC Members.

ICAPP Special Conference or Workshop

Since 2008, more than twenty ICAPP Special Conferences or Workshops have been held until 2022 on a variety of issues and topics, including prevention of political corruption, poverty alleviation, natural disasters and environmental protection, business promotion, women's empowerment, human trafficking, migration and refugees, political democratization and security cooperation. The list of the ICAPP Special Conferences and Workshops during 2008-2022 is attached as ***Appendix IX.***

In this regard, at the 39th SC Meeting held in Busan in May 2023, SC Members expressed the view that the ICAPP should consider organizing more special conferences in the future, and suggested 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 as potential topics for future special conferences.

Hon. Dr. Prof. Hossein Niknam, SC Member representing the *Motalefeh* Party of Iran pointed out the necessity to address the side effects of COVID-19 medication—such as depression, anxiety, decreased concentration, and reproductive health issues—as a potential topic for a future special conference. In this context, he suggested that a meeting should be held by SC Members along with government officials and experts. A virtual meeting is also possible. Based on that discussion, a follow-up in-person meeting will be held, if necessary, to further explore the topic.

SC members welcomed the suggestion and agreed to hold a virtual special workshop within this year inviting experts and government officials.

6th Meeting of the Asia-Europe Political Forum

At the 5th AEPF Meeting held in Kathmandu in October 2023, Hon. Jan Zahradil, Co-Chairperson of AEPF representing the ECR (European Conservatives and Reformists), proposed postponing the 6th AEPF Meeting in Brussels from April to September 2024. However, during the ICAPP Mission's visit to the European Parliament (EP) in March 2024, most European representatives suggested delaying it further to late 2024 or early 2025 due to administrative and budgetary reasons, especially with the new EP session starting in September after the June elections.

Despite follow-up efforts, the ICAPP Secretariat has not received a firm response from the European side regarding the venue and date. Meanwhile, after a Bureau meeting of the ICAPP SC in March 2025, Hon. Suos Yara, Vice Chairperson of the SC, reached out to the *Fidesz* Party of Hungary, a member of another political party group in the EP, called "Patriots for Europe," and explored the possibility of holding the 6th AEPF Meeting in Hungary. Hon. Nemeth Zsolt, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the *Fidesz* Party expressed interest in holding the 6th AEPF Meeting in Budapest in cooperation with the ECR. Hon. Suos Yara reported he would visit Budapest in June to have follow-up discussion with the Fidesz Party with a view to holdng the meeting in ealry September or late November 2025.

IV. Cooperation with political parties in other regions and international organizations

Cooperation with Political Parties in Africa

SC Members recalled that the Council of African Political Parties (CAPP) was launched in April 2013 in close collaboration with the ICAPP and the *COPPPAL* (Permanent Conference of Political Parties in Latin America and the Caribbean) with its Secretariat in Khartoum, Sudan. Since then, the ICAPP had held meetings on a regular basis with the CAPP bilaterally, or trilaterally with the *COPPPAL*. However, such cooperation has been disrupted by sudden political upheavals in Sudan since late 2018.

Subsequently, as have been discussed at the SC Meetings since the 38th Meeting in Istanbul in November 2022, the ICAPP has been taking a dual approach in promoting cooperation with political parties in Africa, by reaching out directly to principal political parties in the region through various channels, including those of political parties represented in the SC, while trying to maintain communication with caution through the CAPP Secretariat in Khartoum.

At the 41st SC Meeting held in Bangkok in May 2024, SC Members tentatively determined that, due to continuous political turmoil in Sudan, the CAPP Secretariat could no longer function properly to promote cooperation with political parties in Africa. Since then, the ICAPP has been trying to reach out to various political parties and regional groups of political parties in Africa through various channels.

As a part of such efforts, the ICAPP Secretariat established a contact in early 2025 with the African Governance Center (AGC) based in Accra, Ghana. The AGC recently informed the ICAPP Secretariat that H.E. John Dramani Mahana, President of the Republic of Ghana and the leader of the National Democratic Congress Party, is planning to host the African Political Parties Summit in Accra, Ghana during July 10-12, 2025 in which leaders of political parties from all 54 countries in Africa will be invited, under the "African Political Parties Initiative (APPI)" which was recently launched. The letter from the AGC to the ICAPP, dated April 22, 2025, is attached as ***Appendix X-1***.
In this regard, at the request of the AGC, Hon. Chung Eui-yong, Chairman of the SC, held an online meeting with Dr. Nelson Oppong, Executive Director of the AGC on May 20, 2025, and agreed to the following understandings tentatively:

- The ICAPP and the APPI will promote cooperation between political parties in Asia and Africa, by exchanging observers to their regular meetings and holding bilateral meetings on a regular basis
- The ICAPP and the APPI will coordinate their global efforts to achieve a more peaceful and prosperous world in cooperation with other regional organizations of political parties, such as the *COPPPAL*
- The ICAPP will send an observer mission to the African Political Parties Summit to be held in Accra during July 10-12, 2025 (Later, it was informed that the African Political Parties Summit is postponed to mid-August, 2025 due to logistic reasons.)

The report on the meeting with representatives of the AGC is attached as ***Appendix X-2.***

Cooperation with the UNESCO

As was informed by the ICAPP Update (25-22), dated May 13, 2025, the ICAPP Secretariat received an invitation letter from the Secretariat of the World Heritage Convention (WHC) in the UNESCO to attend the 47th session of the World Heritage Committee as observers, which will be held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France during July 6-16, 2025. The letter of invitation from the UNESCO, dated May 12, 2025, and the general information are attached as ***Appendixes XI-1 and XI-2***.

In this regard, it is agreed to send an ICAPP Observer Mission to the 47th session of the WHC, in accordance with the Cooperation Agreement between the UNESCO and the ICAPP, signed on December 4, 2018. It was further agreed, as was informed by the ICAPP Update (25-24), dated May 16, 2025, the ICAPP mission will be headed by Hon. Sous Yara, Chairperson of the Asian Cultural Council (ACC) of the ICAPP, and Chairperson of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, and Information of the National Assembly of Cambodia, representing the Cambodian People's Party.

SC Members who wish to join in the ICAPP observer mission to the WHC session are requested to inform the Secretariat not later than June 3, 2025, so that the Secretariat could register the list of the mission by June 6, 2025 as advised by the host. SC Members are also requested to

suggest any issue or suggestion which they want to have reflected in the presentation by the ICAPP observer mission to the WHC session.

Signing of MOUs to support and expand ICAPP activities

Since 2013, the ICAPP has concluded six Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs), including an Inter-governmental MOU which has been signed by governments of eleven countries in the region so far, and five other MOUs with international organizations such as GGGI (Global Green Growth Institute), NAM PN (Non-Alignment Movement Parliamentary Assembly), PABSEC (Parliamentary Assembly of Black Sea Economic Cooperation), IPTP (International Parliament for Tolerance and Peace), and AIPA (ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly). The ICAPP also concluded a Cooperation Agreement with the UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization). The list of the six MOUs and a Cooperation Agreement the ICAPP has so far concluded is attached as ***Appendix XII-1***.

In this regard, it has been suggested by many SC Members that the ICAPP should further enhance its network of cooperation with other international organizations, including the U.N. agencies and other regional organizations.

It was also noted that the inter-governmental "MOU on Cooperation to Support the Activities of the ICAPP," signed on July 26, 2013, has been joined by the governments of eleven countries so far, i.e. Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Iran, Kazakhstan, the Republic of Korea, Mongolia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam. More governments are encouraged to join as signatories to the MOU "to provide appropriate support that is available and possible within their capacity for the activities and programs of the ICAPP," as stipulated in Paragraph 1 of the MOU. It was also noted that the MOU was "not intended to create any legally binding obligations" to the signatories, as stipulated in Paragraph 2.

The ICAPP Secretariat was designated as the Depository for the MOU by Paragraph 5 of the MOU, and any government that wishes to participate in the MOU can notify the ICAPP Secretariat, in writing, of its intention, which would be immediately informed to other participants.

In this regard, at the 19th SC Meeting held in Hanoi in April 2013, SC Members endorsed the initiative and agreed to recommend to their respective governments to sign the MOU.

The copy of the inter-governmental MOU is attached as ***Appendix XII-2.***

Appendixes:

I. 43rd SC Meeting
1. *List of Participants*
2. *Annotated Agenda*

II. Opening Remarks by Chairman Chung Eui-yong at the International Public Political Hearing

III. Updated List of the ICAPP SC

IV. Official Letter from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam

V. Records of the Bureau meetings

VI. Special Statements issued by the ICAPP SC
1. *Statement on the earthquakes in Tibet*
2. *Statement on the earthquakes in Myanmar and Thailand*
3. *Statement on the tensions between India and Pakistan*

VII. The 4th NAM-PN Conference
1. *Report of the ICAPP Observer Mission*
2. *Chairman Chung's Remarks*

VIII. Publications of ICAPP News
1. *Volume 5 (Oct.-Dec.2024)*
2. *Volume 6 (Jan.-Mar. 2025)*

IX. List of ICAPP Special Conferences and Workshops during 2008-2022

X. African Political Parties Initiative
1. *Letter from the Africa Governance Center (AFC), dated April 22, 2025*
2. *Report on the meeting with the AGC representatives on May 20, 2025*

XI. The 47th Session of the World Heritage Committee of UNESCO
1. *Invitation letter, dated May 12, 2025*
2. *General information*

XII. MOUs an Agreement signed by the ICAPP
1. *List of MOUs and Agreement*
2. *Copy of Inter-Governmental MOU to Support ICAPP Activities*