Secretariat of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties

Joint Statement by the ICAPP Standing Committee
On the Successful Conduct of First Automated National Elections in the Philippines

June 7, 2010

We, the members of the Standing Committee of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP), representing more than 300 ruling and opposition parties in Asia, are pleased to extend our heartiest congratulations to the Philippine political parties for their successful conduct of Southeast Asia's first automated national elections on May 10, 2010.

Popular acceptance of the election results - from an electorate of some 50 million voters in an archipelago of 7000 islands - confirms the overall judgment of international election observers, who recently visited the Philippines, on the general fairness of the elections.

We felicitate the two houses of the Philippine Congress for their ongoing joint official tally of the electoral Certificates of Canvass. This process is being carried out with an orderliness that has enhanced the country's image and promoted political stability.

Lastly, we are pleased to join the international community in extending our heartfelt felicitations to the presumptive new President of the Philippines - Senator Benigno Aquino III of the Liberal Party. We anticipate that the peaceful political transition that is now taking place will strengthen both Philippine democracy and the country's economic prospects.

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