

H.E. Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin,  
Speaker of the National Assembly of Kingdom of Cambodia,

H.E. Mr. Njad Huseinian,

Secretary General of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

**Excellencies,**

I am gratified and honored to respond to your kind invitation to participate in an Observer Capacity, in the proceedings of the Eighth Session of the Asian Parliamentary (APA) which is convened in the beautiful city of Phenom Penh. Through this participation we reaffirm our certain wish to consolidate relations of cooperation and exchange of expertise between our two institutions which we hope will achieve constant progress that serves their noble objectives.

**Mr. President,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

Your Conference is being convened while most parts of the world are passing through a critical juncture. Doctrinal, ethnic and other conflicts engender unrest which, in many cases, leads to clashes and confrontations that result in the lack of security and peace in the area of strife, and imperil stability at the regional and world levels. Lucky are those whom God has protected from the evil of such a scourge which spreads without being hindered by geographical or political borders. As terrorism is now recognized as the major threat to international peace and security, it has been established that terrorism is not linked to any religion, belief or ethnic group. Pursuance to this fact the Parliamentary Union of OIC Member States has called for the adoption of unified and comprehensive measures vis-à-vis the conflicting policies that are based on doctrinal bigotry and ethnic factionalism and to maintain a

collective stand against terrorism. Our PUIC has emphasized the Islamic principles based on tolerance and non- extremism, and founded on peace, justice, dialogue and abstention from practicing violence whether within communities or world – wide. In order to curtail excessive extremism the PUIC has encouraged promotion of mutual tolerance and understanding and countering all manifestations of animosity; it also encouraged the propagation of peace and love among all categories of society. As regards political differences, we maintain that they may be addressed through diplomatic means as well as regional and international mediation. We also maintain that world institutions of arbitration are most effective and proper for the prevalence of peace and avoidance of war.

**Mr. President,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Peace should be the objective and aim of all our communities and states at the national, regional and international levels. These are the same objectives and aims which international and regional organizations advocate and ceaselessly endeavour to achieve and spread among nations. We are right to suppose that any sincere efforts exerted to realize just and durable peace-being the corner- stone for any socio-economic progress or sustainable development- must have its steps pass through several stages, whose objective and constructive dialogue constitute its most important mechanisms. Furthermore, such dialogue must involve the various elements of society, and that youth ought to play an appreciable role in it. The conclusions and results of this dialogue must materialize tolerance and reconciliation among the conflicting parties. A strong political will ought to be available in order to implement the outcome of dialogue and reconciliation which are meant to achieve peace and the establishment of security so that concordance and compassion replace discordance and strife.

**Mr. President**

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

Our PUIC has reiterated the responsibility of all states to refrain from the use of violence and extremism or the threat thereof against the safety of another state or its political exploitation. It also advocated granting further attention to combating terrorism and extremism through several means, including addressing the root causes which nurtured it, as well as the adoption of moderation, propagation of compassion; renunciation of hatred and enhancement of the culture of dialogue, tolerance and reconciliation. The mass media must be invited to promote peace and its significance as well as renouncing war with its destructive consequences, and avoiding sensationalism when addressing the causes of conflicts.

In conclusion, I wish your conference to be crowned with success in its call for the consolidation and propagation of peace so that love, coexistence and conciliation may prevail among nations and communities.

**May peace be upon you**