

APA/S C – Staff and Financial/Rep/2014/5 3 December 2014

Report of the Meeting APA Standing Committee on Staff and Financial Regulations

11 December 2015

Phnom Penh- Kingdom of Cambodia

- 1- The meeting of Staff and Financial Regulations was chaired by Honorable Monavar Shah Bahadori, Member of the Parliament of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, who called the meeting to order and introduced the draft resolution on the agenda. The Chair called on H. E. Bijan Moshirvaziri, Deputy Secretary-General of APA to provide background information on the status of the Draft Resolution.
- 2- Deputy Secretary-General briefed the meeting on background of the adoption of APA Staff and Financial Regulations by 7th APA plenary held in 3 December 2014 in Lahore-Pakistan. He also referred to the Annexes of Draft Resolution and provided the required information on each one. He mentioned that APA Secretariat has fulfilled its mandate to prepare these documents by benefiting from experience and knowledge of a number of financial and international experts and thorough studies of the Rules and Regulations of several similar international organizations. The main objective was to prepare regulations to fit APA administrative needs to better suit its activities.

It was realized that the most relevant international organization to the APA is Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) primarily because it is a parliamentary organization not a governmental one. All APA Member Parliaments are also Members of the IPU, so they are familiar with its functions and rules. In order to draft its annual budget on the basis of the scale of assessed contributions, IPU consider all possible economic and social facts and factors of each Member Parliament as well as the rules and regulations adopted by United Nations' Secretariat. Therefore, the IPU's system of scaling assessed contributions has been evaluated by our expert consultants to be a quite relevant and useful model.

According to the APA scale of assessment, as approved by the 7th Plenary, 1% of the annual budget has been set as a minimum contribution to be paid by the weakest APA Member Parliament and the 6% as the maximum share.

- 3- The Chair presented his views on necessary steps which have to be taken by all member parliaments to support the APA at international level. He appreciated the generosity of Islamic Parliament of Iran for its continuous financial support and expressed hope this support will continue. He emphasized that it is not fair for all financial burdens be carried on by one member parliament for too many years. He requested all APA members to provide assessed and voluntary contributions to the Secretariat to help its smooth running. A number of delegations, including Iran, Pakistan, Kuwait, Indonesia, Afghanistan, Viet Nam, Jordan, Russia, Cambodia, took part in the discussion.
- 4- Following the debate and further clarification by the Secretariat, especially due to support extended by many participants to the intervention of distinguished representative of Indonesia that the budget for 2016 is already approved by the parliament, it was decided to present the Draft Resolution and its annexes to the Standing Committee Meeting on Staff and Financial Regulation to be held in Afghanistan early 2016 for final discussion.
- 5- The Standing Committee expressed its appreciation to the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia for hosting the meeting and the hospitality extended to all participants. On behalf of all distinguished delegates, the Chair particularly thanked the APA Secretariat for service it has provided for smooth running of the meeting. Special thanks and appreciation were expressed also to the staff of the local organizing committee for their hard work and contributions to the meeting.